

VALLEY COUNTY GROOMER ADVISORY BOARD
February 11, 2021 7:00 pm
DONNELLY GROOMER GARAGE

Call Meeting to Order – Larry Laxson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Donnelly Groomer Garage. Present were Larry Laxson, Mark Sabin, Vic Greenfield, Larry Meredith, and Terri Klanderud. Also present were Dave Bingaman, Valley County Commissioner; Ron and Nichole Thiessen, North Shore Lodge Warm Lake/Warm Lake Riders; Carole Lundgren, The Baum Shelter, Warren; Ben Esplin, Mountain Meadows Adventure, Donnelly, and Jay Jacques, Donnelly.

Approval of January Minutes- Mark Sabin motioned the minutes be approved as presented; seconded by Vic Greenfield. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Changes to the Agenda

GUEST

CAROLE LUNDGREN- WARREN AIRSTRIP GROOMING- Carole spoke regarding grooming of the Warren Airport. She had submitted the special user permit applications, only to find out the Forest Service doesn't need one. She has received a letter from USFS to this effect. Carole also reminded everyone that their annual Sled & Shoot will be held this Saturday. Half of the proceeds are donated to the grooming program.

USFS

Payette Forest - *Michael Beach* (Not in attendance)

Boise Forest -

SHERIFF'S REPORT

No one was in attendance

NEW BUSINESS

Letter of Support/Sticker fee increase – Terri Klanderud discussed the bill that was approved off of the Committee floor on Monday, moving forward with legislation to increase the snowmobile sticker fee. This will be the first time in almost 15 years that we have asked for an increase. Discussion took place regarding the increase. Mark Sabin motioned that we send a letter of support for the tag increase; seconded by Terri Klanderud. Motion carried.

Sub-Contracting Grooming – Larry Laxson discussed the ability to sub-contract some of our grooming areas with Mountain Meadows. He is leasing private land that he is grooming, and crosses some of our trails and is willing to groom at a significantly reduced rate than what we would be capable of doing.

Enforcement – Terri Klanderud noted that on the weekend of January 16th & 17th, she checked snowmobile tags in the parking lots. At Warm Lake on Saturday, there were 38 sleds checked and only 5 that had current stickers. At the Francis Wallace parking lot on Sunday, and at Sescesh, there were 88 sleds checked with only 13 compliant. This is a serious problem and will have an adverse effect on both the grooming program and the economic impact to Valley County. We need to see some enforcement happening. Larry Laxson reported that he had received a call from Dave Stambaugh, and that he had been in McCall and they had discussed this issue. He will have someone working the parking lots during the time sleds are unloading –prior to 11 am.

Warm Lake Rider's Association – Terri Klanderud introduced Ron Thiessen, President of the Warm Lake Riders Association, and his daughter, Nichole. They have started a new Club and are over 60 members strong. They are interested in having a representative on the Groomer Board and are enthusiastic with the interested and commitment of the new Club.

OLD BUSINESS

COORDINATOR'S REPORT - Larry Laxson asked that we sent a thank you letter to Eddie at Brundage for all the assistance that he has given us on maintaining the groomers. Terri Klanderud will send a letter to him.

The final drive for the McCall Cat was a cost of \$14,000. This would devastate the program. Larry requested reimbursement from the IDPR Catastrophic Fund, and they have agreed to help us out with this.

AREA REPORTS: *Smith's Ferry, West Mountain, Donnelly, Cascade*

Mark Sabin reported the McCall Groomer Garage roof has been shoveled off.

Dave Bingaman reported that there have been three avalanches in Lick Creek in the last two weeks, and a slide last Saturday at Rock Lake.

There were 22 trailers in the Francis Wallace parking lot that were not hooked up to a vehicle. Discussion took place regarding the difficulties in the parking lot. Mark Sabin stated that we should follow the recommendation for no overnight parking.

Mark Sabin motioned that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Ron Theissen. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.