

Taylor County Snowmobile Council Meeting
December 5th, 2019
Hosted by Interwald Wanderers at Rundown

Called to Order: 7:04 pm

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept November meeting minutes as mailed. Motion made and 2nd to accept Secretary's Report. 1st Steve Thums, 2nd Ken Schilling. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Report given by Elaine Emmerich for November; see attached for details. Motion made and 2nd to accept Treasurer's Report. 1st Lynn Jochimsen, 2nd Rickie Schimidtz. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Carli stated she will be aging out as the Taylor County Youth Rep. If you know of someone who is interested, please notify Carli. She will help them in the program. She will continue in KAOS as a Mentor.
- Price-Taylor Connector Trail: A letter was sent to USFS Supervisor Paul Strong, District Ranger Melanie Fullman and Recreation Manager Tim Vetter.
 - Jake will be cooperating with Price County to GPS, map and ground truth final trail locations in Price County.
- Signing Handbook: The new Signing Handbook is on the DNR website.
 - Groomer operators encourage everyone to think safety and sign their trails appropriately. Increased liability to clubs with improper signage. Groomer operators should notify clubs if they identify signing issues.
- Fun Day posters are printed. Please contact Lynn Jochimsen if you need more.

New Business:

- Although discouraged, vehicles are allowed on any groomed trail that receives gas-tax funding. This applies to all maintained, gravel roads on the County Forest. Educate motorist why we don't want them on groomed roads and politely ask that they not drive on them.
- Spirit Falls Trail Reroute. Spirit Falls Timber Company has approved the reroute proposed two years ago. Rickie, Jeff and Gary will review the new trail location and work on getting a dozer to develop the new connecting segment of 500'. Taylor County Forest will freeze down the trail and supply the equipment and operator for brushing.
- Pine Line Trail will open Monday December 16th. ATV's are not allowed at this time and no other trails are open.
- Discussion regarding the trail opening and closing process. All Grooming Association clubs communicate with Matt Roiger. Matt Roiger-Grooming Association, Delvin Smith-Black River Rock Dodgers, Dave Kroeplin-Jump River Runners and Jake Walcisak-Taylor County Forest collectively determine trail opening and closures.

AWSC:

- No Updates.

Next Meeting: January 2nd, 2020, hosted by We-Whittlesey Whizzers at Chelsea Conservation Club.

Adjourn: 7:52 pm

1st by Starla Meyer, 2nd by Dave Roiger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jake Walcisak
Taylor County Forestry Dept.

TAYLOR COUNTY SNOWMOBILE COUNCIL MEETING

November 7, 2019

Hosted by Northwoods Riders -- Lil' J & D'S Bar-Spirit Lake

Secretary's Report: Motion made and 2nd to accept Secretary's Report as mailed. 1st Chuck Meyer 2nd Delvin Smith

Treasurer's Report: Report given by Elaine Emmerich; see attached for details. Motion made and 2nd to accept Treasurer's Report. 1st Matt Roiger 2nd Ricky Schmidt

Youth Rep Report

- Youth Rep Carli Berger said "Thank You" for all the mittens, gloves, scarves and hats that were given from the Taylor County Clubs for the AWSC KOAS collection. Since so many items were received at AWSC Workshop, it was decided to divide them up and each Youth Rep brought some back to their county to distribute. Carli presented them to the Indianhead Agency in Medford.
- Carli stated she will be aging out as the Taylor County Youth Rep; so, if you know of someone who is interested, hook them up with her. She will help them in the program. She will continue in KAOS as a Mentor.
- Carli reiterated that she is willing to attend other Club Meetings, promote KAOS and meet more snowmobilers in the County.
- She passed out information on the ACSA Trespassing Poster Design Challenge. See attached for details. -- The KAOS ride is February 7th – 9th in Lakewood Wisconsin.
- Carli also has the opportunity to go to Canada in June. If any clubs want to donate to her trip, please talk to either Carli or Elaine Emmerich.

Old Business

- Price-Taylor Connector Trail: A letter is being sent to Forestry personnel Paul Strong, Melanie Fullman and Tim Vetter. A rough draft was sent around; with everyone agreeing it looked good. Elaine will submit it to Jake for final approval. She will need to get the addresses from Jake also.
- Signing Handbook: The new Signing Handbook is on the DNR website. You should try to look it over, see if there is any corrections or concerns, and let the DNR know. They do not want to print it until receive feedback.
- Bridges: The McKenzie bridge is done, but the trail is still closed. – There is no update on the John's Creek Bridge.
- Funded Miles: Bob Meyer stated that the Q Trail has not been approved this year for funding. It is too close to a funded parallel trail. – Matt Roiger asked if Stub Trails were funded. Nobody was sure, so he will ask Jake.
- GPS Units in Groomers: Approximate price to put a GPS Unit in a Groomer is \$300/year. This expense is fundable. It is simple to use; only reports when the Groomer is moving. Only need to push a button when entering a non-funded trail section, then push again when back on funded trail. All information is sent to the SNARS Administrator. Will still need to complete SNARS and send to Jake.
- Fun Day: Pine Creek Riders had posters printed. If you need some, let Elaine know; she will contact the club.

- Director's Report: Bob reported on the meetings at Workshop. – Tourism Council was at General Session. Recreational Tourism in Wisconsin generates approximately \$21.6 Billion in revenue. – Remember to check the DOT website for future roadwork. It may affect your Trail. – \$4,458.00 was raised at the KAOS Auction. Scholarship Applications are due in the AWSC office by January 9, 2020. Up to \$2,000.00 given out. – 612 new miles funded – 400 taken off from previous years. – Reminder to change Club Member's addresses in a timely manner.

New Business

- Calendar of Events Changes: There were several changes, so Elaine will give them to Jake to update the Calendar.
- Wally asked if the Clubs have been out on their Trail sections. How do they look? Rock Dodgers, Whittlesey and Westboro have been on some parts. Still soft ground, some reported trees down.

Next Meeting

December 5, 2019, hosted by Interwald Wanderers at The Rundown.

Adjourn

1st by Chuck Meyer 2nd by David Roiger

Respectfully submitted by:
Elaine Emmerich
Temporary Secretary

Taylor County Snowmobile Council Meeting
October 3rd, 2019
Hosted by Moonlite Sno-Kats at Kountry Korner

Called to Order: 7:06 pm

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept April meeting minutes as mailed. Motion made and 2nd to accept Secretary's Report. 1st Steve Thums, 2nd Delvin Smith. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Report given by Elaine Emmerich for April to October; see attached for details. Motion made and 2nd to accept Treasurer's Report. 1st Ricky Schmitz, 2nd Dan Roiger. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Fun Day 2020. Pine Creek Riders at the Hacienda on February 15th.
- McKenzie Creek Bridge Update: Trail is closed from STH 64 trailhead to USFS Road 554. Bridge was delivered to site this week and will be installed next week.
- Price-Taylor Connector Trail: Price County will begin work on their portion when leaves are off the trees. They expect to have their trail built by the end of this upcoming season. Progress has been slow in Taylor County. Still waiting on completion of the Heritage Survey on USFS lands. It was suggested that a letter be sent to Paul Strong, Forest Supervisor, to encourage progress on this project. Wally and Bob will draft the letter and all club presidents will sign.
- Hope Hospice event was a success with the best year on record.

New Business:

- Snowmobile Council Update: Jake attended on August 27th.
 - Supplemental requests will get paid at 100% this year.
 - Trail GPS project resulted in a reduction of 426 miles statewide.
 - New trail signing handbook is now available on the DNR website.
 - Groomer GPS units are a fundable item. They are available for Groomer Tracking Systems for \$250 per year. The GPS unit auto-fills some information in SNARS with the operator entering additional information later. This is currently voluntary but will likely be a program requirement in a few years.
 - DNR is hopeful to have the 40' law abolished by January 1st, 2020. The law may be modified to require a narrower distance between a two-way trail and roadways.
- New Miles Update: 55 new miles were applied for maintenance this year. Jake was notified that all trails with a ranking of 9 points or higher would receive new maintenance funding. All segments except the 3.8-mile "Q" trail ranked 9 or higher. Bob received information that "Q" trail may have been funded as well. If this is the case, then all miles of trail in Taylor County will be both snowmobile and winter ATV funded.
- Don Liske reported that John's Creek bridge on the National Forest has a damaged approach railing that needs repair. He has asked the USFS for a replacement schedule of the bridge before repair work is conducted. A "rub post" could be installed to alleviate the issue until the bridge is repaired or replaced.

- Steve and Wendy Thums represented snowmobiling again this year at the Taylor County Youth Expo. The kids enjoyed the groomer and snowmobile. The groomer hauling was donated by Rock Thums and the snowmobile was provided by Kurt from Werner Sales and Service.

AWSC:

- June meeting was held at Lac Du Flambeau
- Cathy Burrows is no longer the snowmobile program manager and was promoted.
 - Jillian Steffes, our longtime regional grant manager has taken over for Cathy.
- Reminder that AWSC dues have increased to \$12 and expire June 30th.
- \$100 raffle tickets are available through Bob.
- Youth Report – Carli Berger:
 - Currently conducting a hat, sock and mitten drive. Please get donations to Carli or Bob.
 - Also, conducting youth raffle. Looking for basket items. Contact Carli with donations.

Next Meeting: November 7th, 2019, hosted by Northwoods Riders at Lil J&D's, N9430 State Highway 102, Rib Lake, WI 54470.

Adjourn: 8:02 pm

1st by Matt Roiger, 2nd by Sandy Roiger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jake Walcisak
Taylor County Forestry Dept.

Taylor County Snowmobile Council Meeting
April 4th, 2019
Hosted by Pine Creek Riders at Cindy's Bar

Called to Order: 7:04 pm

Secretary's Report: March meeting minutes as mailed. Motion made and 2nd to accept Secretary's Report. 1st Dan Roiger, 2nd Delvin Smith. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Report given by Elaine Emmerich for March; see attached for details. Motion made and 2nd to accept Treasurer's Report. 1st Lynn Jochimsen, 2nd Bob Schilling. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Fun Day 2020. Pine Creek Riders at the Hacienda on February 15th.
- Raffle checks were handed out at last meeting.
- McKenzie Creek Bridge Update: It will be delivered to Park Falls Ranger Station on April 22nd.
- AWSC Update: Clubs can give monetary gifts to landowners as long as it is not charged to the program.

New Business:

- Vera Ann Block is concerned about bad/steep creek crossing behind Gad in the woods. It may be in Marathon County. Jake will look in to it.
- Taylor-Price Connector Trail: Update given by Bob Meyer, Steve Thums and Jake.
 - Heritage surveys need to occur in new trail development areas.
 - Want to have trail open this next season (2019-2020).
 - This trail will need help for labor/equipment from Taylor County snowmobile club members.
 - Price and Taylor Counties are applying for new miles.
- Off Highway Motorcycle funds are now available.
- SNARS funding status distributed to clubs.
- Hope Hospice update by Nicole:
 - April 26th at 4:00pm at the Chelsea Conservation Club.
 - Event raised \$13,000 in 2018.
 - Raffle tickets are available.
 - Funds are used for final wishes and insurance coverage for those without.
 - Need help for Saturday morning clean-up.

AWSC:

- Conservation Congress Hearing is scheduled for April 8th at 7:00pm.
- Start including email addresses on club roster.
- About 700 attendees.
- 50th Anniversary, Commemorative glasses available.
- AWSC Raffles made approximately \$36,000.
- There were 19 fatalities to date for the 2018-2019 season.

- New trail passes are working and making the program money.
- GPSing groomers is happening in a few counties as a pilot. This will be standard in 3-4 years...hopefully.
- WATVA may start discussing winter ATV trail passes.
- Youth Report by Carli Berger:
 - Youth Auction raised \$7,200.00.
 - This convention was the best silent auction ever.
 - Hat, Mitten and Sock drive – will donate to a shelter.
 - Leadership camping trips upcoming.
 - New ideas of starting a Youth of the Year Award. Contact Carli with ideas.

- Election of Officers:
 - Dan Roiger made a motion to pass a unanimous ballot for existing officers, 2nd by Vera Ann Block. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: October 3rd, 2019, hosted by Moonlite Sno-Kats.

Adjourn: 7:53 pm

1st by Lynn Jochimsen, 2nd by Carli Berger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jake Walcisak
Taylor County Forestry Dept.

Taylor County Snowmobile Council Meeting
March 7th, 2019
Hosted by Tired Iron Vintage Riders at Crossroads Bar

February Snowmobile Council Meeting was cancelled due to bad weather.

Secretary's Report: January meeting minutes as mailed. Motion made and 2nd to accept Secretary's Report. 1st Matt Roiger, 2nd Delvin Smith. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Report given by Elaine Emmerich for January and February; see attached for details. Motion made and 2nd to accept Treasurer's Report. 1st Lynn Jochimsen, 2nd Jim Seefeldt. Motion carried.

Fun Day and County Raffle report given by Elaine Emmerich. Next year's Fun Day will be hosted by the Pine Creek Riders. Elaine distributed raffle checks to those clubs present.

Old Business:

- Little Black River Bridge Update:
 - Jake passed around pictures of the bridge project which was completed on February 22nd. The contractor completed the project on time and did a good job. The bridge is open for use.
- Pine Line Bridge Update:
 - All three bridges are complete and open for use. Rails were trimmed on January 9th.
- Silver Creek Bridge Update:
 - The bridge is open for use and was completed on February 7th. While the contractor failed to meet the deadline, he did provide a high-quality product.
 - Dan Roiger made a motion to get Bob Winter a gift card as a thank you for allowing the club to use his land for a reroute around the Silver Creek Bridge during construction. 2nd Rickie Schmidts. Motion carried.
- McKenzie Creek Bridge Update:
 - Engineering was approved and paid. Manufacturing has started. The bridge will be delivered to the USFS Ranger Station in Park Falls about May 1st. Installation is scheduled for this summer.

New Business:

- Introduction: USFS Medford/Park Falls District Ranger – Melanie Fullman
 - Melanie gave an update on her role as the recreation program manager and her background including snowmobile and forestry cooperation. Melanie spends most of her time in the Park Falls Office but comes to the Medford office as needed.
- A club member suggested to get a mic for the front table. No action taken.
- 2019 Grant Applications:
 - 3 Pine Line Bridge Rehabilitations (new deck and railing). Bridges #1, #2 and #3 starting at Pleasant Ave. The estimated cost is \$311/LF, totaling \$69,042.

- New snowmobile miles, maintenance funding. Each individual segment needed to be mapped and ranked separately. Some segments ranked very high while others ranked very poorly. We will know the outcome in late August.
- Taylor-Price Connector Trail: Price County has secured all necessary private land owner agreements. A meeting will be held Tuesday March 26th at the Prentice DNR Ranger Station to discuss this project and how we will move forward collaboratively between the clubs, counties and USFS. This meeting is by invite only as space is limited.
- Steve Thums brought up comments from others regarding land owner appreciation. Some land owners are requesting a free trail pass for use of their lands. Make sure your land owners feel appreciated. Bob Meyer cautioned that reimbursing a land owner can encroach upon "renting" if the monetary value is too high and the club may then not be covered under the berry-picker law. It was recommended that clubs provide land owners with a free club membership and a gift not to exceed \$25.
- Voting for AWSC Director and Representative
 - Jim Seefeldt made the motion to nominate Bob Meyer as Director and Wally Emmerich as Representative. 2nd by Dan Roiger. Motion carried.
 - Matt Roiger made the motion to cast a unanimous ballot. 2nd by Steve Thums. Motion carried.
- Blue Mounds State Park is undergoing a new master planning process. They are currently accepting public comment online which includes the contested snowmobile trail within the park.

AWSC:

- January directors meeting in Rice lake.
- 40' rule update. Potentially eliminate in state statute.
- AWSC dues will increase this year from \$10 to \$12 per family.
- 6 youth will be sent to ISC from around the state this summer.
- Reminder to dim headlights when meeting other riders, pedestrians or vehicles.
- Proposed AWSC by-laws change: Membership expiration to be June 30th of each year.

Next Meeting: April 4th, 2019, hosted by Pine Creek Riders at Cindy's Bar (W7958 State Highway 64, Medford).

Adjourn: 8:09 pm

1st by Bob Schilling, 2nd by Jim Seefeldt. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jake Walcisak

Taylor County Forestry Dept.

Taylor County Snowmobile Council Meeting
January 3, 2019
Hosted by Stump Jumpers at BS Bar

Secretary's Report: December meeting minutes as mailed. Motion made and 2nd to accept Secretary's Report. 1st Matt Roiger, 2nd Kevin Klem.

Treasurer's Report: Report given by Elaine Emmerich; see attached for details. Motion made and 2nd to accept Treasurer's Report. 1st Dan Roiger, 2nd Jim Seffeldt.

Old Business:

- Little Black River Bridge Update:
 - Bridge plans were approved for manufacturing on December 10th. Bridge installer indicated 8-10 weeks for manufacturing and installation.
- Pine Line Bridge Update:
 - All three bridges are near complete. Trimming of approach railing remains.
- Silver Creek Bridge Update:
 - Bridge rehabilitation has not started as of today. The contractor is aware that the Pine Line opens to snowmobile traffic earlier than the other county trails. Bridge work will be monitored to ensure this project encroaches minimally on trail opening.
- Stump Jumpers Poker Run raffle tickets available.

New Business:

- Couple of fields with standing corn.
- BRRD will host a safety class on January 23 and 29. 25 seats available.
- Berms on Perkinstown trails have been leveled. Taylor Made ATV Club and the County will work on amending the crushed granite with smaller aggregate this coming summer to stabilize the trail base.
- Midwest Vintage Snowmobile Association is looking for a new venue. Potentially in Wisconsin. The event may benefit from a registration exemption. Bob Meyer will bring it up at the next AWSC directors meeting.
- McKenzie Creek Bridge: Bridge has been approved for manufacturing. Wheeler Lumber will deliver the bridge to the Park Falls, WI USFS office on or near May 1st, 2019. Installation will occur summer 2019.
- Groomer Show in St. Germain February 6th and 7th.

AWSC:

- Directors meeting is this coming Sunday, January 6th.
- Bob Meyer handed out SNARS report which gave information regarding trail revenue by county. The report illustrates that Taylor County records minimal administrative fees.
- Clarification that a person can get a discounted trail pass if: snowmobile is registered in WI, individual is a WI club member and the individual is an AWSC member.

Next Meeting: February 7th, 2019, hosted by Jump River Runners at Back 40 Bar (W14393 county Rd F, Lublin).

Adjourn: 7:56 pm
1st by Bob Schilling, 2nd by Leon Long.

Respectfully submitted by:
Christina Schuld
Taylor County Forestry Dept.