



Snowmobile Recreational Council Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 26th, 2024

Rib Mountain Conference Center & Dales Weston Lanes, Weston and via Zoom

Committee Members Present: Gary Hilgendorf - Chair, Joel Enking, Bob Lang, Andy Malecki, Dale Mayo, Don Mrotek

Other Council Members Present: Lynsey Burzinski, Ann Degenhardt, Abby Haas, Mike Holden, Tara Krall, Sam Landes, Sue Smedegard, Holly Tomlanovich, Erica Volker

DNR staff attendance: Jillian Steffes, Pat Anderson, Kurt Byfield, Chris Halbur Jeremy Holtz, Jeff Pennucci

Public attendance: Lori Heideman, Dave Newman and other members of the public

1. Call to order after the Finance Committee adjourned

2. Agenda Repair - None

3. Acceptance of minutes of previous meeting

Motion to approve previous minutes by Andy, 2nd by Abby. MOTION PASSED

4. Committee Chair Comments

- **Gary Hilgendorf** – Given the financial situation this year, we've got some tough decisions to make. We need to think about each item and how it affects the entire program.

5. Public Comments

- Tara Krall – In Iron County, we require hour meter time on anything that has an hour meter for non-grooming work. Currently SNARS has hour meter as optional. Useful for tractor, dozers, skid steers.
 - Per Council, ultimately, let the county require it if they wish..

6. DNR Report

- HANDOUTS
 - Snowmobile Funding Report FY24, Available Funds FY25
 - Snowmobile Trail Passes Sold
 - Snowmobile Active Registrations
 - Snow Supplemental Seasonal History (past 10 years)

7. Information: SNARS and Groomer Tracking Systems

- Working on an enhancement to SNARS to capture the bridge inventory. Counties and DNR would be able to edit the bridge details. Would track things like date last funded, date of inspection, etc.
- Moving forward, we may start to utilize pucks that attach to the equipment that inform the pulling unit WHAT it's pulling (drag, roller, mower, etc). Would allow for automatic entry of non-grooming activities as well as the existing grooming activities. The ATV program is thinking about getting a version of SNARS and they may have more use of pucks, so it may be easiest for snowmobile to let ATV take the lead.

8. Information & Action: Equipment Rates

- DOT rates have increased across the board by about 18%. But given the current financial situation, no changes were recommended for the 24-25 season.

Motion to recommend to the full Council adopting the same rates for 23-24 as were utilized in 22-23. Motion by Andy and 2nd by Abby. MOTION PASSED

- It's caused some confusion that Summer ATV has increased their labor rate to \$12/hour, while snowmobile and winter ATV stayed at \$9/hour. With our funding shortfall, doesn't sound feasible to increase on the snowmobile side.
 - From a practical stand point, clubs can charge \$12/hour if they are performing work on a summer ATV trail, or \$9/hour if they are performing work on a snowmobile/winter ATV trail. It's confusing but not impossible.

9. Committee member reports, comments and items

- Bob Lang
 - This year's projects have better photos, but some don't look like they are permitted or permittable structures.
 - If the applicant claims this is already a permitted structure and they are replacing in kind, we (DNR grants staff) DO go check to verify that. If it was never permitted, they need to go get one now.
- Gary Hilgendorf
 - If we are going to be paying for bridge inspections out of maintenance, should the grantee be required to submit a copy to the DNR?

10. Items for next meeting

- TBD

11. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Andy, 2nd by Abby. MOTION PASSED