

MISORVA
Board of Director Meeting (regular) – Wednesday, September 21, 2022
Location: Electronic (Zoom) Meeting

- I. CALL TO ORDER/Welcome:** Meeting was called to order by President John Newman at 6:33 p.m.
- II. ROLL CALL:** The roll call of the BOD was taken and recorded by Vice President, Jeramey Valley. The recording is available upon request. Absences include: Keith Churill, Donna Cody, Ron Schroeder, Emerson Corder, Ted Truckey, Todd Maschke, Devin Gardner, Steve Veltman, Dave Nuechterlien, Jim Berens, David Low, Scott Matteson, Scott Beltman and Stephanie Hubbarth-Bergen.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** New Business additions include: (a) Snow Grant Sponsor Meetings and (b) Camp Grayling Expansion.
Motion by Paul Anderson to accept the agenda. Agenda approved as corrected by unanimous vote.
- IV. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes were emailed and are available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
Motion by Dan White to accept the minutes as presented. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
- V. TREASURER'S REPORT & PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Mark Pankner. Balance Sheet and Statements were reviewed. (Placed on file in office.) John Newman questioned our fiscal year-end financial status. Mark responded that we have a positive balance of \$43,000.
Motion by Brian Hicks to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
- VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- a. **Legislative: Paul Anderson.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.) The "Keep the UP Wild Coalition" has not garnered local acceptance and there has not been any significant movement.
 - b. **Membership: Brad Beardsley.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
 - c. **Publication: Brad Beardsley.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
 - d. **Trails Region 1: Todd Blanchard.** Todd reported Trail 2 has been closed between Wakefield and Bessemer due to the BlackJack Mtn/IndianHead new land owner rescinding the previous permit. John Newman reported that Trail 3 near Houghton has a washout but work is in progress. Ernie Riemann reported that the USFS has declared an unsafe bridge crossing on Trail 15 near Gibbs City. John Houk stated that the temporary bridge in Cheboygan is being removed and should be available soon.
 - e. **Trails Region 2: Ted Truckey.** Karen Middendorp reported that the Canada Creek club is no longer grooming and as of now the trail is still available for a local club. The equipment is being housed at the Atlanta MDNR office. Paul Anderson stated that Grand Traverse County club is actively brushing and signing.
 - f. **Trails Region 3: Jim Berens.** Jim reported that local clubs are waiting for their grant approvals and the fall cleanups and brushings will be begin as the season progresses. Most of the southwest Michigan clubs are waiting for the fields to be harvested.
- VII. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- a. **ACSA: John Newman.** The International Snowmobile Hall of Fame (ISHoF) was a roundtable discussion at this year's ISC. There will be an ACSA Ride-in in Watersmeet February 2-5, 2023. ACSA has submitted a grant application to Ski-Doo for their Trespassing Program. There is money available through Friends of Snowmobiling Political Action Committee (FOSPAC) for federal political donations. Minnesota has recently doubled trespassing fines as well as approved equipment confiscation.
 - b. **Charity: Kaye Houk.** No report.
 - c. **By-Laws: Roy Hart.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
 - d. **Public Relations: Jeff Mariucci.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
 - e. **Dirt Grooming/Grading: Jeramey Valley.** No report.
 - f. **ORV Initiatives: Joshua Driscoll.** No report.
 - g. **Friends of the Forest:**
 - i. **Ottawa Forest: Ernie Reimann.** No report.
 - ii. **Hiawatha West: Keith Churill.** No report.
 - iii. **Hiawatha East: Roy Hart.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.) Roy also reported that there is a temporary closure on Route C near Brimley, east of town.
 - iv. **Huron: Gary Blaser.** Local clubs have fixed a hill on Trail 96 and widened/fixed a problem area on Trail 965.
 - v. **Huron Manistee: Pete Finch.** Clubs are out actively doing brushing and maintenance on the trails. The USFS is seeking suggestions for a future OHV Route.
 - h. **Snowmobile Advisory Workgroup: Don Britton.** The last meeting was not very successful as there was no attendance by MDNR. The following clubs have or will receive new groomers soon: North Country, Chippewa

Sno-cats, Big Bay, Hiawatha, Alger SORVA, Grand Marais, Indian River, Lewiston, and Irons. The December SAW meeting will be in-person on December 1.

- i. **ORV Advisory Workgroup: Keith Lynch.** \$3.1 million was approved for grading and law enforcement but no additional information was provided by MDNR. Guidance for ORV lighting was discussed (no red, blue, etc.) Designated ORV Routes in Hiawatha West NP would possibly provide funding for signage, etc.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **ORV Safety Rental Video: John Newman.** Video is currently in progress.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Snow Grant Sponsor Meetings: John Newman.** MDNR will be sending out preseason meeting invites. Be aware of dates so that your club members can participate.
- b. **Camp Grayling Expansion: Paul Anderson.** MISORVA should take a position opposing the proposed expansion. MDNR and National Guard are not answering any questions. Poll was taken with 62% of attendees responding.
 - i. MISORVA should take a proactive stance against expansion. 88% yes, 12% no
 - ii. MISORVA should remain neutral but guarded on the proposed expansion. 22% yes, 78% no

Motion by Josh Driscoll to revisit the motion from last meeting regarding our neutral stance to the proposed expansion of Camp Grayling. Motion approved by majority vote.

Motion by John Houk to have MISORVA oppose the proposed expansion of Camp Grayling if it results in any motorized recreation closures. Motion approved by majority vote.

- X. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Brian Hicks noted his displeasure with the USFS closure of the bridge on Trail 15. Those type of issues do not happen overnight. John Newman apologized for not having a report about the ISHoF as he has been very busy with other meetings. The General Membership meeting on October 21 at 10 a.m. has been moved to Jay's Sporting Goods in Gaylord, MI. The Hampton Inn has available rooms. There will be an ORV ride on Friday, October 21. Details to follow. John also announced that he would not be seeking re-election as President for 2023. He will however, accept the Past-President position. The state's new Free Snowmobile weekend, as well as ISMA's Take-a-friend-snowmobiling weekend will be February 11-12, 2023. The Novi Snow Show may close earlier than they have in past years.

- XI. **DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING:** In-person meeting on Saturday, December 3, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Foggy's in Christmas. Rooms are available at White Pine Lodge. Committee chairpersons are requested to have a written report turned into the office by Friday, November 25, 2022. *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. ****

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- XII. **ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Jim Kelts to adjourn. Adjournment of meeting approved by unanimous vote.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:31p.m.

Minute notes provided by Jeramey Valley and transcribed by Stephanie Hubbarth-Bergen.

Electronically signed by Stephanie Hubbarth-Bergen on December 5, 2022.