



Snowmobile Advisory Council Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 27th, 2021

Via Zoom

Committee Members Present: Lee Van Zeeland - Chair, Mike Holden, Dale Mayo, Sue Smedegard, Bob Lang

Other Council Members Present: Gary Hilgendorf, others

DNR staff attendance: Jillian Steffes, others

Public attendance: Dave Newman and other members of the public

1. Call to order at 9:00 AM

2. Agenda Repair - None

3. Acceptance of minutes of previous meeting

Motion to approve September 2020 minutes by Mike, 2nd by Dale. MOTION PASSED

4. Committee Chair Comments – Lee Van Zeeland

- Thank you for agreeing to meet in advance, look forward to seeing everyone next week.

5. Public Comments

- None

6. DNR Funding Report

- HANDOUTS
 - Snowmobile Funding Report FY21, Available Funds FY22
 - 2021-22 Snowmobile Funding Summary
 - Snowmobile Trail Passes Sold
 - Snowmobile Active Registrations
 - Snow Supplemental Prelim Requests 20-21
 - Snow Supplemental Seasonal History (1990 through present)
- \$1.7 million in supplemental requests for 20-21.
- Discussion: If base maintenance were raised by \$50/mile, that would mean another \$970,000 commitment annually. The base maintenance was raised to \$300 not that long ago. Preference of the members is to fund new miles over increasing base maintenance. Council members report that discussions with their club contacts suggest most clubs don't feel an increase to maintenance is needed.

7. ACTION ITEM: Funding Amount Recommendation

Motion to set aside \$200,000 for Groomer Tracking Systems to pay for the GPS units by Mike, 2nd by Bev. MOTION PASSED

Motion keep \$1,000,000 in nonresident trail pass revenue in reserve and make \$6,143,939.28 available to awarding to pending grant requests by Dale, 2nd by Mike. MOTION PASSED

Discussion about increasing the amount available to County Law Enforcement Aids. Last year's pro-rate was 54% to county law enforcement.

Council suggested it would be helpful to county coordinators if DNR could offer a county coordinator meeting, perhaps in cooperation with AWSC.

8. Committee member reports, comments and items.

One county missed the snowmobile supplemental deadline this year and will not be eligible for supplemental. This deadline is in statute and DNR has no authority to accept applications after the deadline. Perhaps the main grant application used to apply for maintenance could include a statement “This also serves as our supplemental application if we qualify”, thus ensuring applicants don’t miss the deadline in future. Now that all expenses are recorded in SNARS, it’s easier for DNR to see who qualified for supplemental, making the separate supplemental application due August 1st less important as far as determining supplemental demands on the program.

At least one club did not get their expenses entered in SNARS prior to August 1, which also cost the county the ability to apply for supplemental.

9. Items for next meeting

None

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Sue, 2nd by Mike. MOTION PASSED