

VALLEY COUNTY GROOMER ADVISORY BOARD

AUGUST 12, 2021

Chairman Ron Platt called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm at the Donnelly Groomer Garage. Present were Ron Platt, Mark Wood, Vic Greenfield, Ron Thiessen, Terri Klanderud and Larry Laxson. Also present were Dave Bingaman, Valley County Commissioner; Jay Jacques, from Donnelly and his guest Rex Rankin; and Ben Esplin, Mountain Meadows Adventures.

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

Jay Jacques introduced his friend, Rex Rankin.

USFS

Payette Forest – Michael Beach emailed everyone that he is working on the annual agreement. Larry Laxson requested that he include the route and mileage on the Council District.

Boise Forest – Larry Laxson commented that he is worried about the annual agreement as Jake is gone and the new Recreation Ranger is working from home in Emmett, and he is not sure she is familiar with it.

SHERIFF'S REPORT No one was in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

Avalanche Control - Ron Platt spoke with Gary Cvecich regarding how the DOT addresses their avalanche area. Gary informed him that they dig a pit every day in the Grandjean area. This is the closest location to Deadwood.

Training – Larry Laxson has a sheet that has to be signed off on for training. Basic safety training will be done by Larry Laxson; Ray Cooper and Ron Platt will do training for the equipment, and Rich Webb is going to do InReach training.

Brushing Targets – Ron Platt spoke about the different areas that need brushing. We need to get these areas on a schedule. It is up and working. Mike Anderson is giving us a crew for three days; Mark Wood will be supervising. IDPR is trying to put together all the manufacturer manuals (Groomers) and have a hands-on training session in Valley County.

Avalanche Warning Boards – Larry Meredith was not present to review. Discussion took place regarding avalanche signage and the avalanche testing boards.

OLD BUSINESS

Donnelly By-Pass/Amendments – Ron Platt mentioned that the Donnelly By-Pass was on the Commissioners' agenda and he has asked that it get kicked back to us for review. Discussion ensued regarding the semantics of the agreement and what protocol was followed. No decisions were made. Larry Laxson and Jay Jacques will meet on Tuesday, August 17th.

Equipment Update - Larry Laxson informed everyone that he is applying for a grant to purchase a Groomer under the America Recovery grant. He is applying for a PB100 to keep at Warm Lake and will go to the Commissioners, if approved, to get approval to groom into YellowPine.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT – Everything is pretty much caught up; we still need to replace the track on the PB400 at Francis Wallace. There is a public hearing on charging fees on campgrounds and parking lots. Larry has a list of fees for the Valley County Parks and Recreation; the list is available if anyone is interested.

AREA REPORTS

Smith's Ferry – The grant writer is working on several different grants to replace the roof.

West Mountain – nothing to report

Donnelly - The winter maintenance road agreements were once again discussed.

McCall Area - Mark Wood asked if anyone had any questions regarding the new "around the mountain" trail on Idaho Department of Land ground. There was also a new proposed loop off the Coppett Creek Trail. Larry Laxson stated that they are talking about a 50 inch trail that will go up and over the top. IDL is taking out the gates on the north end of Brush Creek and the top where No Business is, and putting in a lot wider gate a Brundage Lookout.

Mark talked about the Titus parking lot expansion. If NEPA goes well, it might be able to go to bid next year. Larry Laxson talked to Adams County to see if there is any help, and Commissioner Paradis stated he would see what he could do. Mark Wood also mentioned that we need to remind Commissioner Paradis that he told us he would take care of the bathrooms at Wallace Lane.

Mark asked the name of the group that is on the Trident project? Dave Bingaman said that they are called United Payette and are meeting three times a week. Mark Wood mentioned that it would be advantageous for the Advisory Board to have a seat at that table. Randy Fox is representing ICL (Idaho Conservation League).

Mark Wood motioned that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Terri Klanderud. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Mark Wood	McCall Area	Groomer Meeting	4 hours
Mark Wood		Marking trails	48 hours
		Forest Service/VC Rec	52 hours
		Maps and research	14 hours
John Hicks		Financials	6 hours
Ron Platt	Donnelly Area	Groomer Meeting	6 hours
Ron Platt		Meetings	11 hours
Vic Greenfield		Groomer Meeting	6 hours
Ron Theissen	Warm Lake	Groomer Meeting	4 hours
Ron Theissen		trail assessment/clean up	6 hours
Terri Klanderud	Smith's Ferry	Groomer Meeting	6 hours
Terri Klanderud		Minutes/Emails/Letters	3 hours