

VILAS COUNTY SNOWMOBILE TRAIL SAFETY COMMITTEE

Minutes of November 21, 2013 Meeting

Vilas County Justice Center Lower Level Conference Room, Eagle River, WI

PRESENT: Ralph Sitzberger, Chair; Carolyn Ritter, Vice Chair; Dale Mayo, VC Recreation Administrator; Gerard Ritter, VC Sheriff's Dept.; Tim Price, DNR Law Enforcement; Mike Keintz, Alliance Rep NE; Holly Tomlanovich, Alliance Rep SE

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Cindy Burzinski, VC Tourism/Publicity; Gina Egan, VC Public Health; Rocky Caffarella, Alliance President; Stan Guif, Alliance Rep SW; Leo Crawley, Alliance Rep NW

GUESTS: Ken Anderson, Media; Ray Wolf, LdF Tribal Law Enforcement; Dave Walz, DNR Law Enforcement

Meeting called to order at 9:10 am by Chair Sitzberger.

Verification of posting of meeting - Mayo

Approve agenda to be discussed in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Motion by Keintz. Second by Ritter. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes from the October 17, 2013 meeting. Motion by Mayo. Second by Keintz. Motion carried.

Chair Sitzberger welcomed all in attendance. Carolyn Ritter has been appointed as Vice Chair for the Committee.

Budget Report – Mayo - Last meeting budget balance of \$1291. Income of \$250-check from Manitowish Water Sno-Skeeters Snowmobile Club. Ending balance of \$1541 as of November 21, 2013. Chair Sitzberger directed Mayo to send thank you letters to all donators automatically as they are received.

Public Health – No Report

DNR Report – Price – Introduced David Walz, DNR Law Enforcement. He is continuing to work on the project getting quotes, looking for funding sources & partnerships. Discussion on the use of printed coasters with safety message. Ritter to get more information on pricing & printing sources. A presentation packet will be developed at the request of Keintz. Packet can be provided to potential funding sources.

Alliance Report – Tomlanovich – Meeting focused on AB407 snowmobile trail funding bill; Trail opening policy & date of opening; Personal Disability Medical Devices (PDMD) used for access to the forest for those with disabilities. The Alliance voted to purchase additional TIN's to be displayed on the "road side" of trail crossings. This will provide another layer of safety, making the numbers visible to those in motor vehicles.

Advertising, Public Relations – Mayo – There are still 2 PSA's that need to be recorded. Daytime grooming PSA is being worked on. The first PSA's will focus on early season riding & move through the complement of PSA's.

Sheriff's Report – Ritter – The trail patrol will focus on safety & education when making stops. There will be particular focus in all of Vilas County on Thursday, Friday & Saturday of the World Championship Derby weekend. The department will be working in tandem with the DNR Warden's. The Department is in transition with new hires so development of patrols may take some time.

Recreation Administrator Report – Mayo – Lengthy discussion re Snowmobile Trail Opening Policy. Chair Sitzberger explained the Snowmobile Trail Opening Policy for Funded snowmobile trails. This season trails are set to open December 17 conditions permitting. All trail inspections for all 11 snowmobile clubs will begin *after* the 9 day Deer Gun Hunt.

Date for next meeting – Thursday, December 19, 2013 – 9am – Vilas County Courthouse Rooms 2 & 3. .

Adjourn – 10:25am by Chair Sitzberger
Respectfully submitted by Holly A. Tomlanovich