



## Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Council

### Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 8, 2023  
via Zoom

**Council Members Present:** Rob McConnell (Chair), Ed Slaminski, Daniel Thole, Dave Traczyk, James Wisneski

**DNR Staff:** Jillian Steffes, Kurt Byfield, Jeremy Holtz, Jeff Pennucci

**Public:** Sue Smedegard (Snow Council), and other members of the public

#### 1. Call to order – 9:00 AM by Rob

#### 2. Agenda Repair

- None

#### 3. Chair Report

- **Rob McConnell** – An article was circulated to the Council members on the trail ambassador/fire dept/national guard joint training exercise, it's a good read.

#### 4. Public Comments

- None

#### 5. DNR Report

- **Jillian Steffes (Grants)**
  - **Handouts**
    - **Current Budget, and Pending Grant Requests**
  - Several funding requests for your consideration today. Snowmobile Council has decided to accept requests for storm damage repair as a result of the Dec 2022 storms. Application deadline of March 1, 2023. More requests of the ATV program are likely as those counties compile their expenses for Snowmobile.
  - Snowmobile Supplemental program primarily exists cover additional grooming. The storm damage clean up would be considered non-grooming, and there is a cap of \$250/mile in supplemental for non-grooming. Some counties can cover the clean up within their base maintenance and supplemental, while others have already spent that on other non-grooming.

#### 6. Information and Action: Review of and funding recommendations for grant applications

- a. Funding motions and more details on each project available in the subsequent pages of this document.

#### 7. Information and Action: December 2022 Storm Damage

- Handled in item 6 above.

#### 8. Information and Action: Hourly Reimbursement Rate for Communication Equipment

- Ed took the cost of the radios as reported by NOHVIS, estimated 8 hours of use per date used, assumed a 10 year lifespan, and divided cost of radio by hours of use during the useful life.

**Motion to adopt a rate of \$6/hour for mobile, portable and satellite radio equipment for the 23-24 grant cycle by Dave, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim. Motion carries.**

- Future applicants would apply by April 15 with an *estimate* on what they intend to use for the coming grant period. They would then submit documentation on actual use (hours) for reimbursement. This would be for radios that were not purchased with grant funds.
- Any radios that have been purchased with grant funds in previous FYs would NOT be eligible for an hourly rate. Requesting an hourly rate on radios purchased with grant funds would be double dipping.

- Can maintenance funds also be used for radio equipment use? DNR needs to evaluate the code/statute a bit further before giving a definitive answer, but likely yes.

#### 9. Council members' matters

- None

#### 10. Housekeeping matters

- Next standing meeting is in June for initial application review, stay tuned for a date.
- Another meeting may be scheduled prior to June if we have additional storm damage requests to review.
- Elections will be held at the next in-person meeting.

#### 11. Adjourn

**Motion to adjourn** by Ed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim. **Motion carries.**