

SNOWMOBILE RECREATION COUNCIL AGENDA & RECORD

February 4, 2005

Lincoln Town Hall, Eagle River, WI

Presenter/ Time	Agenda Item	Key Points	Outcomes, Next Steps, Assignments
Mark Larsen 8:30 AM	1. Call to Order	<p>Members Present: Mark Larsen, chair, Mike Cerny, Dave Marg, Larry Erickson, Donna White, Dr. Tom Gabert, Rick Steimel, Tom Thornton, Andy Malecki, Bill Schumann, Sam Landes</p> <p>Others Present: Larry Freidig, Bill Engfer, Diane Conklin, DNR; Scott Makowski, Morris Nelson, AWSC; and other interested snowmobilers</p>	
	2. Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting		Motion by Bill Schumann, second by Bev Dittmar to accept minutes of the previous meeting. <u>Motion Carried</u>
	3. Comments Chair	<p>Mark Larsen met with Representative Mark Pettis regarding the Assembly Tourism Committee hearing on snowmobile sound as Mark Larsen could not attend.</p> <p>In light of the resignation of Jim Langdon from the Council, Mark appointment Bev Dittmar as chair of the finance committee.</p> <p>Mark briefly updated members on the condition of Joe Kapusta and indicated that Larry will forward an acknowledgement of Joe's long service to the Council.</p>	

	Vice-chair	Mike Cerny highlighted recent discussions he had with the chair of the finance committee and DNR staff.	
	4. Citizen Participation	<p>Tom Holden, manufacturer of Sno-Plane drags discussed with Council members the history and design of compactors associated with Sno-Plane drags. He described the development of a unit that isolated the compactor unit from the drag and puts the vibrating compaction energy to the ground (roughly 3,500 pounds). He indicated that it is an add-on system to most drags, adds about 1,800 pounds to the weight of the drag and costs around \$6,000. He also highlighted the University of Minnesota testing of the unit regarding density, depth of indent and temperature.</p> <p>Mike Witzeling representing Sur Trac groomers also addressed the history of the compactor/pulverizer unit designed by Kewaunau Research Center in Houghton, Michigan. He indicated that KRC came to Sur Trac to adopt the design to commercial compactor and pulverizer components. Mike indicated that the pulverizer may have some limitations, but that the vibrating compactor unit was universal in application. He indicated that compaction increases the durability of the trail and described their testing efforts at comparing the difference between compacted and uncompact trail surfaces. He reported that the Sur Trac Unit is not adaptable to other drags and costs roughly \$7,000. He felt that a grooming rate change is necessary to accommodate a snowmobile organization adopting this technology to maintain their trails.</p> <p>Morris Nelson, chair of the AWSC legislative committee, informed the Council that the Association is working on a</p>	

		<p>two-tiered registration system. He indicated that they have been working with DNR registration and licensing staff to work out some of the broad components of the proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change from a two year registration to a one time, life of ownership registration of \$15 and the issuance of a numbered registration decal• Shift to the purchase of an annual trail sticker - \$15 for a member of a local club and \$35 for a non-club member• The Association would become a vendor to sell the stickers to club members; the discounted rate would be handled only by the Association. <p>Morris pointed out that the proposal would save administrative costs, including postage, because of the reduced need for transactions with the registration section. Morris estimated that roughly 60,000 out of the total of 220,000 registrations would be sold at the \$15 rate. He estimated that balance of sales would generate an addition \$3M to the program. He stressed that one of the goals of the change is gaining more club membership throughout the state. He did share a concern that there is potential for a loss of out of state membership if the trail pass becomes too expensive. Morris indicated that they are hoping for a 2-year implementation of such a change.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion of the proposal by Council members. There was acknowledgement that there still unresolved issues and logistics at this point in time.</p>	
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		<p>be filled in 5-6 weeks.</p> <p>Bill reported on the disposition of the Department's proposed sound rule in the Assembly Tourism committee hearing of January 25, 2005. Bill distributed a letter from the committee requesting either the Department change the rule to specify 88 dBA or request reconsideration of the rule by February 11. Bill distributed the Department's response that indicated it would take the issue under considerations. Bill communicated that the Department has not ruled out making modifications to the proposed rule, but there has been no decision made this at this time.</p>	
	<p>6. Reports of Committees Finance</p>	<p>Bev Dittmar highlighted the committee discussion on the year end balance for 2003-2004, noting the unusually high revenues collected are due in part to a quick return of renewals in June of 2004. Bev also summarized the committee's discussions regarding supplemental processing including 3 motions recommending to the Council the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department hire a part time auditor to review supplemental claims with the source of funds for this activity to come from the pooled funds for supplementary payments • To specify September 15 as the deadline date for issuing 50% advance payments for supplemental requests • To specify hat final supplemental payments be made by December 1 <p>Bev also highlighted the committee's desire that a better effort be made at training about the supplemental</p>	

	<p style="text-align: center;">Infrastructure</p>	<p>indicated that the Department would draft a clarification.</p> <p>No report</p> <p>Bill Schumann indicated that he had attended the meeting of the finance committee as requested by the chair. Bill summarized the committee's discussion on grooming compactors, but conveyed the committee's thoughts that it was premature to set an additional rate for the units. Bill also summarized the committee's discussion on the difficulties clubs were encountering with the earlier versions of the directional arrow. Bill reported that the committee had a vigorous discussion on supplemental processing that resulted in the following recommendations via motion to the council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department LTE undertake the review of supplemental requests on a one year trial basis • Specify September 15 as the deadline date for processing the 50% supplemental advance payments • Specify that final supplemental payments to counties be made on or before December 1 <p>Bill indicated that the committee could not reach a consensus on a source of funding for the supplemental review.</p> <p>Bill also reviewed Donna White's summary of the Association 2-tier registration proposal.</p>	
	<p>7. Action on Committee Reports <i>Supplemental Processing</i></p>	<p>Regarding supplemental process, Bev Dittmar indicated that both the infrastructure and finance committees had come to relatively the same position on the Department hiring an LTE to undertake the supplemental reviews.</p>	<p>Motion by Bev Dittmar, second by Andy Malecki to recommend the Department hire a part time LTE to</p>

		<p>There was Council discussion on the motion, including the potential for the reductions of the administrative services chargeback as a result of fewer Department employees in the calculation as a result of cutbacks. There was also discussion on both potentials for eliminating the requirement of audit by relying on the county single audit process versus continuing to review the claims for eligibility.</p>	<p>review supplemental claims for the 2005-2007 biennium with the source of funds to come from the pool of funds for supplemental with a cap of \$25,000 per year.</p> <p>Tom Thonton called for the question and a roll call vote:</p> <p>Roll call vote</p> <table data-bbox="1459 576 1963 771"> <tr> <td>Dr. Gabert</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Dave Marg</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sam Landes</td> <td>N</td> <td>Bev Dittmar</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donna White</td> <td>N</td> <td>Mike Cerny</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bill Schumann</td> <td>N</td> <td>Rick Steimel</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Larry Erickson</td> <td>N</td> <td>Tom Thornton</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Andy Malecki</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> </table> <p>Motion failed</p> <p>Motion by Bev Dittmar, second by Donna White to recommend the Department hire a part time LTE to review supplemental claims for the 2005-2007 biennium with a cap of \$20,000 per year.</p> <p>Roll call vote was called for :</p> <table data-bbox="1459 1177 1963 1372"> <tr> <td>Dr. Gabert</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Dave Marg</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sam Landes</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Bev Dittmar</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donna White</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Mike Cerny</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bill Schumann</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Rick Steimel</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Larry Erickson</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Tom Thornton</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Andy Malecki</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> </table>	Dr. Gabert	Y	Dave Marg	N	Sam Landes	N	Bev Dittmar	N	Donna White	N	Mike Cerny	N	Bill Schumann	N	Rick Steimel	Y	Larry Erickson	N	Tom Thornton	Y			Andy Malecki	Y	Dr. Gabert	Y	Dave Marg	N	Sam Landes	Y	Bev Dittmar	Y	Donna White	Y	Mike Cerny	Y	Bill Schumann	Y	Rick Steimel	Y	Larry Erickson	Y	Tom Thornton	Y			Andy Malecki	Y
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>0 Tolerance Concept</i></p>	<p>There was continued discussion on the need for an audit that expanded to the desirability of a spot audit/review of non-supplemental county claims.</p> <p>After discussion there was a consensus of the Council that in years of low supplemental claims that review be expanded to non-supplementary county claims.</p> <p>Larry reminded Council members that these motions would require legislative changes to implement.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion on the voluntary nature of the signing of the 0 tolerance statement by students.</p>	<p><u>Motion Carried</u></p> <p>Motion by Andy Maecki, second by Bev Dittmar that the source of funds for the review come from the general snowmobile trail fund.</p> <p>Roll call vote was again called for:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Dr. Gabert</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Dave Marg</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sam Landes</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Bev Dittmar</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donna White</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Mike Cerny</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bill Schumann</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Rick Steimel</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Larry Erickson</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Tom Thornton</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Andy Malecki</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Motion Carried</u></p> <p>Motion by Bill Schumann, second by Andy Malecki to recommend establishing September 15 as the deadline for payment of the 50% advance supplemental payments.</p> <p><u>Motion Carried</u></p> <p>Motion by Bill Schumann, second by Dave Marg to recommend that the final supplemental payments to counties be made on or before December 1. <u>Motion Carried</u></p> <p>Motion by Rick Steimel, second by Tom Thornton that the Council support the continued use of the 0 tolerance concept in snowmobile safety materials.</p>	Dr. Gabert	Y	Dave Marg	N	Sam Landes	Y	Bev Dittmar	Y	Donna White	Y	Mike Cerny	Y	Bill Schumann	Y	Rick Steimel	Y	Larry Erickson	Y	Tom Thornton	Y			Andy Malecki	Y
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	<p><i>Youth Racing</i></p> <p><i>Public Access near roads</i></p>	<p>There was a brief discussion on the comparability of the youth ATV racing issue with youth snowmobile racing.</p> <p>There was discussion on the need and desirability of pursuing a rule to clarify the ambiguous terms in the public access provision of s. 350.02(2) (b)5., Stats.</p>	<p><u>Motion Carried</u></p> <p>Motion by Tom Thornton, second by Donna White requesting the Department establish a language proposal to remove age restrictions for sanctioned races. <u>Motion Carried</u></p> <p>Motion by Bill Schumann, second by Donna White to request the Department to pursue a rule to clarify the ambiguous terms in the public access provision of s. 350.02(2) (b)5., Stats. <u>Motion Carried</u></p>
	8. Operating Procedure for Council	<p>There was a brief discussion on the appropriate version of Robert's Rules of Order to utilize in the Articles.</p> <p>Members will be provide copies of the Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (10th Edition).</p>	<p>Motion by Bev Dittmar, second by Rick Steimel adopting the Articles of Organization as modified by the finance committee. <u>Motion Carried</u></p>
	9. Council Member Items	<p>Andy Malecki questioned the development of reporting forms to be used for supplemental reporting and changes in certain rates.</p> <p>Larry Erickson felt that the grooming show was excellent and that it was a good time for the Council to meet. He also reported that the Bad River Tribe will again be addressing the connection between Iron and Ashland counties.</p> <p>Sam Landes reported that he was engaging 4 counties</p>	

		in southern Wisconsin on the potential of a safe crossing of the Wisconsin River.	
	9. Adjournment		Motion by Andy Malecki, second by Mike Cerny to adjourn at 11:50 AM. <u>Motion Carried</u>