

SNOWMOBILE RECREATION COUNCIL AGENDA & RECORD
Law Enforcement Committee

February 4, 2009

The Waters of Minocqua Conference Room, Minocqua, WI

Presenter/ Time	Agenda Item	Key Points	Outcomes, Next Steps, Assignments
10:21 AM	1. Call to Order	<p>Members Present: Rick Steimel - Chair, Tom Thornton, Mike Willman, Bob Lang, Jon Schweitzer, Tom Chwala, Mike Cerny – Council Chair Absent – Bev Dittmar, Vice Chair</p> <p>Others Present: Gary Eddy and Diane Conklin - DNR, Bill Schumann - AWSC, other Council members and public.</p>	Meeting called to order at 10:21 AM
	2. Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting		Motion by Tom Thornton, second by Mike Willman to accept minutes of previous meeting, 12-15-08 <u>Motion Carried.</u>
	3. Public Comments	<p>Bill Schumann, President of AWSC (Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs) addressed the committee regarding public outrage over the wildlife killings by snowmobilers. Bill emphasized that in the duck/Fond du Lac Co. incident, it seems to have reached a conclusion already, with no charges pending, and with the perpetrator only facing restitution for each of the ducks killed. Bill Schumann questioned the extent of the investigation.</p> <p>Gary Eddy gave a summary of the investigation, and stated there was only one witness, and the reports were completed and turned over to the DA's office, which determined the final charges/outcome.</p>	<p>Rick Steimel requested that the council be kept updated on the outcomes for the wildlife killing incidents.</p> <p>Press releases were suggested to keep the public informed also, and it was pointed out that this is already occurring.</p>

		<p>Tom Chwala reported that in the Jefferson Co. incident, the investigation is still on-going, with no one arrested yet, and that the county has barricaded the area of the incident.</p> <p>Question was asked by Mike Willman about any possible opposition to a water-skipping law.</p> <p>Further discussion by Jerry Green, Tom Thornton, Tom Chwala, and Jon Schweitzer regarding local ordinances that could apply or be enacted, local enforcement only for those ordinances, whether or not the ducks were always there, and not being able to shut off water access to control such incidents.</p> <p>Mike Cerny and Rick Steimel discussed the many possibilities for applicable existing laws and their penalties for wildlife killing by snowmobiles.</p> <p>Garry Eddy responded that there are many variables involved in choosing appropriate charges.</p> <p>Gary Eddy gave an update on the Waupaca Co. deer killings, and explained that the Wisconsin Circuit Court internet access can be used by anyone to view the charges and status for the Waupaca Co. incident. It was used to show the charges against one of the persons in the deer incident (seven felonies plus other charges are pending).</p>	
	4. Chair Report	Have already covered in #3, outcomes.	
	5. Department Report and Status Updates	<u>Current status on fatalities for 2008-09 winter</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gary Eddy reported on the current fatality numbers for WI, MI, and MN. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Chwala gave an update on a possible 18th fatality victim, presently still on life support. <p><u>Noteworthy reports/status on other incidents occurring this winter including ongoing investigations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rick Steimel commented on his observation of on-going warden visibility/enforcement in Outagamie Co. on a ride through there recently. • Jerry Green commented on the Tavern League either putting up or possibly in the process of getting signs made regarding snowmobile and alcohol, to be placed in taverns. • Gary Eddy showed a short video/FOX regarding snowmobiling and alcohol. <p><u>Reports on 1-13-09 meeting with DOT and other user group representatives, regarding OWI-DL tie-in discussions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gary Eddy reported on recent meetings with other user groups concerning alcohol use by persons recreating via snowmobile, ATV's, boats, etc. • Gary Eddy discussed the four points recently approved by a council motion to be advanced for further study and discussion regarding the OWI-DL tie-in concept: 1) Tie in all recreational vehicles for OWI purposes; 2) A conviction on one particular rec. vehicle would result in the next OWI arrest on ANY rec. vehicle would be a 2nd offense; 3) Unified penalties for all rec. vehicles; and 4) 2nd OWI arrest would be tied to a person's DL. • Bob Lang initiated a discussion concerning 	
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		<p>previous OWI arrests involving motor vehicles as being counted when a person is arrested for OWI on a recreational vehicle.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerable discussion then occurred regarding persons with CDL's being arrested for OWI involving a recreational vehicle, and how the penalties might be structured. 	
	<p>6.Action Arising from Reports</p>		<p>Motion made by Bob Lang, second by Tom Thornton that if a person arrested for OWI on a recreational vehicle has a current suspension or revocation of his driver's license due to a motor vehicle OWI conviction, then the rec. vehicle arrest would be counted as a 2nd OWI offense. <u>Motion passed unanimously.</u></p> <p>Motion by Tom Thornton, second by Bob Lang that snowmobile check-point stops be reinstated. Discussion as follows:</p> <p>Gary Eddy presented detailed information (ten specific points) showing what those check-point stops would entail as far as requirements of law enforcement before a check-point stop could be used. <u>Motion failed.</u></p> <p>Motion by Tom Thornton, second by Jon Schweitzer. that the Law Enforcement Committee bring the three-page penalties handouts passed out by Gary Eddy to the full council for discussion tomorrow, and to include Bob Lang's motion above as a part of those handouts. <u>Motion passed.</u></p>

	7. Items for next meeting	Asked to be kept updated regarding ongoing investigations	
	8. Member Items	None	
12:20 PM	9. Adjournment		Motion by Bob Lang, Second by Mike Willman to adjourn. <u>Motion carried.</u> Meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM.