

MISORVA
Board of Director Meeting – Saturday December 5, 2020
Location: Electronic (Zoom) Meeting

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order by President Jim Kelts at 10:00 a.m.
 - II. **INTRODUCTION OF PEOPLE PRESENT:** Visitors to this meeting include Carly Krimma (MISORVA office staff), Paul Anderson (DNR), and Lyle Curry (DNR).
 - III. **ROLL CALL:** The roll call of the BOD was taken and recorded. Secretary has the recording available upon request. The Secretary position was handed off a month early from Karyn Hautamaki to Stephanie Hubbarth-Bergen.
 - IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Addition to agenda placed “Deer season(rifle)education” under New Business at the request of Paul Anderson.
Motion by _____ to accept the agenda. Agenda approved as corrected by unanimous vote.
 - V. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes were emailed and are available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
Motion by Ron Corbett to accept the minutes as presented. Minutes approved by unanimous vote.
 - VI. **TREASURER'S REPORT: Mark Pankner.** The bank balances (using new sheet format) were explained. Mark thanked Karen M. and Carly for their help in the office with additional line items for a more detailed report. The Membership amount was questioned by Ken McCrum. Carly is now keeping logs of old vs. new vs. non-member purchases. Jim Kelts thanked Mark for his time and dedication in creating a more detailed reporting method. (Placed on file.)
Motion by John Houk to accept the Treasurer's report. Treasurer's report approved by unanimous vote.
 - VII. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Karen Middendorp.** Karen apologized for not having a written report as she has been extremely busy with daily office functions as well as multiple meetings including our new monthly district meetings. The website has been upgraded. Traction is being made on the wheeled vehicle legislation thanks to our contracted lobbyist group, Karoub. The office has been processing an average of 50-70 trail permit orders per day. Raffle and calendar sales have also been very good. DNR is considering a free snowmobile weekend. The process for “lost in mail” or “blow off” trail permits was explained.
 - VIII. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
 - A. **LEGISLATIVE: Mark Evans.** Current legislative actions in action include helmet laws, improper display of registration decal, wheeled vehicle, and a free snowmobile weekend. Jim Duke has resigned from the SAW Committee. Mark Evans attended the last SAW meeting as a visitor. Electronic (Zoom) meetings with legislators have been positive. Joe Chavis questioned MISORVA's stance on the helmet legislation. It was noted that we support the handicap reason with a physician note. Joe also mentioned that there is an early draft of legislation for matching ORV helmet laws to the current driver's license motorcycle endorsement.
 - B. **MEMBERSHIP: Ron Corbett.** Due to the lack of shows/events, the office has handled the majority of new memberships as well as renewals. A big thank you is in order for the amount of work that the office has had to incur this year. Personal contact is a large part in acquiring new members. Rick Brown questioned whether we are tracking membership usage (ORV/snowmobile/dual). Carly is recording this info, but as of now there is not enough data to report. Mark Evans questioned statistics on the use of email versus USPS. Karen M. agreed that a change may be imminent, but we would need to send membership info both ways for a few years.
 - C. **TRAIL COORDINATION: Brian Hicks.** Local group petitioned USFS for access to roads in 2019. USFS is currently accepting public comments. USFS appears to be receptive to the request.
 - D. **PUBLICATION: John Houk.** Articles for the next publication are due January 5th. John, the MISORVA office, or MSPN (magazine publisher) can be contacted. John has a new email address: JHOUK@frontier.com Jim Kelts stated that the new magazine is wonderful and is produced at a lower cost.
- OTHER REPORTS:**
- A. **ACSA:** No report
 - B. **Charity: Kaye Houk.** Kay requested that club/group contact info be sent to the MISORVA office. Volunteer hours need to be documented.
 - C. **Midwest Chapter: Ron Corbett.** No report
 - D. **By-Laws:** Jim Duke has resigned. Donna Cody and Mark Evans have volunteered to join the committee.
 - E. **Friends of the Forest: Brian Hicks.** There is a new forest ranger. **Pete Finch.** There appears to be confusion between State and Federal land restrictions. Traffic is up which is good for local business, but many occurrences of illegal riding. Some citations have been issued for SxS on snowmobile trails. Lengthy discussion ensued in regards to ORVs on trails. Confusion may be attributed to new routes (Trail 6) as well as width of some trails not allowing SxS room to navigate, therefore they are using snowmobile trails to bypass some areas.
 - F. **Groomer Workshop:** Karen Middendorp stated that we are still in need of a chairperson for this committee. COVID-19 restrictions have required us to cancel this event for 2021.
 - G. **Recreation: Rich Rottier.** Annual snow Ride-in currently in holding pattern. Waiting for updated COVID-19 restrictions that may require us to cancel it.
 - H. **Dual Trail Maintenance Committee:** No report

- I. **Public Relations Committee: Ron Schroeder.** Ideas were given on how to respond to negative comments on social media. We need to remain positive and educational.
- IX. **ACTION ITEMS:**
- A. **District Meetings:** Karen Middendorp noted that the meetings are scheduled for the first three Tuesdays of the month via Zoom and that they are promoting very good discussions.
 - B. **Ongoing DNR Relations:** Karen Middendorp reported that the DNR's new Marketing representative, Kristin Phillips, has been a big part of the improved relations. The December SAW meeting was very good. There are still some issues but we continue to hold them accountable.
 - C. **Legislative Dirt Ride:** There is no current info for a dirt ride. Karoub and Senator VanderWall want to continue planning a snow ride with a starting point of Shanty Creek. Any costs associated with a ride will not be covered by our annual ISMA grant as it was not received.
- X. **OLD BUSINESS:**
- A. **MISORVA Committees:** Volunteers will be requested in January.
- XI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
- A. **Deer Season (Rifle Hunting) Education:** Paul Anderson requested that next year MISORVA educate (via a social media public service announcement) ORV riders on the riding restrictions that are in place during the hunting season. Discussion included sending reminders to clubs/groups about grooming considerations during the season as well.
- XII. **TRAILS & SAW COMMITTEE REPORT:**
- REGION 1: Don Britton:** Trail 109 closed. The gorge trail has been fixed and the reroute is posted. A section of Trail 15 and Trail 16 have been permanently closed.
 - REGION 2:** No report
 - REGION 3: Karen Middendorp:** There are some new reroutes in Allegan County due to high water. ORV ordinances have been passed in 19/24 townships. A citizen group will present this info to the county commissioners in hopes of a county-wide ordinance.
- XIII. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Kay Houk stated that Presque Isle Sno-trails is not listed as a club on our website. Karen Middendorp will have this fixed. Kay and Ron Corbett thanked Jim Kelts for his service on the Executive Board. Don Britton stated that there is an opening on the SAW Committee. Keith Churill will volunteer with the blessing of MISORVA. Jim Kelts stated that our stance on current proposed legislation is that no wheeled vehicles be allowed on groomed snowmobile trails from Dec 1 – Mar 31. Jim also thanked the board for their support during his tenure as well as commenting on Jim Duke's retirement. Jim suggested that MISORVA needs to hold USFS and MI DNR accountable for logging stump removal so as avoid further groomer damage. MI Secretary of State will now allow new snowmobile registrations on their website. John Newman informed the board that the 2021 meeting calendar would include (4) in person meetings (if allowed) and (6) electronic (Zoom) meetings as well as our annual General Membership meeting. Dates to be announced at the next meeting. Bruce Wood thanked Rick Brown for resuming a vacant seat on the Executive Board.
- XIV. **DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING:** Date and location of January meeting to be determined at a later time. Board will be notified in advance. ****If you cannot make the meeting, please contact the MISORVA Secretary for an excused absence. ****
- XV. **ADJOURNMENT:** *Motion by Rick Brown to adjourn. Adjournment of meeting approved by unanimous vote.*

Meeting adjourned 12:43pm