

**MISORVA**  
**Board of Director Meeting (regular) – Wednesday, January 25, 2023**  
**Location: Electronic (Zoom) Meeting**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/Welcome:** Meeting was called to order by President Jeramey Valley at 6:35 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** The roll call of the BOD was taken and recorded by Secretary Stephanie Hubbarth-Bergen. The recording is available upon request. Absences include: Keith Lynch, Ken McCrum, Andrea Eder, and David Low. Guests include: Christine Jourdain, Devin Gardner, Rick Brown, Dave Nuechterlein, Charlie Forrest, Diane Dasse, and Karl Davenport.  
**Motion by Paul Anderson to take the agenda items out of order. Motion approved by unanimous vote.**
- III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** No changes presented.  
**Motion by Paul Anderson to accept the agenda. Agenda approved by unanimous vote.**
- IV. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes were emailed and are available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)  
**Motion by Kaye Houk to accept the minutes. Motion approved by unanimous vote.**
- V. **TREASURER'S REPORT: Mark Pankner.** Balance Sheet and Statements were reviewed. (Placed on file in office.)  
**Motion by John Houk to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion approved by unanimous vote.**
- VI. **GUEST SPEAKER: Lisa Bennett / American Income Life (AIL).** Lisa came into the meeting during Other Committee reports and gave a review of the benefits provided by her company for MISORVA as well as many other organizations. Our members receive a \$4000 AD&D benefit, Child Safe Kits, a Health Services Discount Program as well as other informational guides. AIL will send letters out based on our decision to renew their services.
- VII. **APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS: Jeramey Valley.** This agenda item was taken out of order and occurred after roll call. Steve Haver, Chad Vogelheim, and Joe Bartlett were presented as District 6 representatives.  
**Motion by Steve Beltman to approve all new board members. Motion approved by unanimous vote.**
- VIII. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:** 2023 committees have yet to be organized. The following reports, if any, are from the 2022 committee chairs.
  - a. **Legislative: Paul Anderson.** There has been no movement on the law enforcement and ORV "sunset clause" bills. HB4535 (wheeled vehicle) has expired. Draft 8 is scheduled to be resubmitted by our Legislative Committee. Karen Middendorp reported that there is a democratic representative willing to pick up the removal of the ORV "sunset clause" bill.
  - b. **Membership:** Karen Middendorp reported that an additional renewal mailing was sent out. The renewals received to date since the mailing have more than paid for the mailing costs. The office has seen many non-member trail permit purchasers become members this season. They have also seen a large number of new permit purchasers this season.
  - c. **Publication:** No report.
  - d. **Trails Region 1: Todd Blanchard.** Report to be emailed and will be placed on file when it is received. Water on trails continues to be an issue making some impassable. Ride cautiously.
  - e. **Trails Region 2:** Mark Pankner reported that the Roger City trail is expected to have final approval this week.
  - f. **Trails Region 3: Jim Berens.** There has not been a lot of activity due to lack of snow. There have been some difficulties with the MDNS GPS units in the groomers.
- IX. **OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS:** 2023 committees have yet to be organized. The following reports, if any are from the 2022 committee chairs.
  - a. **ACSA:** A synopsis of ACSA's recently held Board of Director meeting was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.) Christine Jourdain explained the Stanislaus National Forest situation in California and how it will impact legislation for other US government held lands. The ACSA Trail Region meeting and ride will be held in Watersmeet, MI in February. Jeramey Valley likes their "Are You Beeping" avalanche safety campaign as it asks a question instead of telling you to perform a task. Karen Middendorp stated that she would take the "question campaign" style to the MDNR Ride Right Committee. Rick Brown questioned if there was a way to allow hunting access via ATVs for disabled individuals on federal forest roads as there is on state forest roads. Christine Jourdain will provide us with a follow-up.
  - b. **Charity: Kaye Houk.** Please ask your club members to start documenting all of their volunteer hours.
  - c. **By-Laws: Roy Hart.** No report.
  - d. **Public Relations:** No report.
  - e. **Dirt Grooming/Grading:** No report.
  - f. **ORV Initiatives: Joshua Driscoll.** Meetings have yet to be scheduled. New members are welcome.
  - g. **Friends of the Forest:**
    - i. **Ottawa Forest:** No report.
    - ii. **Hiawatha West: Keith Churill.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
    - iii. **Hiawatha East: Roy Hart.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
    - iv. **Huron:** No report.

v. **Huron Manistee: Pete Finch.** The Cadillac Area Visitors Bureau would like to be proactive with educating the public on wheeled vehicle rules on local USFS roads. Pete met with a USFS Ranger and MDNR Trail Coordinator Scott Slavin regarding the issue. The USFS appears to be less than enthusiastic about the publicity of the roads being open but seems more open about education opportunities for preferred routes.

h. **Snowmobile Advisory Workgroup: Don Britton.** The next SAW meeting will be held March 2nd in-person at Lake Superior State University.

i. **ORV Advisory Workgroup: Keith Lynch.** No report.

#### X. OLD BUSINESS:

a. **ORV Safety Rental Video: John Newman.** Currently waiting for the weather to break to begin filming.

b. **ORVAW Grooming Equipment Sub-Committee: Karen Middendorp.** No report.

c. **Sponsor Membership: Brad Beardsley.** No report.

d. **Wheeled Vehicle Legislation: Jeramey Valley.** The wheeled vehicle legislation (HB4535) termed-out at the end of 2022. In November 2021, MISORVA tabled, by motion, the review of the current policy draft until it was reviewed by the Legislative Committee. There was a lengthy discussion about the history and our endorsement of this legislation. ***Motion by Todd Maschke to move the draft review of HB 4535 from the table. Motion was not seconded, therefore there was no vote.***

***Motion by Jim Kelts that MISORVA move forward with wheeled vehicle legislation previously known as HB4535 Draft 8. Motion was approved by majority vote.***

Josh Driscoll requested a roll call vote. After discussion, it was decided to document the Nay votes. They include: Josh Driscoll, Devin Gardner, Scott Beltman, David Satchell and Stephanie Hubbarth-Bergen.

e. **2023 Meeting Schedule: Jeramey Valley.** Two options for this year's scheduled meetings were presented. All meetings will be accessible electronically. After discussion, the group decided that Option 1 was preferred. The remaining 2023 dates include: 3/25, 5/17, 7/26, 10/14, and 12/6. The October meeting will be held in conjunction with our annual general membership meeting. Todd Maschke questioned our concern of not conforming to the stated fiscal year in our By-laws. Jeramey Valley confirmed that we received information that stated our accounting year does not need to be the same as our stated fiscal year (calendar).

***Motion by Scott Beltman to move forward Option 1 as our schedule for 2023. Motion was approved by majority vote.***

#### XI. NEW BUSINESS:

a. **2023 Snow Groomer Workshop: Karen Middendorp.** The workshop is scheduled for March 2-4. Manufacturers are beginning to return Karen's calls and are excited to participate. Registration info has been sent out. Everyone is invited to attend. MDNR has agreed to pay for two attendees for every grant sponsor. MSEAF may pay for an additional attendee per grant sponsor. Final confirmation has not yet been received from MSEAF.

b. **Safety Kit Partnership: Karen Middendorp.** AED Brands provided information about their Mobilize COMPACT Rescue System. The partnership request is similar to those that we have for the weathervanes and VVMapping products. MISORVA will not be expected to ship any products.

***Motion by John Houk to place the safety kit information on the MISORVA store section of our website. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.***

c. **Polaris Donation: Paul Anderson.** Paul reached out to Polaris in hopes of updating our riding gear for our legislative rides, unfortunately we use high visibility jackets for safety reasons and these were not provided. Discussion ensued on the best way to utilize the donated jackets. Karen Middendorp will use them as raffle or prize items in the future.

d. **Document and Information Access: Jeramey Valley.** Google Workspace is an additional place to locate files (minutes, agendas, lists) for our board members. Information will still be provided by email as is the current practice. Rick Brown questioned the additional cost involved. Karen commented that it was a minimal amount (about \$12/mo) for one additional user.

e. **2023 Committee Membership: Jeramey Valley.** Members are welcome to volunteer for any committees that interest them. Karen Middendorp will make a post on Facebook requesting volunteers for our committees as they are open to all members, not just Directors. 2023 Chairpersons are as follows: Legislative - Dave Titus, Membership - Brad Beardsley, Publication - Brad Beardsley, Trails Region 1 - Todd Blanchard, Trails Region 2 - Ted Truckey, Trails Region 3 - Jim Berens, ACSA - Karen Middendorp, Charity - Kaye Houk, By-Laws - Todd Maschke, Public Relations - Jeff Mariucchi, Dirt Grooming/Grading - Steve Haver, ORV Initiatives - vacant, Friends of the Forest (FoF)/Ottawa - Ernie Reimann, FoF/Hiawatha West - Keith Churill, FoF/Hiawatha East - Roy Hart, FoF/Huron - Gary Blaser, and FoF/Huron Manistee - Pete Finch. Don Britton will remain our representative for the Snowmobile Advisory Group (SAW) and Keith Lynch will remain our representative for ORV Advisory Group (ORVAW).

XII. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Paul Anderson informed all that the Marquette Econolodge is now open again and they are offering a 15% discount to all snowmobilers. Don Britton will reach out to the new motel owners to discuss the advantages of

becoming a commercial member of MISORVA. Steve Haver questioned Kaye Houk on the approved volunteer hours to document. Jeff Mariucchi asked when the website would be updated with Board member info. He also asked if the Miracle Millions grant was going to be publicized. Karen Middendorp responded that the website was a work in progress and that the grant will be publicized when it is closer to being completed. Paul Anderson questioned the reasoning behind changing the chairpersons. Discussion ensued.

**XIII. DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING:** In-person meeting to be held Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Location to be determined.

Committee chairpersons are requested to have a written report turned into the office by Friday, March 17th.

\*Reminder: Pursuant to Article III, Section 7 of our By-laws, Board members can miss two meetings during the calendar year. Please make every effort to attend all meetings for the year even if you are late or leave early within reason.\*

\*\*If you cannot attend, please contact the MISORVA Secretary via email, call, or text prior to the beginning of the meeting.  
\*\*

Stephanie Hubbarth-Bergen 586-524-5802 or shb16@sbcglobal.net

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT:** *Motion by Ted Truckey to adjourn. Adjournment of meeting approved by unanimous vote.*

*Meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.*

DRAFT