



Snowmobile Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

June 22rd, 2026

via Zoom

Council Members Present: Bob Lang – Chair, Sue Smedegard – Vice Chair, Gary Hilgendorf, Don Mrotek, Mike Holden, Tanner Hiller, Holly Tomlanovich, Sam Landes, Tara Krall, Ann Degenhardt, Abby Haas

DNR/Tourism staff attendance: Jacob Holsclaw, Jillian Steffes, Chris Halbur

Public attendance: Members of the public

1. Call to order

2. Agenda Repair

3. Approval of the previous meeting minutes

- Deferred to next meeting

4. Chair and Vice Chair Comments

- **Sue Smedegard** – Vice Chair
 - Calling meeting to order, Bob is listening in but working on something else.

5. Public Participation

- None

6. DNR Report

- **Jillian Steffes – DNR Grants Report**
Will be addressed under action item #8

7. ACTION ITEM: Review of and funding recommendations for grant applications

- Two cost increase requests were submitted for consideration, as well as one 2025-26 application for reconsideration. See attachments for details. All three received Council recommendations to fund.

8. ACTION ITEM: Discussion on proposed changes for the succeeding biennium in the appropriations and laws that affect snowmobiles and snowmobiling.

- Statute 350.145 (3) lays out for the Governor's Council the timelines and actions for the Council to make for executive budget bill. We should ideally do this in February. Jillian did not suggest any items for the governor's budget, so nothing is in the preliminary budget. If the council wishes to make recommendations, she will pass it up the chain, we can, as individual members, make comments which will reach Joint Finance.
- Sam Landes feels this shows the importance of our input and how it should be handled. We are to be consulted by June 30, then each member has until August 1 to submit their comments. He feels it's very important that we submit our comments as appointed council members. Secretary of DNR is to forward the comments to the co-chairs of joint finance.

Sam make a motion that recommend to the Department of Natural Resources to:

#1 recommend we increase the AWSC trail pass from \$10 to \$20, raise the DNR pass from \$30 to \$50, out of state trail pass from \$50 to \$70. Registration increase from \$30 for 3 years to \$45 for 3 years.

#2 recommend \$1.3 million in DNR enforcement not be taken out of our segregated trail aids fund. That has come out of tribal gaming funds in the past.

#3 recommend that stewardship funds become available for trail infrastructure projects and funds for 20% match can come from our segregated trail fund as those funds are directly from user fees.

Second by Mike Holden. Motion carries unanimously

- Comments/letters of recommendation of each individual council member should be sent to Jillian Steffes. Sam will send out talking points.

9. Committee member items

- None

10. Next meeting

- An ad hoc will meet in early August between Snowmobile Council and ORV Council to discuss funding priorities.
- Full Council will meet August 24-25 for our annual funding meeting in Weston and via Zoom.

11. Adjourn

2026-27 Snowmobile Funding Summary

<u>Category</u>	<u>Funds Available</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Funded</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Funds Available				\$ -
Maintenance	(20,250 @ \$300/mile)	\$ 6,083,826	\$ 6,083,826	\$ (6,083,826)
SNARS / GPS Units		\$ 215,000	\$ 215,000	#REF!
<u>Funds For Development, etc</u>				\$ -
Storm Damage		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cost Increase Requests		\$ 80,870	\$ 80,870	\$ (80,870)
Snow Bridge Rehab		\$ 4,617,139	\$ -	\$ (80,870)
Snow Trail Rehab		\$ 287,635	\$ -	\$ (80,870)
Snow Relocation Mandatory		\$ 94,029	\$ -	\$ (80,870)
Snow Relocation Discretionary		\$ 497,639	\$ -	\$ (80,870)
Snow Bridge New		\$ 528,840	\$ -	\$ (80,870)
New Miles	(___ @ \$300/mile)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (80,870)
Snow Acquisition		\$ -	\$ -	\$ (80,870)
Snow Non-Trail Development		\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ (80,870)
<i>Development Total</i>		\$ 6,114,152	\$ 80,870	
Grand Total (Maint + Dev)		\$ 12,412,978	\$ 6,379,696	#REF!

Prelim. Supplemental (25-26): \$ -

2026-27 SNOWMOBILE COST INCREASE REQUESTS

Region	County		New/Increase Component	New Costs	Total	Approved	Comments
#4	Oconto	<p>Cost Increase Request: Removal of all decking materials to the steel girder and replace and widen to 12" width and install new railings. Oconto County is requesting an additional \$75,000 to fund the replacement of the Oconto River Bridge on the Nicolet State Trail (Bridge 23). Previous grants approved: Snow for \$275,000, ATV for \$275,000, RTP for \$250,000.</p> <p>Other funds received, requested, or committed? Yes or No: <input type="checkbox"/> yes Amount: 812,500</p> <p>Public or Private: public Bridge Inventory #: 23</p> <p>Old Bridge Size: 528'x10' New Bridge Size: 528'x12'</p> <p>Water Body: Oconto R Labor Source: </p> <p>Years in System: 20+ Design Weight Load: 25,000</p>	*Structure	\$825,000	\$850,000 After Cost Share: \$37,500	\$37,500	<i>Motion to recommend funding by Holly, 2nd by Gary. Motion carried.</i>
			Engineer	\$25,000			
			Permits				
			Site prep				
			Materials				
			Abutments				
			Pilings/Piers				
			Approaches				
			Culverts				
			Riprap				
			Labor				
			Equip Rental				
			Other				
			# of New Mi	0	\$37,500		
#30	Vilas	<p>Cost Increase Request: Vilas County is requesting a cost increase for the Lynx Creek Bridge Replacement. Bids for this project came back higher than anticipated. The county is requesting funds sufficient to match the selected bid amount.</p> <p>Other funds received, requested, or committed? Yes or No: <input type="checkbox"/> S-6158 Amount: \$ 91,300.00</p> <p>Public or Private: Private Bridge Inventory #: Vilas-1</p> <p>Old Bridge Size: 38ft x 12ft New Bridge Size: 38ft x 12ft</p> <p>Water Body: Lynx Creek Labor Source: Contract</p> <p>Years in System: More than 10 Design Weight Load: 25,000</p>	*Structure	\$98,720	\$115,645 After Cost Share: \$24,345	\$24,345	<i>Motion to recommend funding by Sam, 2nd by Tanner. Motion Carried</i>
			Engineer				
			Permits				
			Site prep	\$14,450			
			Materials				
			Abutments				
			Pilings/Piers				
			Approaches				
			Culverts				
			Riprap	\$1,575			
			Labor				
			Equip Rental				
			Site Restore	\$900			
			# of New Mi	0	\$24,345		
#31	Langlade	<p>Langlade County proposes to replace the existing Bridge 4 crossing McCloud Creek on the County Line Snow Trail with a new 12' x 45' bridge. The bridge is about 30 years old and in poor condition. It is located on private property with a 10-year agreement in place. This trail is used by Winter ATV and Snowmobiles. Langlade proposes to split this between Snow and ATV and has received a grant from the ATV program already.</p> <p>Other funds received, requested, or committed? Yes or No: <input type="checkbox"/> ATV Amount: \$ 72,304</p> <p>Public or Private: Private Bridge Inventory #: Lanlade-4</p> <p>Old Bridge Size: 45ft x 12ft New Bridge Size: 45ft x 12ft</p> <p>Water Body: McCloud Creek Labor Source: Contract</p> <p>Years in System: 30 years Design Weight Load: 25,000</p>	*Structure	\$48,000	\$91,329 After Cost Share: \$19,025	\$19,025	<i>Motion to recommend funding by Tara, 2nd by Mike. Motion Carried.</i>
			Engineer	\$4,000			
			Permits	\$325			
			Site prep	\$5,000			
			Materials	\$184			
			Abutments	\$15,000			
			Pilings/Piers				
			Approaches				
			Culverts				
			Riprap	\$2,000			
			Labor	\$6,820			
			Equip Rental				
			Removal	\$10,000			
			# of New Mi	0	\$19,025		
TOTAL					\$80,870	\$80,870	