

SNOWMOBILE RECREATION COUNCIL AGENDA & RECORD

December 9, 2005

Iron County Courthouse, Hurley, WI

| Presenter/ Time | Agenda Item | Key Points | Outcomes, Next Steps, Assignments |
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| 8:30 AM Mike Cerny | 1. Call to Order | <p>Members Present: Mike Cerny, chair, Bev Dittmar, Mike Willman, Tom Thornton, Jon Schweitzer, Nick Berens, Jerry Green, Tom Chwala, Rick Steimel, Karen Carlson, Bob Lang, Andy Malecki, Sam Landes, Larry Erickson, Donna White</p> <p>Others Present: Larry Freidig, Gary Eddy, DNR; Scott Makowski, Doug Johnson, Morris Nelson, Orv Langohr, AWSC; and other interested snowmobilers</p> | |
| | 2. Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting | | Motion by Andy Malecki, second by Tom Thornton to accept minutes of the previous meeting. <u>Motion Carried</u> |
| | 3. Comments | Mike Cerny reported briefly on his discussions with council committee chairs and Department staff. | |
| | 4. Citizen Participation | None | |
| | 5. Reports State Trails | Tom Thornton reported that he attended the most recent meeting of the State Trails Council.. He indicated that in addition to ordinary business, the council passed a resolution calling for the prohibiting of the citing of power lines along state trails. In addition he noted that the council is planning on requesting the Governor's office to have a representative at each of the council meetings. | |

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| | <p>Department</p> | <p>Larry distributed a summary of the supplemental requests that indicated a statewide prorated of 93.7 % prorated of claims. Larry also distributed a summary of his observations and comments from his perspective in being a part of the first review in the Bureau of Community Financial Assistance Management. He indicated that the number of non-resident passes sold the previous year was revised upward by 360 passes generating an addition \$5,400 for supplemental payments.</p> <p>The council comment on the conduct of the process was positive.</p> <p>Larry indicated that progress on issuing grants was generally good. He noted that the only major grant not issued was for the Marinette bridge and that will take place in the following week.</p> <p>Larry reported that the consulting firm of <i>TrailsWork</i> as in the process of collecting survey data from snowbelt states regarding the impact of ATV use on groomed snowmobile trails. He indicated that this survey was being conducted as a project undertaken by the International Association of Snowmobile Administrators (IASA) with funding from the federal recreation trails program. Larry further indicated that he is working on having one of the field testing sessions located in Wisconsin in early February.</p> <p>Gary Eddy reported that the accident reduction team activity was scheduled to start the following weekend. He indicated that the three enclosed trailers had been decaled noting the supporters of the team. He</p> | |
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| | | <p>emphasized that the purpose of highlighting the trailers was to achieve a high level of visibility. Gary indicated that there will be advance notice of the presence of the team in areas selected each weekend. He indicated that he will soon be meeting with team members for training and sharing of guidelines. Gary also indicated that he will be closely monitoring the activities and success of the team.</p> <p>Gary indicated that the funding source for the team was passed out of Joint Finance as general purpose revenue and will proceed to the Assembly.</p> <p>Sam Landes and Mike Cerny acknowledged the hard work of the members of the Association in achieving success in getting GPR funds as a source for this activity.</p> <p>Gary indicated that the 55 night time speed legislative proposal (AB-840), to which the funding of the accident team is attached, was amended to allow the bill to be in effect 15 days after publication. This will allow the law to be functional this year should it pass.</p> <p>Morris Nelson indicated that Assembly action on the bill will take place after January 17.</p> <p>Gary briefly described the cooperation between Tourism and the Association in getting a billboard message completed. He indicated that the message will be posted in 4-5 strategic spots in the state beginning in January.</p> <p>Gary reported that the sound bill (AB 566) passed the</p> | |
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| | | <p>timeline/obstacles that would be present in putting out bids for bridge projects prior to council review</p> <p>Andy also discussed the committee's recommendation on a sliding scale of easement lengths as it relates to bridge costs and also the potential for some type of ranking or reward for multi-year easements extending outward from the bridge abutments.</p> <p>Andy also recounted the committee's discussion on the Natural Resources Board recommendation to extend the December gun T-zone north of highway 8 and extend the archery season until the first Sunday nearest to January 6. Andy indicated the committee's recommendation to the council to oppose this Board action.</p> <p>Andy relayed the committee's feeling that there needs to be more input into the mechanics and costs of the club assistance program concept. Andy indicated that this is the same set of concerns that the AWSC legislative committee has.</p> <p>Andy reported that the committee had briefly discussed landowner incentives, a tracking system for trail rehab projects and the Hubbleton bridge but had not taken any action.</p> <p>Andy highlighted the committee's recommendation to forward the consideration of an increase for the non-resident trail pass to the finance committee.</p> <p>Andy summarized committee member comments of</p> | |
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| | <p style="text-align: center;">Finance Committee</p> | <p>supplemental forms comments, the next meeting in conjunction with the St. Germain groomer show and the issue in Calumet County regarding a letter written by an underwriting firm regarding landowner liability. The letter focused on concerns on public exposure for allowing a snowmobile trail on the landowners property. Larry Freidig indicated that the Department would be responding to the underwriting firm about the protection allowed by the landowner liability law.</p> <p>In Bev Dittmar's temporary absence, Larry summarized the highlights of the finance committee meeting.</p> <p>Larry highlighted briefly reported on the discussions on the year-end report noting the lack of investment income and incomplete sales tax collection fee that would appear in the following year-end reports. He also noted the Sparta overpass expenditure arising from a previous legislative budget enumeration and the ALIS transaction fee. Larry indicated that the year-end report was accepted by motion by the committee.</p> <p>Larry also distributed the final supplemental payment summary and summary of observations on the review of the claims. Larry noted that the total number of non-resident trails passes had increased by 360 resulting in an additional \$5,400 into the supplemental program. Larry indicated that there was a general committee discussion of the processing and the committee felt pleased with the results of the new process and deadlines.</p> <p>Larry reported that the committee was updated on the funding request of \$32,000 of GPR funds for the</p> | |
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| | | <p>specialty enforcement teams and the approval of the request by the Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance.</p> <p>Larry noted the committee's feeling that there were still outstanding gaps of information and understanding on the Club Assistance Program (CAP). He briefly highlighted several of the concerns that the committee voiced including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potentially paying for registration administration costs twice • Whether annualizing the revenue could be modified by selling passes good for two years • The potential burden on clubs • The need to demonstrate that the program would not suffer as a result of such a change to the registration system <p>He noted that the committee briefly discussed the Hubbleton bridge project history and status and the concept of a snowmobile trailer license fee, but took no action on either item.</p> | |
| | <p>7.Action Arising from Reports</p> | <p>Regarding the infrastructure committee's recommendation regarding a sliding scale for easements, Andy Malecki highlighted the need for protecting the snowmobile investment in light of the increasing costs of bridge structures. Larry Freidig</p> | <p>Motion by Tom Thornton, second by Sam Landes to approve reports as presented. <u>Motion Carried</u></p> <p>Motion by Mike Willman, second by Tom Thornton to approve the 2004-05 year-end report. <u>Motion Carried</u></p> |

reminded council members that implementing such a sliding scale would be a rule making process.[Note: the minimum easement length for improvements such as bridges under statute is 3 years]

Proposed sliding scale

| Minimum Easement Length | Estimated Bridge Cost |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 years | ≤ \$50,000 |
| 5 years | \$50,001 - \$100,000 |
| 7 years | \$100,001 - \$250,000 |
| 10 years | \$250,001 - \$500,000 |
| 15 years | > \$500,000 |

Council discussion included the following points:

- Time specifications may not need to be indicated for removable bridges
- There should be a specification in the easement language that gives the county permission for removal. Jon Schweitzer indicated that Jackson County records a document that provides right of egress to access for bridge removal.

Andy also brought up for further discussion the Department's deer hunting proposal

Andy briefly reviewed that the current T-zone gun deer season was not allowed north of highway 8. He noted it was the Department's proposal to eliminate October T-zone gun hunts and replace it with a 4 day December gun T-zone hunt statewide. Andy indicated that snowmobile clubs get caught in the middle with private landowners who wish to hunt without snowmobile activity during those time periods. He recounted for council

Motion by Donna White, second by Tom Thornton to recommend seeking a rule for a sliding scale of easement lengths on bridge projects including egress provisions and uniform documentation for easements. Motion Carried

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| | | <p>members the history of snowmobiler compromise on the present season structure.</p> <p>Mike Cerny voiced the concern that this is a statewide issue, not just a northern issue.</p> <p>Morris Nelson indicated that the AWSC will continue to oppose the Natural Resources Board action in approving the proposed framework in the legislature. He noted that during the 2005 regular gun deer season, only 6 out of 35 management units north of highway 8 were designated T-zone.</p> <p>There was a vigorous discussion on with the council recommendation should be focused only on the extension of the gun T-zone season north of highway 8 or whether the focus should be on the statewide December t-zone gun season.</p> <p>Larry Erickson expressed his feeling that the major issue is the extension of the gun T-zone season north of highway 8 and not the extension of the archery season.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion of communication the contents of the motion to the Natural Resources Board, Department staff and several members of the Legislature. The council requested the chair to draft a letter reflecting the council's motion.</p> | <p>Motion by Andy Malecki, second by Bev Dittmar to oppose the statewide December gun T-zone deer hunt and the extension of the statewide archery season to the Sunday nearest January 6.</p> <p>A role call vote was requested:</p> <table data-bbox="1470 568 1974 844"> <tr> <td>Willman</td> <td>N</td> <td>Malecki</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lang</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Berens</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Green</td> <td>Y</td> <td>Steimel</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dittmar</td> <td>N</td> <td>White</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carlson</td> <td>N</td> <td>Erickson</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Schweitzer</td> <td>N</td> <td>Landes</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thornton</td> <td>N</td> <td>Chwala</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Cerny</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Motion Carried</u></p> | Willman | N | Malecki | Y | Lang | Y | Berens | N | Green | Y | Steimel | N | Dittmar | N | White | Y | Carlson | N | Erickson | Y | Schweitzer | N | Landes | Y | Thornton | N | Chwala | Y | | | Cerny | Y |
| Willman | N | Malecki | Y | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lang | Y | Berens | N | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Green | Y | Steimel | N | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dittmar | N | White | Y | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Carlson | N | Erickson | Y | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Schweitzer | N | Landes | Y | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Thornton | N | Chwala | Y | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Cerny | Y | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>8. Member Items</p> | <p>Nick Berens voiced his concern that the Council opposition to the extension of the archery season could pose a problem in some areas.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | 9. Adjournment | | Motion by Donna White, second by Sam Landes to adjourn at 10:50 AM. <u>Motion Carried</u> |
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