

Infrastructure Committee of the Snowmobile Recreation Council
Wednesday, December 13, 2006
Stevens Point Airport Terminal Building
Stevens Point

Present: Andy Malecki, chair, Larry Erickson, Donna White, Mike Cerny, Bev Dittmar

Others: Larry Freidig, Sanjay Olson, DNR; Jerry Green, SRC; Bill Pfaff, Tom Chwala, AWSC

Meeting called to order at 8:00 AM.

Motion by Bev Dittmar, second by Donna White, to accept minutes of the previous meeting. Motion Carried

Bridge Specifications – Sanjay Olson

Sanjay did a walk-through of the draft revision of the bridge guidelines highlighting the following:

- The bridge guidelines are focused on bridges for snowmobiles, not over-the-road vehicles
- The publication defines the need for a designer of record and the Department accepting this responsibility if a bridge of 40 feet or less is constructed and installed consistent with Department specifications
- After committee discussion on the current description of the design vehicle, Sanjay will rework the definition to be clear on the power unit and drag
- The difference between structural design limit (pertains to all substructure elements) and deck limit.
- The concept of train loading pertains significantly to deck loading. Sanjay indicated he will check on the impact of the train loading concept on structural design limits
- Total design load is more critical to steel frame bridges utilizing a truss type superstructure than those compared to wood frame bridges with intermediate support.
- The need to emphasize the protection of the deck surface with a wearable surface as a critical component of the overall bridge integrity
- Discussion on design limitations, i.e., what the bridge will safely carry with a specified (posted) weight limit

Motion by Mike Cerny, second by Larry Erickson to continue the engineering review and revision based on a 20,000 pound vehicle load which includes the power unit and drag. Motion Carried

The committee felt it was important to: define a “project sponsor” in the publication; add/highlight a provision on the need to protect the deck system; and the use of treated materials on decking and substructure members unless the structure spanned a class I trout stream.

Larry Freidig also briefly discussed the draft revision of the bridge supplement portion of the snowmobile application. He indicated he tried to incorporate the needs and

alternatives discussion borrowed from the owner's program statement reviewed at the last meeting. He indicated the most logical location for that provision was a new section focusing on new bridge structures.

Motion by Bev Dittmar, second by Donna White to approve the revision of the bridge supplement portion of the *County Snowmobile Application, Form 8700-159*. Motion Carried

Supplemental update – Larry Freidig

Larry indicated that the Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance would be addressing the Department's s.13.10 request for the balance of funds necessary for the Oconto County claim (approximately \$111,000) on December 14. [Note: Request was approved] He reported that Oconto County had provided Oconto County clubs with the difference between what the 50% supplemental advance should have been and the roughly \$28,000 that the Department had been able to forward to them.

State Legislative Council Committee on Trails

Larry updated committee member on the November 10 meeting of the committee. He indicated that the committee received additional public input and that the comments were a bit more diverse rather than so heavily focused on all-terrain vehicles. He indicated that the next meeting of the committee will be January 4 in Madison and that this meeting will be a working meeting, i.e. committee members considering various recommendations as a result of testimony received.

Member items

Larry Erickson reported that as a result of trail closures on two corridor trails attributed to the December hunting season, Iron County in cooperation with the clubs made the decision to not open the trail until the Monday after the December hunt. He indicated that the local merchants were unhappy with the trail closure as there was rideable snow the weekend of the December hunt. Larry reported that the County Board has passed a resolution to oppose the December hunt for next year and that it is being circulated around to Iron County municipalities.

Mike Cerny raised a question on the visibility of the new yellow directional arrows.

Larry Erickson briefly questioned the reason for the reverse colors on the nighttime speed limit sign. Larry Freidig indicated that the image was consistent with the nighttime speed placard in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Jerry Green raised the issue of the requirement for annual reporting of snowmobile use on CRP lands. He indicated that US Representative Ron Kind was looking into a more limited need for certification, e.g. a one time certification for snowmobile use.

Motion by Donna White, second by Larry Erickson to adjourn at 10:14 AM. Motion Carried