

VILAS COUNTY SNOWMOBILE TRAIL SAFETY COMMITTEE

Minutes of December 19 2013 Meeting

Vilas County Courthouse, Conference Rooms 2 & 3, 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; Gina Egan, VC Public Health; Rocky Caffarella, Alliance President; Mike Keintz, Alliance Rep NE; Holly Tomlanovich, Alliance Rep SE; Stan Guif, Alliance Rep SW; Leo Crawley, Alliance Rep

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Cindy Burzinski, VC Tourism/Publicity

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

Meeting called to order at 9:00 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 Caffarella. Second by Crawley. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes from the November 21, 2013 meeting. Motion by Mayo. Second by Crawley. Motion carried.

Budget Report – Mayo – Beginning budget balance of \$1541. Income of \$150-check from Sayner Barnstormers snowmobile club. Ending balance of \$1691 as of December 19, 2013. Motion by Caffarella. Second by Crawley. Motion carried.

Public Health – Egan – Northwood's Children's Museum has requested funding to help with updates to the Snowmobile Exhibit. This will come from the Maternal Child Program. Potentially, funds are available to the Safety Committee. Grant would need to be received no later than December 31, 2013. Discussion on use followed.

DNR Report – Price – The mobile safety billboard collaborative project is moving forward & will be a DNR project. The collaboration would include: Snowmobile/ATV program; Boater Safety program; Fire Control program; Hunter's Education program. The Fire Control program has committed \$5000 to the cost of the \$14,585 trailer. The 3 other groups are indicating they will provide support as well. He is also speaking to other groups. The target date for usage would be near the end of the snowmobile season as the trailer, once ordered, has an approximate 6 week turn around. NOTE: the trailer will come with a light kit. Discussion on locations in Vilas County. Discussion on banner message & other funding ideas.

Caffarella updated on the progress of the message trailer that the Cross Country Cruisers are building. Price will provide Caffarella with digital image file of the poster to be printed. Ace Hardware, Woodruff will provide bid.

Price also spoke to a group of 25 high school students on snowmobile safety with the use of a Power Point presentation. He hopes to speak to the middle school students at a later date.

Alliance Report – Crawley – December 18, 2013 meeting at Stingray's in Arbor Vitae. Second ½ of Supplemental Funding was paid out at 78.99%. Discussion of the death in Dodge County of a female rider on December 15, 2013. Discussion of the early Trail Opener. Alliance working on tally of traffic at businesses in the County. Caffarella reported that the Alliance is developing a mission as to the trail opener.

Advertising, Public Relations – Mayo – Daytime Grooming PSA will replace 1 of the 4 PSA's to still be recorded. Currently 2 Early Riding PSA's are running on WRJO. These 2 will soon be replaced with a rotation of 3 new PSA's followed by a new 4 PSA rotation. The WJFW Channel 12 PSA's will begin during the Christmas Holiday. C. Ritter provided pricing of coasters that have a safety message. Committee will defer action until a later date.

Sheriff's Report – G. Ritter – 4 riding behind closed gates snowmobile complaints in November. 3 citations were issued.

In December there has been 1 complaint of a snowmobiler riding on the roadway. Beginning January 1st snowmobile patrol will start. Through the end of December patrol will be by patrol car/vehicles.

Recreation Administrator Report – Mayo – Trail Inspections took place December 2-December 12, 2013. 42 correctable items noted through the County. Of these 14 stops signs & 11 stop ahead signs. All 42 have been corrected. Trails opened on December 13, 2013 at 6 pm. The additional highway side TIN's have been delivered to the clubs. Clubs will install at the appropriate road crossings.

Date for next meeting – Thursday, January 16, 2014 – 9am – Vilas County Courthouse Rooms 2 & 3.

Adjourn – 10:35am by Chair Sitzberger
Respectfully submitted by Holly A. Tomlanovich