



Wausau & Marathon County Parks and Recreation Foundation

Tuesday December 16, 2025

Time: 4:00pm

Place: Parks Office, 518 South 7th Avenue, Rm 089, Wausau WI 54401 – Enter at door 518F on Garfield Ave.

Members – Bill Bertram (President), Dan Bowen, Kevin Crooks (Vice-President), Randy Falstad, Jamie Polley, Bill Duncanson, Jeff Frese, Nicole Fandrey, Mike Egan,

1. Call to Order
2. Minutes – October 07, 2025
3. Financial Reports
 - a. Quarter 3, 2025 Park Foundation and Great Pinery Heritage Waterway Trail
 - b. 2025 CoVantage Account Statement
4. New Business
 - a. Reconsider Grant Request – Elderon Ballpark Fence Replacement – Presentation from Village of Elderon
 - b. Fundraising, Sponsorship and Planning – Film Festival
 - c. New Member Recruitment – 3 Openings
 - d. 2026 Meeting Dates - February 17, April 21, June 16, August 18, October 20, December 15
5. Old Business
 - b. IronBull – Agreement Status - Crooks
6. Future Agenda Topics –
7. Next Regular Scheduled Meeting Date – February 17, 2026 at 4:00pm, 518 South 7th Avenue, Rm 089, Wausau WI 54401, Wausau or web-ex
8. Adjournment

Wausau and Marathon County Park Foundation Meeting Minutes

October 7 – Marathon County Parks and Forestry Office, 518 South 7th Avenue, Wausau.

Members present: Bill Bertram (President), Randy Falstad, Jamie Polley, Bill Duncanson, Jeff Frese and Mike Egan. Absent: Kevin Crooks, Dan Bowen and Nicole Fandrey.

1. President Bill Bertram called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.
2. Minutes: The minutes from the August 19, 2025 were reviewed. Polley made motion to accepted the minutes. Frese seconded. Motion carried by voice vote with no dissent.
3. Financial Reports: Polley reported there was no report as the meeting was moved up and the reports were not ready at this earlier date. It was reported that we have approximately \$115,000 in our account and the Water Trail has approximately \$19,000 in its account.
4. New Business:
 - In their absence, Crooks and Bowen were reappointed to the Board. Bertram reported that in talking to both, they are in favor of remaining with the Board for another term. Frese made a motion to reappoint both to the Board. Falstad seconded. Motion carried by voice vote with no dissent.
 - Grant Request: Elderon Ballpark Fence Replacement. In April of this year the Board reviewed a very similar request from Elderon which was denied as being outside our scope as we do not fund maintenance. Polley reported the request was very similar except for a two-paragraph change which pointed out that the fields could be used for birthday parties. Falstad made the motion to deny the request. Egan seconded. In discussion, Frese questioned the denial saying we must do a better job on our website in letting groups know what we fund and what we do not fund. Polley stated it is very specific on the site that we do not fund maintenance. Motion carried by voice vote with no dissent.

- Grant request: Kennedy Park Renovation. This request was more than a maintenance issue as Weston is adding two ball parks to their facility and reorienting two other fields. They were asking for \$100,000 which is basically the entire Foundation budget. It was felt because the fields will bring money into the Wausau area (heads and beds) we should support this. Egan made the motion to provide \$5000 in funding with the stipulation that Weston had all the funds for the project secured prior to us giving them the funds. Polley seconded. Motion carried on a 4-1 vote with Falstad voting against.
- Fundraising and Sponsorship: Bertram explained that he and Falstad had met the previous day and reviewed a presentation for the Board about the potential for a Film Festival fundraiser and as an event that would make the community more aware of our group. Bertram created the PowerPoint presentation which he showed and later copied the Board on. Bertram proposed a date of April 16, 2026 based on some of the research he had done, including talking to the organizer of Canoeconia who stated spring is a great time because people are hungry to get outside and they have their tax refund checks that they are willing to spend (raffles). Falstad reported that the Wild and Scenic Film Festival would charge \$1875 for a 120-minute collection of their films. Bertram had checked with Granite Peak and the Foundation could rent the Sundance Chalet which can hold up to 500 people for \$625. A movie projector and screen could be rented for about \$500. Bertram had also done a lot of research on the potential for raffles and sponsors. He stated that Visit Wausau would be willing to donate \$16,000 in in-kind marketing to promote the event. Bertram stated that he was willing to donate \$2500 to get the event off the ground and make it a success. Polley made a motion to move forward with a possible fundraiser with Duncanson seconding. Motion carried with no dissent. Falstad agreed to contact Wild and Scenic to find out what we needed to do next. Bertram stated he would reserve the Chalet for the April 16, 2026 date. It was agreed to have a meeting on October 22nd to move forward with the concept, mainly to come out with a name for the event which promotes the Foundation and sells tickets.

5. Old Business

- IronBull – Polley stated that she did not want to get into too much detail as Crooks had been dealing with the IronBull contract but that she could report that IronBull has pulled out of the MOU as they were entitled to under Paragraph 8. They gave notice on September 10th which means the partnership will be terminated on December 10th. There is still the issue that IronBull may need to pay the Foundation 5% of all registrations from events. When the Foundation was paid in 2021, the Foundation realized they were not being paid per the contract and began to pursue getting answers from the Executive Director. No answer came from IronBull. The Foundation received another payment in March 2023, with no supporting documentation. Polley stated that the Foundation learned that IronBull had made a \$12,000 donation to the Arts Board and that was before the Foundation got paid. The Foundation should have gotten 5% of those funds prior to that donation. The Board felt that we should be asking for documentation of the net registration collected from all races put on by Ironbull from April 2019 and through December of 2025 and payment of the 5% of gate registrations to the Foundation minus what they have already paid. Polley emailed Crooks during the meeting asking if he would contact IronBull and ask for that.
 - Polley stated that the Foundation should not be getting into any more projects like IronBull. She stated that as a Foundation, our role is to raise money (although IronBull was created to be a fundraising mechanism for the Foundation) and then disburse those funds for Parks Projects. She stated that goes for the Water Trail also. She stated that the Water Trail project is complete and we should not be asking for more money for that.
6. Next Regular Scheduled Meeting Date – There will be a Park Foundation Film Festival Workshop held on Wednesday October 22, 2025 at 4:00pm, 518 South 7th Avenue, Rm 089, Wausau WI 54401, Wausau. The next full Board meeting will be held on December 16th at 4:00 pm at the Parks Office.

7. Adjournment: Polley made a motion to adjourn. Duncanson seconded.
Motion carried by voice vote with no dissents.



FUND STATEMENT
Great Pinery Heritage Waterway Fund
Current Period July 01, 2025 to September 30, 2025

FUND SUMMARY

Fund Activity	Current Period	Year to Date
Beginning Balances	\$19,318.46	\$24,356.26
Additions to the fund		
Donations to the fund	200.00	450.00
Total additions to the fund	\$ 200.00	\$ 450.00
Subtractions from the fund		
Charitable Support Fee	10.00	22.50
Credit card fee expense	0	5.80
Fund Expenses	3,285.00	8,554.50
Total subtractions from the fund	\$3,295.00	\$8,582.80
Pending transactions		
No pending transactions for this period.		
Ending Fund Balance		
	TOTAL	\$16,223.46

FUND DETAILS

Contributions

Date	Donor Name	Description	Amount
08/27/25	Wausau & Marathon County Parks Foundation Inc	Marathon County	200.00
Total Contributions this period			\$ 200.00

Grants or Scholarships Awarded

No grants or scholarships were awarded this period.

Vouchers

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
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For questions regarding this statement contact pam@cfoncw.org. You can also find your statements in the online portal at cfoncw.org.

07/23/25	SUN Printing LLC	Silent Sports Article Reprint	185.00
07/23/25	SUN Printing LLC	Paddler, Camping, Segment Guides	1,047.50
07/25/25	712 Creative	GPHW Guides	2,052.50
Total vouchers paid this period			\$ 3,285.00

Support Fee Calculation

n/a	No calculated fee.	n/a
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FUND STATEMENT

Wausau & Marathon County Parks and Recreation Fund
Current Period July 01, 2025 to September 30, 2025

FUND SUMMARY

Fund Activity	Current Period	Year to Date
Beginning Balances	\$115,275.79	\$141,331.58
Additions to the fund		
Donations to the fund	801.03	3,805.44
Investment gains/(losses)	5,441.07	14,233.76
Total additions to the fund	\$6,242.10	\$18,039.20
Subtractions from the fund		
Charitable Support Fee	408.61	1,472.31
Fund Expenses	0	2,719.00
Grants awarded	5,000.00	39,070.19
Total subtractions from the fund	\$5,408.61	\$43,261.50
Pending transactions		
No pending transactions for this period.		
Ending Fund Balance	TOTAL	\$116,109.28

FUND DETAILS

Contributions

No donations were received this period.

Grants or Scholarships Awarded

Date	Grantee or Student Name	Description	Amount
08/06/25	Wausau & Marathon County Parks Dept	Marathon Park Splash Pad	5,000.00
Total Grants or Scholarships awarded this period			\$ 5,000.00

Vouchers

For questions regarding this statement contact pam@cfoncw.org. You can also find your statements in the online portal at cfoncw.org.

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
07/03/25	BMO Spend Dynamics	Operating credit card payment	54.00
		Total vouchers paid this period	\$ 54.00

Support Fee Calculation

09/30/25	Quarterly AGENCY (1.00% of 38,445.41; 1.50% of 50,000.00; 2.00% of 25,000.00) divided by 4 quarters	\$408.61
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PO Box 107, Antigo, WI 54409-0107

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

983243 13229 1/2 C37 12-01-25 CLT
622017616 1 AV 0.593



WAUSAU AND MARATHON COUNTY PARKS FOUNDA
518 S 7TH AVE RM 085
WAUSAU WI 54401-5362

Account Statement

800.398.2667 | www.covantagecu.org

Member Number: XXXXXX4260

Statement For: 01/01/2025 - 11/30/2025

Page: 1 of 2

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Your Account Balances as of 11/30

Membership Share ID 0000	\$10.00
Business Checking ID 0073	843.35
Account Balance Total	\$853.35
Total Dividends Year-To-Date	\$0.01

MEMBERSHIP SHARE ID 0000

Dividends Year-To-Date \$0.01
Annual Percentage Yield earned 1.150% from 01/01/2025 through 01/31/2025

Beginning Balance	\$10.25
Ending Balance	\$10.00

Date	Transaction Description	Amount	Balance
01/31	Deposit Dividend 0.745%	\$0.01	\$10.26
01/31	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	10.00-	0.26
02/28	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	0.26-	0.00
11/10	Deposit	10.00	10.00

BUSINESS CHECKING ID 0073

Dividends Year-To-Date \$0.00

Beginning Balance	\$145.49
Ending Balance	\$843.35

Date	Transaction Description	Amount	Balance
01/31	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	\$10.00-	\$135.49
02/28	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	10.00-	125.49
03/31	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	10.00-	115.49
04/30	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	10.00-	105.49
05/31	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	10.00-	95.49
06/30	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	10.00-	85.49
07/31	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	10.00-	75.49
08/31	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	10.00-	65.49
09/30	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	10.00-	55.49
10/31	Withdrawal Dormant Fee	10.00-	45.49
11/10	Withdrawal	10.00-	35.49
11/10	Deposit By Check	50.00	85.49
11/14	Deposit By Check	1,500.00	1,585.49
11/17	Withdrawal ACH Harlandclarke-Li TYPE: CHK ORDER ID: 1411535474 CO: HarlandClarke-Li	25.60-	1,559.89
11/17	Withdrawal Debit Card WSFF ONTOUR WWW.WILDANDSC CA 532032746257 7999	250.00-	1,309.89
11/20	Withdrawal Bill Payment #510823 NNT WEST BEND PAYME132712 1900 S 18TH AVE WEST BEND WI	466.54-	843.35

Withdrawals and Other Charges

14 Withdrawals and other Charges for \$852.14

Date	Amount	Description	Date	Amount	Description
01/31	\$10.00	Withdrawal Fee	08/31	\$10.00	Withdrawal Fee
02/28	10.00	Withdrawal Fee	09/30	10.00	Withdrawal Fee
03/31	10.00	Withdrawal Fee	10/31	10.00	Withdrawal Fee
04/30	10.00	Withdrawal Fee	11/10	10.00	Withdrawal

CHECKING ACCOUNT RECONCILEMENT

THIS FORM IS PROVIDED TO ASSIST YOU IN BALANCING YOUR CHECKING ACCOUNT

[illegible]

PERIOD ENDING	
1. SUBTRACT FROM YOUR CHECK REGISTER ANY CHARGES LISTED ON THIS CHECKING ACCOUNT STATEMENT WHICH YOU HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY DEDUCTED FROM YOUR BALANCE. ALSO, ADD ANY DIVIDEND.	
2. ENTER CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE SHOWN ON THIS STATEMENT.	\$
3. ENTER DEPOSITS MADE LATER THAN THE ENDING DATE OF THIS STATEMENT.	+\$
	+\$
	+\$
TOTAL (2 PLUS 3)	=\$

4. IN YOUR CHECK REGISTER **CHECK OFF** ALL CHECKS PAID AND, IN AREA PROVIDED AT LEFT, **LIST** NUMBERS AND AMOUNTS OF ALL UNPAID CHECKS.

5. SUBTRACT TOTAL CHECKS OUTSTANDING.	-\$	
6. THIS AMOUNT SHOULD EQUAL YOUR CHECK REGISTER BALANCE.	=\$	

IF YOU DO NOT BALANCE

VERIFY ADDITIONS AND SUBTRACTIONS - ABOVE AND IN YOUR DRAFT REGISTER
COMPARE THE DOLLAR AMOUNTS OF CHECKS LISTED ON THIS STATEMENT WITH THE CHECK
AMOUNTS LISTED IN YOUR CHECK REGISTER
COMPARE THE DOLLAR AMOUNTS OF DEPOSITS LISTED ON THIS STATEMENT WITH THE DEPOSIT
AMOUNTS RECORDED IN YOUR CHECK REGISTER

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES TO OUR CONSUMER MEMBERS

In case of Errors or Questions About Your Electronic Transfers: Telephone us at 715-627-4336 or Write to us at P.O. Box 107, Antigo, WI 54409-0107 as soon as you can, if you think that your statement or receipt is wrong or if you need more information about a transfer on the statement or receipt: We must hear from you no later than 60 days after we sent you the FIRST statement on which the error or problem appeared.

- Tell us your name and account number (if any).
- Describe the error or the transfer you are unsure about, and explain as clearly as you can why you believe it is an error or why you need more information.
- Tell us the dollar amount of the suspected error.

We will investigate your complaint and will correct any error promptly. If we take more than 10 business days to do this, we will provisionally credit your account for the amount you think is in error, so that you will have use of the money during the time it takes us to complete our investigation.

PERIODIC STATEMENT DISCLOSURES FOR OPEN END CREDIT

BALANCE SUBJECT TO FINANCE CHARGE: Each time you make a payment on your account (or from the date of your first advance on a new account), we will multiply the unpaid balance by the daily periodic rate (see reverse), and multiply that result by the number of days since the date of the last payment (or from the date of your first advance on a new account). When advances or other charges are added to the loan, the periodic finance charge is computed on the unpaid balance from the date of the last payment (or from the date of your first advance on a new account) to the date of the additional advance, then on the total unpaid balance to the date of the next payment. This determines your total periodic finance charge for the billing cycle. A minus (-) figure in the interest charge column on the reverse indicates a credit of a periodic interest charge to your account.

CONSUMER BILLING RIGHTS SUMMARY FOR OPEN END CREDIT

What to Do If You Think You Find a Mistake on Your Statement

If you think there is an error on your statement: Write to us at CoVantage Credit Union P.O. Box 107, Antigo, WI 54409-0107.

In your letter, give us the following information:

- **Account Information:** Your name and account number.
- **Dollar Amount:** The dollar amount of the suspected error.
- **Description of Problem:** If you think there is an error on your bill, describe what you believe is wrong and why you believe it is a mistake.

You must contact us within 60 days after the error appeared on your statement. You must notify us of any potential errors in writing. You may call us, but if you do we are not required to investigate any potential errors and you may have to pay the amount in question. While we investigate whether or not there has been an error, the following are true:

- We cannot try to collect the amount in question, or report you as delinquent on that amount.
- The charge in question may remain on your statement, and we may continue to charge you interest on that amount. But, if we determine that we made a mistake, you will not have to pay the amount in question or any interest or other fees related to that amount.
- While you do not have to pay the amount in question, you are responsible for the remainder of your balance.
- We can apply any unpaid amount against your credit limit.

Rev: 5/18





PO Box 107, Antigo, WI 54409-0107

Account Statement

800.398.2667 | www.covantagecu.org

Member Number: XXXXXX4260

Statement For: 01/01/2025 - 11/30/2025

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Withdrawals and Other Charges

Continued from previous page.

Date	Amount	Description	Date	Amount	Description
05/31	10.00	Withdrawal Fee	11/17	25.60	Withdrawal ACH
06/30	10.00	Withdrawal Fee	11/17	250.00	Withdrawal Debit Card
07/31	10.00	Withdrawal Fee	11/20	466.54	Withdrawal Bill Payment

Deposits and Other Credits

2 Deposits and other Credits for \$1,550.00

Date	Amount	Description	Date	Amount	Description
11/10	\$50.00	Deposit By Check	11/14	\$1,500.00	Deposit By Check

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Elderon Ballpark Fence Replacement

*Wausau & Marathon County Parks &
Recreation Foundation*

Village of Elderon

Mr. Rob Henry Wyman
P.O. Box 23
Elderon, WI 54429

pj549man@yahoo.com
O: 715-584-4203
M: 715-584-4203

Mr. Rob Henry Wyman

P.O. Box 23
9322 Main St.
Elderon, WI 54429

pj549man@yahoo.com
O: 715-584-4203
M: 715-584-4203

Application Form

Project Information

Project Name*

Name of Project

Elderon Ballpark Fence Replacement

Amount Requested*

\$5,000.00

Total Project Costs*

\$55,000.00

Project Summary/Purpose*

Provide a short outline of your proposed project. You will have an opportunity to give more detail below.

The purpose of this project is to replace the chain link fence that encompasses the playing field. The existing fence is curling up at the bottom and becoming a safety hazard. Other areas of the fence are bent, bowed out or have been damaged from large falling tree branches. All in all, the fence has seen better days. It has served the community well, but it is time to retire the fence and replace it. My best guess for the age of the fence is 75-years old.

Project Start Date*

04/01/2026

Project End Date*

04/15/2026

Geographic Area Served*

Your project must serve a community located within Marathon County or all of Marathon County. What geographic area will this project serve?

The Elderon Ballpark attracts softball, little league and baseball players from throughout Marathon County and beyond.

Project Narrative

Project Description*

Describe the project for which you are seeking funds. Include project goals, objectives, action plan, and timeline. Also explain the community need for the project and how funding would provide an impact on that need.

The project is centered around recreation and safety. The Elderon Ballpark is a beautiful facility, but the fence encapsulating it has exceeded its useful life. There are many areas where the bottom of the fence is curling up, which is a safety concern because it would be easy to trip on and cut yourself on the exposed bottom of the chain link fence. I've included pictures to document this concern. There are additional areas of the fence that have bowed out over time. Most likely caused by years of hitting balls into the fence during practice. I've included pictures to document this as well. The final area of safety is to increase the overall height of the fence to reduce the number of foul balls hit directly into the third base bleacher area. Over the years, we have had several foul balls hit spectators and many close calls along the third base line, as the height of the fence isn't sufficient enough to stop baseballs hit in that direction. The new fence will extend 10-feet, where the current fence is only 7-feet tall.

The objectives are to eliminate these safety concerns, while transforming the ballpark with a 10-foot tall encompassing fence. The taller fence will change the dynamics of the park for an improved level of play. Taller outfield fences will make play more challenging and will make the ballpark more relevant. The evolution of equipment (bats and baseballs), combined with the smaller dimensions of the Elderon Ballpark has made hitting home runs much easier, this new, taller fence will make it more challenging and will be a welcome change to the aesthetics of the park.

Duplication of Services*

Are there any similar projects currently operating in the community? If so, how is your program different, and why is it needed?

Elderon Ballpark is the only baseball/softball diamond in the Village of Elderon. The setting is very unique and is considered one of the best ballparks in the area by many citizens of surrounding areas. Everyone loves playing here and watching games in our beautiful park setting. Our abundance of shade trees, our historic clubhouse, our concession stand and our playground area - the park is a treasure and the Village of Elderon spends significant resources every year maintaining and improving it.

The closest softball diamond to Elderon is about 10-miles away in Galloway, WI. That ball diamond is softball only. Wittenberg, WI is approximately 10-miles away from Elderon as well and Wittenberg has both a baseball and a softball diamond. The ball parks in Galloway and Wittenberg are used most of the summer - youth softball, adult softball, little league, legion baseball and adult amateur baseball.

Other Participating Organizations*

Are you collaborating with other organizations to meet this particular need? If so, name other organizations participating in the project and describe their roles.

Wausau Marathon County Impact Grant:	\$15,000 Awarded
Village of Elderon:	\$7,500 Committed
Town of Elderon:	\$5,000 Committed

Galloway Community Center:	\$2,500 Applied For
Clyde F. Schlueter Foundation:	\$5,000 Applied For
The Ed & Joyce Creske Family Foundation Fund	\$15,000 Applied For
Wausau & Marathon County Parks & Rec Foundation:	\$5,000 Applied For
Private Donations:	\$5,000 Applied For
Total:	\$60,000 Total

Long-Term Strategies

What are the long-term strategies for continuation and funding of this project at the end of the grant period?

The plan is to raise enough money to order the materials by 12/31/2025 and prep for a spring construction. Once the fence is replaced, it should be good for 75-100 years. This is a long-term improvement. The Village will take responsibility to maintain and address any issues that may occur as they occur to ensure the longtime viability of the fence. We will be proactive in addressing any performance or aesthetic issues as well as making sure the fence is properly insured as to protect it from storm damage. (We have a lot of trees around the ballpark.)

Project Budget*

Upload a project budget below or outline your project budget in the space provided. List anticipated income sources and expenses associated with this project.

Detailed Budget.pdf

Optional: Additional Information

Feel free to attach additional documents that would benefit the Selection Committee in making their decision.

Supporting Information.docx

Organization Information

Purpose/History of the Organization*

Please provide a brief history of your organization and an outline of its purpose. What are your current programs or activities?

The Village of Elderon is a small municipality in Marathon County - Population 161. When the Marathon County Parks Department downsized in the early 1990's the County gave the Village of Elderon two former County Parks. At that time, the Village didn't have the equipment (commercial lawn mower, etc.) to maintain the large parks. At that time, the Village of Elderon organized an annual fundraiser called the Elderon Improvement Club Party, which still happens each fall. The party raises approximately \$10,000 per year for the maintenance and improvements of the Village of Elderon parks. We are very proud of the work we have done and continue to do. The Village parks are a priority of our Board and continue to be a popular destination for our residents and those residents in surrounding communities. From Memorial Day to Labor Day our parks are booked for events nearly all summer long.

Electronic Signature & Confirmation

Recognition of Grant Award*

If a grant is awarded, the Wausau & Marathon County Parks Foundation requires recognition of the grant. How will the Parks Foundation be recognized for this grant if your application is successful?

*Note: Minimum requirement is website and/or social media recognition **and** signage at the location of the funded project. A logo is available upon request.*

Social media recognition, print media (local newspapers), signage at the project location and inclusion in all game programs for all games in Elderon during the 2026 sports season.

Signature of Contact Person*

Enter your full name and title below

Rob Wyman - Clerk - Village of Elderon

Confirmation*

By entering your signature information above and clicking "I Agree" below, you certify that the statements contained in this application are true and correct to the best of your knowledge. You also agree that, if selected, you will use the funds granted for the purpose as proposed and approved by the Wausau & Marathon County Parks & Recreation Foundation and the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin Board of Directors. You also agree to allow Wausau & Marathon County Parks & Recreation Foundation and the Community Foundation to use information provided in this request for press releases, reports, and other public information.

I Agree

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Detailed Budget.pdf
- Supporting Information.docx

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN

PROJECT BUDGET

Organization:				
Project Name:				
PROJECT EXPENSES	Amount	% of Total Expenses		Total
Personnel				
Facilities/Occupancy				
Equipment/Supplies				
Printing/Promotion				
Meeting/Travel				
Administrative Expenses				
Other Project Expenses (<i>specify</i>):				
-				
-				
-				
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES				
SOURCES OF PROJECT REVENUE	Secured Funding	Funding Applied For		Total
Community Foundation			=	
Other Foundations			=	
Corporations			=	
Individuals			=	
Government Grants			=	
Umbrella Organization			=	
Contracts			=	
Other Project Revenue (<i>specify</i>):			=	
-			=	
-			=	
-			=	
Earned Income				
Events or Ticket Sales			=	
Publications & Products			=	
Membership Income			=	
In-kind Support			=	
Other Earned Income (<i>specify</i>):			=	
-			=	
-			=	
-			=	
TOTAL PROJECT REVENUE				

****Total Project Expenses must equal Total Project Revenue***

The Village of Elderon is a small municipality in Marathon County - Population 161. When the Marathon County Parks Department downsized in the early 1990's the County gave the Village of Elderon two former County Parks. At that time, the Village didn't have the equipment (commercial lawn mower, etc.) to maintain the large parks. At that time, the Village of Elderon organized an annual fundraiser called the Elderon Improvement Club Party, which still happens each fall. The party raises approximately \$10,000 per year for the maintenance and improvements of the Village of Elderon parks. We are very proud of the work we have done and continue to do. The Village parks are a priority of our Board and continue to be a popular destination for our residents and those residents in surrounding communities. From Memorial Day to Labor Day our parks are booked for events nearly all summer long.



Jamie Polley

From: randyf@mtc.net
Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2025 11:58 AM
To: WILLIAM DUNCANSON
Cc: william c bertram; Jamie Polley; kpcrooks13
Subject: Re: Wild Scenic

All:

I signed the contract today which should give us access to everything we need at our next meeting. I do understand what Kevin was addressing on a refund should we back out but I think we are committed on going forward with this. Randy

From: "WILLIAM DUNCANSON" <wduncanson@aol.com>
To: "Michael Huth" <michael@wildandscenicfilmfestival.org>
Cc: "randyf mtc. net" <randyf@mtc.net>
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2025 9:54:35 PM
Subject: Re: Wild Scenic

Michael,
Glad you got the deposit. Please continue to work with Randy on the contract. As treasurer, I will be involved with invoices as they occur.

Bill

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 17, 2025, at 10:54 AM, Michael Huth <michael@wildandscenicfilmfestival.org> wrote:

I received the deposit. Wondering if you wanted to have me send you the contract to sign or is that ok still being sent to Randy? I have an attached copy here, but can send it to you to digitally sign as well.

Once that step is clear I will send you the current art to start marketing with our save the date, posters, social media etc.

I will also send the 2025 films for you to watch and narrow down the top options as we finalize all the new 100+ 2026 films to be sent out in January.

Michael Huth
On Tour Manager : Wild and Scenic Film Festival
(A program of the South Yuba River Citizen's League)
313 Railroad Ave Suite 101, Nevada City, CA 95959
Office: (530) 265-5961 x 230 | Cell: (608) 751-7274
[Click to Book With Me](#)



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<2026 OnTour Host Contract- Wausau & Marathon County Parks and Recreation
Foundation-2.pdf>

Jamie Polley

From: randyf@mtc.net
Sent: Saturday, November 8, 2025 8:43 PM
To: WILLIAM DUNCANSON
Cc: william c bertram; Jamie Polley
Subject: Re: Join the Wild & Scenic Film Festival National Tour: 2025 New Hosts!

Bill,

I did hear back from Bill Bertram with his recommendation that I sign the contract. I guess I wanted to confirm that at the last meeting you looked over the contract and had no problems with any of the items that I would be initialling.

I am not sure it matters if I send them the completed contract because they are going to need the \$250.00 down payment before we get anything, anyway. That is something you would need to do. I think I will be gone this next week to South Dakota duck hunting (unless everything freezes up) but maybe we could coordinate sending them the contract and the payment at the same time.

Randy

From: "WILLIAM DUNCANSON" <wduncanson@aol.com>
To: "randyf mtc. net" <randyf@mtc.net>
Cc: "william c bertram" <william.c.bertram@gmail.com>, "Jamie Polley" <Jamie.Polley@marathoncounty.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 6:28:02 PM
Subject: Re: Join the Wild & Scenic Film Festival National Tour: 2025 New Hosts!

Randy,

At our meeting we reviewed the flow chart and details Bill Bertram had put together. There was agreement to proceed. Bill Bertram said there was no need to reserve the film festival yet. The only actions were to select the date (in the MSP airport so going by memory) Wednesday, April 22, 2026 (Earth Day) and reserve the Granite Peak Sundance Lodge. Our Wednesday date ties in with a statewide wellness conference with lots of outdoor recreation emphasis being held in Wausau on Thursday and Friday.

Bill Bertram was leaving sometime soon to hike in Europe for a couple of weeks. He usually watches his email. I have been expecting him to respond to you considering that the two of you have the lead on the film festival.

Bill

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 3, 2025, at 9:00 AM, randyf@mtc.net wrote:

Hi All,

I am just wondering what was decided at the October 22nd meeting and if Bill Duncanson sent the \$250.00 deposit and if I should complete the contract and send it in so we have access to the resource setup for our next meeting?

Thanks, Randy

From: "randyf mtc. net" <randyf@mtc.net>
To: "william c bertram" <william.c.bertram@gmail.com>, "WILLIAM DUNCANSON" <wduncanson@aol.com>
Cc: "Jamie Polley" <Jamie.Polley@marathoncounty.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 3:49:15 PM
Subject: Fwd: Join the Wild & Scenic Film Festival National Tour: 2025 New Hosts!

Hi all:

Attached is the information I received today on the Wild and Scenic Film Festival. Michael is suggesting we sign the contract and pay a \$250.00 deposit to give us access to the resources setup. I will let the Board decide if they want to do that at the October 22nd meeting. There is a deposit link in Michael's email for payment to be made.

I leave for Colorado on the 21st so if you have questions, let me know and I will get answers prior to the meeting.

Randy

From: "Michael Huth" <michael@wildandscenicfilmfestival.org>
To: "randyf mtc. net" <randyf@mtc.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 2:39:18 PM
Subject: Re: Join the Wild & Scenic Film Festival National Tour: 2025 New Hosts!

I would say sign the contract and pay the \$250 deposit. That gives you access to all of the 2025 films and you can see the resources setup like sponsorship letter templates and ticketing platforms.

The 2026 film submission entry date ended yesterday so the 2026 films will be under contract and the entire new art and film library ready in January.

Remaining balance is not due until time of event but this is the best way to get going.

I can let you know what curated programs are available still to consider from the 2025 list and you can get a jump start on narrowing those films as the new programs and films become available in Jan.

Our art save the date poster will be done in a week to start promoting that way too so now is a good time.

[Here is a deposit link.](#)

I attached a sample contract but if you let me know who to fill it out as organization name, and point of contact I can create that for us too.

Michael Huth
Wild & Scenic Film Festival : On Tour Manager
M: 608-751-7274
[Click to Book With Me](#)

From: randyf@mtc.net <randyf@mtc.net>
Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 9:37 AM
To: Michael Huth <michael@wildandscenicfilmfestival.org>
Subject: Re: Join the Wild & Scenic Film Festival National Tour: 2025 New Hosts!

Michael Huth,

Good news in that we have an accepted motion from our Board to move forward with the Wild and Scenic Film Festival in April of 2026 in Wausau WI. The date we are looking at is April 16th and we are hoping to hold it at the Sundance Chalet at the Granite Peak Ski Area.

Obviously we have a lot of planning to do yet, but just wondering where we go from here on your end? When would we need to sign a contract with you and when would you need payment? Do we need to pick films or will there be a group of films for 2026 ready by our date. Our next full Board meeting is not till December so no rush but the Board will want to know then.

Thanks,

Randy Falstad

From: "Michael Huth" <michael@wildandscenicfilmfestival.org>
To: "randyf mtc. net" <randyf@mtc.net>
Sent: Monday, September 8, 2025 11:49:52 AM
Subject: Re: Join the Wild & Scenic Film Festival National Tour: 2025 New Hosts!

Circling back here if anything else came up for this question or progress wise. Thanks Randy!

Michael Huth
Wild & Scenic Film Festival : On Tour Manager
M: 608-751-7274
[Click to Book With Me](#)

From: Michael Huth <michael@wildandscenicfilmfestival.org>
Date: Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 11:40 AM
To: Randy Falstad <randyf@mtc.net>
Subject: Join the Wild & Scenic Film Festival National Tour: 2025 New Hosts!

Randy!

Love another Sconnie wanting to join the tour! I am from Janesville, WI! Here is bunch of materials to help with the 10/7 meeting. Give me a ring before or feel free to book some time in my scheduler link in my signature if you want to talk prior!

Deck to show the board here:

[2025 WSFF On Tour Host Deck w/ Pricing](#)

Sample program and mock budget attached:

We are in **110+ cities** nationwide right now and our programming reaches **over 33,000 people** annually by partnering with land trusts, waterkeepers, schools, nature conservancies and other NGOs. In 2024 WSFF host organizations helped raise **over a million dollars towards environmental impact** and communities!

[2025 Wild & Scenic Film Festival Trailer](#)

[Presenting the Wild & Scenic Film Festival On Tour \(youtube.com\)](#)

[Tour Map of Locations](#)

Michael Huth

On Tour Manager : *Wild and Scenic Film Festival*

(A program of the *South Yuba River Citizen's League*)

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[Click to Book With Me](#)



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Jamie Polley

From: randyf@mtc.net
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2025 1:10 PM
To: william c bertram; WILLIAM DUNCANSON
Cc: Jamie Polley
Subject: Fwd: Join the Wild & Scenic Film Festival National Tour: 2025 New Hosts!

Just wanted to forward you this before your meeting next week. It is just saying that if we went with a program that is already made up, we can get it for \$1350 instead to the \$1850 (which I am not sure I knew). Something we can decide on later after reviewing options. Randy

From: "Michael Huth" <michael@wildandscenicfilmfestival.org>
To: "randyf mtc. net" <randyf@mtc.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 4:47:35 PM
Subject: Re: Join the Wild & Scenic Film Festival National Tour: 2025 New Hosts!

I will build it as a custom film program (\$1850) for now but it is not a problem to switch it to a curated (\$1350) if you find a pre made program that you like for your audience and want to go that route.

The contract and the deposit will get you going though on narrowing the 2025 films and seeing the existing curated options while we wait to add our new sets of films.

Michael Huth
Wild & Scenic Film Festival : On Tour Manager
M: 608-751-7274
[Click to Book With Me](#)

From: randyf@mtc.net <randyf@mtc.net>
Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 1:57 PM
To: Michael Huth <michael@wildandscenicfilmfestival.org>
Subject: Re: Join the Wild & Scenic Film Festival National Tour: 2025 New Hosts!

Thank you Michael,

For your contract, we are:

Wausau and Marathon County Park Foundation
% Marathon County Parks and Forestry Office
518 South 7th Avenue, Wausau, WI 54401

I will remain your point of contact for now.

Randy Falstad
715-551-1590

From: "Michael Huth" <michael@wildandscenicfilmfestival.org>
To: "randyf mtc. net" <randyf@mtc.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 2:39:18 PM
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Obviously we have a lot of planning to do yet, but just wondering where we go from here on your end? When would we need to sign a contract with you and when would you need payment? Do we need to pick films or will there be a group of films for 2026 ready by our date. Our next full Board meeting is not till December so no rush but the Board will want to know then.

Thanks,

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Michael Huth
Wild & Scenic Film Festival : On Tour Manager
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Sample program and mock budget attached:

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[2025 Wild & Scenic Film Festival Trailer](#)
[Presenting the Wild & Scenic Film Festival On Tour \(youtube.com\)](#)
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Fund Raiser for Wausau & Marathon County Park & Recreation Foundation

Overriding Sponsors

Visit Wausau • Community Foundation • City of Wausau

Potential Event Names

- **Basecamp – 2025** – Wausau and Marathon County Park Foundation Outdoor Recreation Fund Raiser – Change date with each year
- **Apex** - Wausau and Marathon County Park Foundation Outdoor Recreation Fund Raiser
- **PARKPALOOZA** – Helping our Parks Grow - Palooza is a word that means an exaggerated event or party, often used with another word to create a festive name.
- **Great Pinery** – We own
- **A Night for Nature**
- **Our Parks – Our Future**
- **Roots** – A Fund Raiser for Marathon County Parks
- **An Evening for our Parks - Fund Raiser**
- **Connections** – A Charity Benefit to Support our Parks

APRIL 2026

www.calendar.best

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Boys & Girls Club – Wine Dinner - \$150/ticket	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Business EXPO Dallas String Quartet	17	18
19	20	21	22 Earth Day 	23 Healthy Community Summit	24 Healthy Community Summit	25 Healthy Community Summit
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

PARKPALOOZA GALA ?

- Celebrating Earth Day
- Wild & Scenic Film Festival
- Northwoods or **Big Bull Falls** Film Festival

**Fund Raiser for the Wausau and Marathon
County Parks Foundation**

Limited to 500 tickets

April 22nd – Granite Peak Sundance Chalet
6:00pm to 9:00pm

Raffles • Craft Beer • Appetizers



Event Overview

- Sundance Chalet holds 350 to 500 people
- Sponsorship Goal: \$20,000
- General Ticket Sales: $\$25.00 \times 350 = \$8,750$ to $\$12,500$ (500 tickets)
- Raffle Prizes: \$17,500
- Outdoor Recreation Baskets: \$2,500
- Best Beer in Wisconsin: \$2,500
- Other: \$3,225
- **Total Revenues = \$56,975**
- Cost: Chalet Rental \$625 + Food \$1,000 + Film Rental \$1,850 + Movie Projection \$500 + Raffle Prizes \$2,500 + Misc. \$500 = **\$6,975**
- **Net Profit Goal - \$50,000. Stretch Goal - \$75,000**



The Great Pinery Outdoor Recreation & Film Festival is a fund raiser for the Wausau and Marathon County Parks and Recreation Foundation.

- Adult tickets are \$25
Youth under 17 tickets are \$15

Business & Organization Sponsorship Levels

- **Blue Gill Bay: \$125** You receive 2 tickets to be used the night of the event. You'll also be listed in the onsite program.
- **Dells of the Eau Claire: \$250** You receive 2 tickets to be used the night of the event. You'll also be listed in the onsite program.
- **9-Mile: \$500** You receive 5 tickets to be used the night of the event. You'll also be listed in the onsite program.
- **RiverLife: \$1,000** You receive 10 tickets to be used the night of the event. You'll also be listed in the onsite program.
- **Great Pinery: \$5,000** You receive 20 tickets to be used the night of the event. Company name or Sponsor name will be featured prominently on signage in the lobby. You will also be listed in the onsite program.
- **Event: April 22nd. Doors open 6:00 pm – Films starts at 7:00pm to 10:00pm**

Best Beer & Spirits in the Pinery

- \$25 get you 10-tickets to savor your favorite beer or spirit with the proceeds going to the Park Foundation
- The establishment ringing up the most tickets receives the honor of having the best beer or Spirit in the Great Pinery!



How do Beer & Spirit Game Works

Marketing the Event

E-mail Blast

- December - Hold that date email – December 19th
- January - Reminder
- February – Reminder
- March - Reminder
- April – 3rd
- April – 17th

Market through outdoor recreation organizations

- Wausau Whitewater
 - Wausau Wheelers
 - Granite Peak Ski Patrol
 - Granite Peak Ski Team
 - Wausau and Marathon County Parks and Recreation
 - Woodson YMCA – Camp Sturtevant
 - Woodson YMCA
 - The Landing
 - Girl Scouts – Camp Del O’Claire
 - Boy Scouts
 - IRONBULL
 - Nordic Ski Club
- Ice Age Trail Alliance – Moraine Chapter
 - CWOCC
 - Wausau United Ride
 - Wausau Area Striders
 - Take a Hike – Rib Mountain Hiking Club
 - Central Wisconsin Outdoor Group
 - Trail Sisters
 - Wausau Bird Club
 - Central Wisconsin Adventure Club
 - WAEGO
 - Others

Raffles & Silent Auction

Raffle Types

The most successful raffles typically feature **high-value, highly desirable grand prizes** and often incorporate an element of **exclusivity or unique experience**. The specific type of raffle that is most successful depends heavily on the audience and the event's structure.

Golden Ticket - Only a limited number of high-priced tickets are sold for one premium prize. Exclusivity and better odds of winning a top-tier item.

Bucket (Chinese) Raffle - Participants distribute their tickets among multiple different prize options displayed in separate "buckets". Choice and control over which prizes to win.

50/50 Raffle - The prize is a cash payout consisting of half the total money collected from ticket sales. Guaranteed cash prize that increases with participation.

Wine Pull - Participants pay a set amount to randomly select a wrapped bottle of wine, which vary in value. Guaranteed win and the element of surprise.

Golden Ticket

Golden ticket raffles are a type of limited-number, premium-priced raffle with a high-value prize, often a choice of luxury items like vacation packages. Participants buy a ticket for a flat fee, and one winner is randomly drawn to receive the prize, creating a sense of exclusivity and urgency. The goal is to raise funds for a cause, and the high-ticket price and prize value are designed to maximize fundraising potential.

How it works

- **Premium pricing:** Unlike traditional raffles with low ticket prices, golden tickets are sold at a higher, fixed price (often between \$50-\$100) to attract dedicated supporters and increase fundraising.
- **Limited tickets:** A specific, limited number of tickets are sold, which creates a sense of exclusivity and a higher chance of winning for each participant.
- **High-value prize:** The raffle offers a desirable, high-value prize, such as a vacation, a choice of experiences, or a package of premium items. This makes the tickets more appealing and generates excitement.
- **Fundraising model:** This method is a fundraising strategy, so the money raised from ticket sales goes to the host organization.
- **Event-specific participation:** Participation is often limited to attendees of a specific event

Bucket Raffle

A basket raffle involves participants buying tickets for a chance to win a themed collection of items (a "basket"). During the event, attendees place their tickets into a container next to the basket they want to win, and a winner is randomly drawn from each container at the end of the raffle period. This is a popular fundraising method for schools and non-profits, which can use both physical and digital systems for ticket sales and tracking.

How it works

- **Create the baskets:** Assemble themed collections of donated or purchased items, such as a "Date Night" basket with a gift card and wine, or a "Coffee Lover's" basket with coffee and mugs.
- **Set up the raffle:** Display each basket with a separate collection box, container, or digital platform entry.
- **Sell tickets:** Sell raffle tickets to participants, often for a low fee, and give them multiple tickets to increase their chances of winning. They then choose which basket(s) to enter by placing their tickets in the corresponding containers.
- **Draw the winners:** At a set time, draw one ticket from each container to determine the winner for that specific basket.

Key aspects

- **Theming:** Themed baskets are often more appealing and can be a great way to tie into an event's theme or target a specific audience.
- **Tickets:** Tickets can be physical or digital. Digital platforms can streamline sales, tracking, and prize notification.
- **Fundraising:** Basket raffles are a common fundraising tool because they are simple to organize and can generate significant revenue from ticket sales.
- **Legality:** Since raffles are considered games of chance, it is important to check your local and state regulations regarding permits and licensing before hosting one.

50/50 Raffle

A **50/50 raffle** is a fundraising game of chance where participants purchase tickets for a chance to win a cash prize equal to half of the total money raised from all ticket sales. The remaining 50% of the proceeds goes to the organization or cause hosting the raffle.

How it Works

The process is straightforward and typically involves these steps:

- **Ticket Sales:** An organization sets a price per ticket, and participants can buy as many as they want, which increases both the potential prize and their odds of winning.
- **Growing Prize Pool:** As more tickets are sold, the total amount of money collected (the "pot" or "jackpot") grows, which in turn increases the excitement and motivates more people to buy tickets.
- **Winner Selection:** At a predetermined time (often at the end of an event), a single winning ticket is randomly drawn from all sold entries.
- **Prize Distribution:** The person with the winning ticket receives a cash prize equal to 50% of the total funds collected. The other 50% is kept by the hosting organization for its charitable purposes.

Benefits

- **Low Cost and Easy to Organize:** The hosting organization does not need to procure an expensive physical prize upfront, as the prize is the cash pool itself. The only costs are typically for physical tickets or an online platform fee.
- **Excitement:** The prize amount grows as more tickets are sold, building excitement and incentivizing more sales.
- **Transparency:** The rules are straightforward—everyone knows the money is split 50/50 between the winner and the cause, which builds trust.

Wine Pull

A wine pull is a fundraising activity where guests pay a flat fee for a mystery bottle of wine, the value of which can range from inexpensive to premium. Participants either choose a pre-wrapped bottle at random or draw a numbered cork that corresponds to a specific bottle. The bottles are often displayed on a "wine wall" and wrapped to hide the labels.

How it works

- **Pay and select:** Guests pay a set price, such as \$25, to participate.
- **Choose a bottle:** They then get to select a bottle through one of two main methods:
 - **Direct selection:** They pick one of the pre-wrapped bottles from a display.
 - **Cork pull:** They draw a numbered cork from a basket, and that number corresponds to a specific, hidden bottle.
- **Collect the prize:** Once a bottle is selected, a volunteer gives them the bottle, which can be a significant value or a more common bottle, creating a game of chance and excitement.

Key features

- **Fundraiser:**

It is a popular fundraising event that is often held at galas and other nonprofit events.

- **Mystery element:**

The bottles are wrapped to keep their identity a secret, adding an element of surprise and fun.

- **Range of value:**

Donated or purchased bottles are a mix of values, so a guest might spend \$25 but end up with a bottle worth \$100 or more.

- **Customizable:**

The bottles can be decorated to fit a specific event theme, such as putting them in colorful socks or burlap bags.

Raffles & Silent Auction

E-Bike

Kayaks

Backpacks, portable coolers, camping gear, & hiking equipment

Garmin GPS

Picnic baskets – outdoor recreation themed

Weekend Getaways

Outdoor Recreation Events (Wausau 24, IRONBULL, Ragnar Others)

Granite Peak Ski Passes

Alpine Skis

Nodic Skis

W&S Trailers – '25, '24, '23

- <https://youtu.be/qiWh1e2doHo>
- https://youtu.be/Ptq_eFeprzk
- <https://youtu.be/XhzY3td66lk>

Title sponsors - \$5K or In-Kind each

- Visit Wausau - \$16K in-kind
- Aspirus
- Greenheck Fan Group
- Kocourek Automotive
- Foundation 1
- Foundation 2
- Foundation 3

Ideas

- QR Code for donations
- 50/50 raffles
- Merchandise
- Outdoor Art
- 1st Annual Northwoods Film Festival

**Wausau and Marathon County Park and Recreation Foundation Fundraiser
Parkpalooza – A Night to Support Marathon County Parks**

Date: April 22nd, 2026 – Earth Day

Location: Granite Peak Sundance Chalet
227200 Snowbird Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401

Time: 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Entertainment: Wild & Scenic Film Festival & The Northwood Film Festival

Event: Door Prizes, Raffles, “Best Beer & Spirit in The Northwoods” – People Choice Awards

Tickets: \$25.00/per ticket and limited to 500 people

On-line Purchase:

Donations can be made in the following ways:

The Wausau and Marathon County Park and Recreation Foundation is a 501C3 nonprofit foundation that supports parks and recreation in Marathon County. We create and support transformational project that better the lives and enhance our communities throughout Marathon County. Visionary projects have included IRONBULL, the leading outdoor recreational events organization in northern Wisconsin to the creation of the Great Pinery Heritage Waterway – Wisconsin’s 12th National Water Trail. Additional projects include Jo Jo Jungle, RiverLife Park, Ice Age National Scenic Trail, Dog Parks, Boat Landings and park enhancements.

Donations are tax exempt

IRS Number: XXXX

Wild & Scenic Film Festival

SYRCL's Wild & Scenic Film Festival inspires environmental activism and a love for nature—through film.

Every year since 2005 after the flagship Wild & Scenic Film Festival ends, our films hit the road and the **On Tour program** begins! On Tour enters its 21st season of bringing the inspiration of Wild & Scenic films to communities all over the country. With **130+** Wild & Scenic events a year, our programming now reaches **over 38,000** people annually via partnering with land trusts, waterkeepers, schools, and other NGOs. In 2025 WSFF helped host organizations raise **over \$1,500,000** for their organizations and communities!

Whether hosts are using the festival to raise funds, increase membership, create new contacts, or acting as a community, building fun time watching great films, On Tour is a proven impactful event that organizations and attendees look forward to year after year. WSFF On Tour and our Flagship Festival work together in sharing the vision of Wild & Scenic *where activism gets inspired!*

With On Tour, our hosts are provided with 200+ films and empowered to create a unique film festival experience in their own communities.



Northwoods Film & Art Festival

WMCPF has created a film & art festival that highlights local videographers and photographers who celebrate the natural world, wildlife, and environmental conservation through cinema and photography of the Wisconsin's Northwoods.

NFAF showcases short films (3 to 5 minutes) on nature, wildlife, outdoor exploration, adventure and the biodiversity of our forest, waterways and natural landscapes.

The festival also highlights photography of the Northwoods.

50/50 Raffle

A 50/50 raffle is a fundraising event where half of the proceeds from ticket sales go to the winner, while the other half supports the organizing charity or organization.

Mechanics of a 50/50 Raffle

1. **Ticket Sales:** Participants purchase tickets for a chance to win. The price of tickets can vary but keeping them low encourages more sales. For example, if 500 tickets are sold at \$10 each, the total raised is \$5,000.
2. **Prize Distribution:** The total amount raised is split evenly. In the example above, the winner would receive \$2,500, and the organizing charity would also keep \$2,500.
3. **Drawing the Winner:** At the end of the raffle, a ticket is drawn randomly to determine the winner. This can be done live at an event or through an online platform.

Benefits of 50/50 Raffles

- **Low Upfront Costs:** Unlike traditional raffles that require securing prizes, 50/50 raffles do not need physical prizes, reducing the risk for organizers.
- **Simplicity:** They are easy to organize and can be conducted at various events, from community gatherings to online campaigns.
- **Incentive to Participate:** The more tickets sold, the larger the prize, which encourages participants to buy more tickets to increase their chances of winning.

Legal Considerations

Before hosting a 50/50 raffle, it's essential to check local laws and regulations, as they can vary by state or province. Some jurisdictions may require a license to conduct a raffle, especially if it involves online ticket sales.

In summary, 50/50 raffles are a straightforward and effective way for organizations to raise funds while providing participants with the chance to win a cash prize. The simplicity of the format and the potential for significant returns make them a popular choice for many fundraising events.

WMCPF – Best Practices on Donations

I. Donation Process

The process of receiving a fundraiser donation involves preparing an online or physical system for easy giving, securely processing the payment through a gateway, and then following up with prompt and personal thank-you notes and impact reports to the donor. It's crucial to have a clear donation page or form, use a secure payment processor, and have a process for handling cash or checks if necessary.

Before the donation is made

- **Set up a donation system:** Create a customized and user-friendly donation form or page with a secure payment gateway.
- **Meet legal and compliance requirements:** Ensure you have registered for charitable solicitation in any states where you are fundraising and comply with any other relevant laws.
- **Plan for different donation methods:** Decide if you will accept cash, checks, or credit card payments, and have the appropriate tools and procedures in place for each.
- **Prepare for follow-up:** Set up a system to track donations and have a plan for sending personalized thank-you notes.

During the donation

- **Process payments securely:** Use a secure payment gateway that is compliant with PCI-DSS standards to process online transactions.
- **Handle cash and checks carefully:** For cash, count it as soon as possible with at least two people, and bank it securely. For checks, ensure they are current and made out to the correct payee.
- **Collect donor information:** Gather necessary donor information to enable proper follow-up, and for online donations, your payment processor can do this automatically.

II. Acknowledgment

After the donation is made

- **Send an immediate thank you:** Acknowledge the donation quickly through email, social media, or a phone call to show appreciation.
- **Send a formal thank-you and impact report:** Follow up with a formal acknowledgment that details the impact of the donation and explains how the funds will be used.
- **Keep the donor engaged:** Maintain the relationship by sharing updates, inviting them to volunteer, and keeping them informed of future events.

Essential elements of an official acknowledgment

- **Timeliness:** Send acknowledgments as soon as possible, ideally within 48 hours, to make the donor feel valued.
- **Personalization:** Address the donor by their preferred name and use specific details about their donation.
- **Tax information:** For donations of \$250 or more, provide a written acknowledgment that includes the nonprofit's name and address, the date, the amount of the donation, and a statement on whether any goods or services were provided in exchange.

- **Impact statement:** Briefly explain how the donation will help achieve the organization's goals and mission.
- **Call to action:** Invite the donor to future events, volunteer opportunities, or to follow the organization on social media to stay engaged.

Methods for sending acknowledgments

- **Email:** A great first step for immediate confirmation, it can also be used for a more detailed thank-you.
- **Physical letter:** A more formal approach, especially for larger donations, it can be a signed letter from the executive director to add a personal touch.
- **Phone call:** A direct and personal way to show appreciation. You can gather volunteers and staff for a thank-you call-a-thon.
- **Video thank-you:** A simple, short video can be an engaging and modern way to express gratitude.
- **Website/landing page:** Your post-donation landing page is an excellent opportunity to express thanks immediately, and you can follow up with an email.

Other best practices

- **Don't forget smaller donations:** Send personalized thank you to all donors, not just major ones.
- **Keep it brief:** Avoid overwhelming donors with a long letter that feels like a follow-up ask.
- **Consider appreciation gifts:** Small tokens like branded merchandise can be a great way to keep your mission top-of-mind for the donor, but they should not replace a proper acknowledgment letter.

III. Record Keeping

A nonprofit gift-tracking spreadsheet is typically organized with specific columns to capture all essential information for accounting, donor relations, and IRS compliance. The layout usually consists of a main "Transactions" or "Donations" tab and potentially a "Donors" or "Constituents" tab for donor details.

Key Columns for a Nonprofit Donation Tracking Spreadsheet

The following columns should be included in your primary transaction log:

- **Donation Date:** The date the gift was received.
- **Amount Donated:** The monetary value of the gift.
- **Payment Type/Method:** (e.g., check, credit card, cash, stock, in-kind).
- **Transaction ID/Check Number:** A unique identifier for the specific transaction, if available.
- **Fund/Campaign/Appeal:** The specific initiative or fund the donation is designated for.
- **Donor ID:** A unique identifier to link back to the donor's master record in a separate sheet.
- **Donor Name:** Full name of the individual or organization.
- **Donor Contact Information:** Mailing address, email, and phone number (these may be linked from a separate "Donors" sheet using the Donor ID).
- **Description of Non-Cash Gifts:** For in-kind donations, include a description of the items, but not their value (the donor is responsible for valuation).

- **Value of Goods/Services Provided in Return:** A good faith estimate of any goods or services the organization provided to the donor in exchange for the gift (important for tax substantiation letters).
- **Acknowledgment Sent?:** A simple "Yes/No" or date the official tax receipt/thank you letter was sent.
- **Notes:** Any additional relevant information, such as the donor's interests or communication preferences.

Separate Donor Information Sheet

A separate sheet, linked by the **Donor ID**, can contain more detailed, long-term information:

- **Donor ID:** Unique identifier.
- **First Name, Last Name, Organization Name.**
- **Full Address, Email, Phone Number.**
- **Total Gifts to Date:** A calculated field summarizing their history.
- **First and Most Recent Donation Dates:** Useful for tracking engagement.

Best Practices

- **Consistency:** Ensure consistent data entry by using dropdown menus where possible (e.g., for payment type or campaign name).
- **Regular Saves/Backups:** Save your changes regularly to prevent data loss.
- **Tax Compliance:** The information tracked should be sufficient to generate IRS-compliant donation receipts for any single contribution of \$250 or more.
- **Pivot Tables:** Use pivot tables to quickly generate reports, such as total donations per month or per campaign.
- **Consider CRM Software:** While a spreadsheet works well for starting nonprofits, consider a dedicated donor management or CRM software as your needs grow, as these systems can automate many tracking and reporting tasks.