



Snowmobile Advisory Council Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 17th, 2022

DNR Service Center, 107 Sutliff Ave, Rhinelander WI and via Zoom

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

Other Council Members Present: Mike Holden, Sam Landes, Sue Smedegard, Leon Wolfe

DNR staff attendance: Jillian Steffes, Jeff Pennucci, Annie Loechler

Public attendance: Dave Newman and other members of the public

1. Call to order immediately following Finance Committee

2. Agenda Repair

- None

3. Acceptance of minutes of previous meeting

Motion to approve March 2022 minutes by Dale, 2nd by Andy. MOTION PASSED

4. Committee Chair Comments – Gary Hilgendorf

- Today, we are reviewing applications for completeness and asking questions we have.

5. Public Comments

- None

6. DNR Funding Report

- HANDOUTS
 - Snowmobile Grant Application Summary for 2022-23
 - Copies of Grant Applications Available Online
- At International Snowmobile Congress, administrators from other states and provinces shared some of their “best practices”. Basically every other states and provinces are already using GPS, we are relatively late to the game. Some of the other interesting “best practices” included 1) a newsletter to clubs from the admin’s desk about what they are working on, 2) a sign at trailheads explaining “how your registration and trail pass dollars are spent”, and 3) Ontario has a short video on trespassing (and how harmful it is to the sport) that is required viewing when buying a trail pass.
- Dale’s Weston Lanes may not be able to accommodate us for our Funding Meeting, Jillian will look for other options in the same general location.

7. Information & Action: Equipment/Groomer Rates

- DOT will re-publish rates in July, so ad hoc will review and suggest changes once those are published.
- Ad hoc committee discussed raising groomer rates by \$5, \$10, 5% or 10%

Motion to recommend to the full Council to increase groomer rates by \$10/hour for each class for the 22-23 season by Dale, 2nd by Andy. MOTION PASSED

8. Information & Action: Raising Supplemental Cap

- Deferred to Finance Committee, who has made a motion to FWD this to the full Council

9. Discussion & Action: Review Snowmobile Grant Applications

- Cost increase requests need to be reviewed by full Council, a quick Zoom meeting will be scheduled soon to review.
- Committee reviewed all applications in the categories of Bridge Rehab, Trail Rehab, Relocations, New Bridges and Support Facilities. Detailed notes on the spreadsheet attachment.
- Committee did not review New Miles, those are still being scored and will be placed online for review soon.

10. Committee member reports, comments and items

Sam - Consultants and contractors are less willing to give estimates on bridge projects. 1) changing prices, 2) not able to get their current work done, 3) not willing to share details on proposals unless it's a sealed bid.

Sam – Wisconsin River bridge may be moving forward. Dane and Sauk have both pledged \$2 million each, Sam will work on a grant application.

Mike – Given inflation, we may be seeing more cost increase requests.

11. Items for next meeting

Revisit the “trails to water” discussion

12. Adjourn

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