

VALLEY COUNTY SNOWMOBILE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING October 10, 2019

Chairman Ron Platt called the meeting to order at the Emergency Operations Center at 7:00pm. Present were Ron Platt, Terri Klanderud, Larry Meredith, Rob Workman, Mark Wood, John Hicks, and Vic Greenfield. Also present were Belinda Provancher, Midas Gold; Jerry Wortley, Dog Sled Races; Phil Graeve and Jeremy Greenwood, Payette Forest Service, and Ben Epslin, from Tamarak Rentals.

Mark Wood motioned that the September minutes be approved as presented; seconded by Vic Greenfield. Motion carried.

Introductions were made.

Mark Wood motioned that we add Snow Removal to the Agenda; seconded by Terri Klanderud. Motion passed.

USFS - Phil Graeve discussed the Little Red Goose Resilience Project. There is a couple of areas that have been hit really hard with the "moth". They are working to mitigate the areas so that they don't lose any more trees. The webpage that has been set up for comments is TINYURL.com/lrg-resilience.com. There will be an impact over the next few years. Jeremy Greenwood spoke regarding the removal process. They will be thinning to lower the density. They will not use weekends or Holidays to remove timber.

Sheriff's Report

There was no one in attendance.

New Business

Ron Platt discussed the condition of the drag. The cost is approximately \$36,000. We could possibly get a grant for 50%. Ron also has a drag that he can donate to the system to use at Upper Elevation parking lot.

Mark Wood reported that they are done paving on Warren Wagon. They are hauling material down to Brush Creek; we gained 28-30 feet. There were a couple of mud holes in Green Gate, but weren't able to get a contact to remove the trees.

Ron Platt said that they think they are close to getting an interim agreement with Mr. Purdy to groom this year until we get it worked out. Jake was promoted to Assistant District Ranger. Jake felt that we could get a work around.

Ron Platt reported that the County and Mr. Jacques are currently in negotiations. The County's position is that we will groom it and he is not going to plow it.

There has been something put together with DF Development regarding Red Ridge. Larry Laxson was doing a lot of negotiations with them and all of that is on hold right now.

Ron Platt discussed the issues with grooming the airstrip in Warren. If we were able to get an MOU with whoever owns the air strip to not hold us liable, it wouldn't take much to groom the airstrip.

Jerry Wortley from the Dog Sled Races overviewed the races this year. Three races will be held this year; 300 mile, 100 mile race, and a 14-17 mile Junior race. The 300 mile is a qualifier for the Iditarod. This is the only qualifier for the Yukon Quest in the lower 48. They reduced the 150 mile race to 100 to draw more amateurs. Comments were made that the event here was the best qualifier for the Iditarod. They also received an \$8000 grant from Idaho Tourism for marketing. They will be held the last week of January. They will start from Little Ski Hill.

Belinda Provancher. from Midas Gold, asked everyone for their Fun Run dates. Also, the comment period is supposed to happen in December. Would like for the Clubs to draft a letter of support on their letterhead during the comment period. It is a 45 day comment period; mid January through the end of February. Discussion took place regarding various avenues of generating support.

Old Business

John Hicks reported that they have someone new in the office (Valley County Treasurer) and they haven't figured out how to transfer over Larry's hours yet.

Mark Wood reported on the equipment and snow removal. Green Gate, West Face, and Upper Elevation is a battle. Last year the snow plow operators in McCall were approached to help out. There was an individual, Lance Hess, that has been involved in the grooming operation and offered his services at a severely reduced rate. The consensus was that it was a great savings and worked well.

Mark Wood talked about the Payette Forest Coalition. Every time that they brought in a motorized group, they would try to bring in, and match it, with a non-motorized group. They are looking at the Recommended Wilderness Areas. They would like to see the Secesh and the Needles as Wilderness areas. They are finally to the point of maps and markers. A facilitator was hired at the cost of \$360.00 per meeting. Mark is asking for representatives of the Clubs to consider assisting in the payment of the facilitator.

Ron Platt reported that the Smith's Ferry Cat is finished; the West Mountain Cat is almost done. Parts have been ordered and once they are received, everything will be taken care of and they will be ready.

Larry Meredith reported that he had brought the poles down from the Warming Hut that were pulled this Spring and put them at the Groomer Garage.

Larry Meredith motioned that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Rob Workman. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Mark Wood	McCall Area	Groomer Meeting	4.5
John Hicks	McCall Area	Groomer Meeting	4.5
John Hicks	McCall Area	Financials	30
Mark Wood	McCall Area	Parking Lots/Meetings	18
Ron Platt	Donnelly	Groomer Meeting	6.5
Vic Greenfield	Donnelly	Groomer Meeting	6.5
Ron Platt	Donnelly	Trail Recon, Meetings	15.00
Larry Meredith	West Mountain	Groomer Meeting	4.0
Rob Workman	Smith's Ferry	Groomer Meeting	6.5
Terri Klanderud	Smith's Ferry	Groomer Meeting	6.5
Terri Klanderud	Smith's Ferry	Minutes/Emails/Etc	3.5
Rob Workman	Smith's Ferry	Wellington/Mtn	4.00