



# KOOTENAI COUNTY

## SNOWGROOMER

### **KOOTENAI COUNTY** **SNOWMOBILE ADVISORY BOARD**

#### **Minutes of Meeting**

Advisory Board Meeting – January 20, 2021  
Kootenai County Search and Rescue Building  
10865 N Ramsey Rd  
Hayden, Idaho 83835

**Members Present:** Dale Adickes, Chairman; Donald West, Vice-Chairman; Steve Powers, Board Member; Joe Wuest, Board Member; Tom Stangeland, Board Member

**Members Absent:** Lavern Welton, Board Member; Al Beauchene, Board Member

**Staff Present:** Lynnell Smith, Administrative Secretary

**Others Present:** Orin Moses, CDA Snowmobile Club; Sergeant Ryan Miller, Kootenai County Sheriff's Office; Deputy Brett Flecher, Kootenai County Sheriff's Office; Deputy Adam Zitterkopf, Kootenai County Sheriff's Office

Chairman Dale Adickes called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Chairman Dale Adickes asked for approval of minutes of the December 23, 2020 meeting.

**Motion: Joe Wuest moved to accept the minutes as written. Don West seconded. Motion carried.**

#### **Old Business:**

Dale asked Joe Wuest what was discussed at his meeting with Director Nick Snyder and Operations Manager Jake Strange on the maps and routes for the groomers. They discussed at least 3 main trails and looking at what is best for the others. Main routes like Fourth of July, and having one groomer stay at Fernan.

Joe also said that they discussed cutting trees out of the way of the groomer and the groomer department would appreciate any help they can get in this area.

Joe mentioned that Nate Sparks, from Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, had a conversation with Larry Laxson, of the Idaho State Snowmobile Association, about the proposal of raising the registration amount to \$49.50 and \$99.00 for rental sleds. This proposed legislation is still moving forward. Orin Moses stated that the snowmobile club needs to try to get support from legislators going forward and also asking clubs for letters of support. Orin Moses did respond for the CDA Snowmobile Club with a letter of support to the State Snowmobile Association. Increased funding will be better as it has not had an increase since 2007.

#### **New Business: NONE**

#### **Reports:**

**Staff Reports: Administrative Secretary Lynnell Smith brought forward discussion Items on behalf of Director Nick Snyder;**

The loader that was being repaired is finished –Fernan road and parking lot have been plowed 3 times over the past week.

The Snowgroomer department sander truck is down-Hydraulic pump failure and belt drive chain failure.

All the staff were deployed at 5:00am the morning of January 20, 2021 to replace the failed final drive on the 2012 groomer. Cost for the part is \$13,000. Director Snyder requested reimbursement from the state. Lynnell was asked if it was the same machine as last year and she explained that it was, but was the other side, and that one was a rebuilt and those have been failing. They are going to ask about replacing that as well.

We got approval from the Forest Service to post signs along the Fernan grade. We hope this simple heads-up will encourage drivers to consider alternate locations.

### **Kootenai County Sheriff's Office:**

**Sergeant Ryan Miller-** Ryan stated that he went out with the Sheriff's office and Search and Rescue for snowmobile training. He is still sore from that day and said he got a great workout. Ryan said it's going to take him a little bit to get used to it, as he is from Florida and only saw pictures of snowmobiles.

**Deputy, Brett Flecher** – 10 citations have been written so far for parking permits or barricade violations. No crashes have been reported at this time and one burnt out truck was found at Hayden Creek Rd 206. At Fernan, only 5 educational opportunities were given for groomer stickers. Most of the people they came across had up to date registrations and groomer stickers. The Sheriff's office was at Fernan and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July over the weekend.

**Deputy, Adam Zitterkopf** – Sheriff' Office received a couple of reports about wheeled vehicles/ side by sides behind barricades, but when he was in the area he did not see any. Many snowshoers are out and about in Fernan area he was able to speak with people on how to best park when they are in single cars without trailers to make room for others. Compliance at Fernan is the biggest problem.

### **Member Reports:**

Dale Adickes asked if we could sell IDPR stickers at our location. Lynnell Smith stated she would ask director Nick Snyder. The consensus of the group was probably not.

The group was worried that people just wouldn't register their snowmobiles because it has been such a difficulty for people.

Joe Wuest stated that when he was talking to Nick and Jake, they mentioned looking for a surplus sander from the state or other agencies. This would be placed in the dump truck. Joe asked that maybe Jake or someone call Eastside Highway District to ask them if they would maybe sand the Fernan grade once for us. The board agreed it would be worth asking the highway district. People were calling saying that Fernan is a sheet of ice. Hope it can be sanded by the weekend would be very helpful.

Dale Adickes discussed with the group continuing to help with tree removal from the trails in order to help the groomers out. Deputy Zitterkopf stated that Shoshone County was also working on tree removal as well. Dale also asked that everyone keep track of their volunteer hours in order to help with grants in the future.

Dale Adickes said that he has had a few calls from the public and on Facebook about the lack of posting of recently groomed trails. The entire group said they would like to see updates on how many days the groomer groomed that week and what trails have been groomed. Even something simple such as: Skitwish area was groomed on Tuesday, Crooked Ridge was groomed Wednesday. It does not have to state exact road numbers.

Joe Wuest mentioned to Jake that there is an additional parking area near the Bunco lot and if we just ask Highway district to plow that out a bit extra, it's a larger extended shoulder area that can be plowed for additional parking.

**Public Comments:**

Rodney Waller asked about who to call when he sees people moving the barricades. Sergeant Ryan Miller told him to call the non-emergency 208-446-1300 Sheriff's office number. Rodney asked if Shoshone County would want them to report it the same way. Sergeant Miller said he would think so but to just call Shoshone County Sheriff and ask them that same question. Sergeant Miller suggested when possible, take pictures of the people moving the barricades, without putting yourselves in any danger. The more details the better.

Joe wants to notify the Snowmobile Club that they still need help cutting trees for the groomers. There are still a lot of trees down and it will take the groomer forever to groom a trail the way it is.

Deputy Zitterkopf also commented that Shoshone county volunteers have been out cutting trees as well.

Chairman Dale Adickes asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Motion: Tom Stangeland moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Don West all were in favor; the motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynnell M. Smith  
Recording Secretary