

Birchwood Bobcat Riders Annual Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 16, 2014

VicePresident Tim Lee called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 21 members present. The agenda, minutes, and financial reports were distributed.

Approval of the Agenda: **Bob Ellerbruch/Gary Koel/. Motion carried.**

Approval of the minutes of the 3/19/14 meeting: **Gary Koel/Jim Fischer. Motion carried.**

Financial Reports: The reports were reviewed. The checking account balance on 4/16/14 is \$31,095.42.

Motion: Jim Fischer/Mike Robotka to accept the report. Motion carried.

Elections

- **President** - Several nominations were made with all nominees declining, except Rick Oswald. **Motion: Mike Robotka/Jim Fischer to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Rick Oswald for President. Motion carried.**
- **Secretary** - LaVonne Thompson was nominated. **Motion: Mike Paul/Dave Drew to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for LaVonne Thompson for Secretary. Motion carried.**
- **Board members** - Nominees: Dave Drew, Steve Bethke, Bob Ellerbruch, Lee Ellerbruch, Gary Koel and Roger Beffa. **Motion: Lee Ellerbruch/Jim Fischer to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the above-named to serve on the board. Motion carried.**
- **Delegates to the Sawyer County Alliance** - Dave Drew, Mike Robotka, Bob Ellerbruch, Steve Bethke, Gary Koel; alternate Roger Beffa volunteered to serve. Mike Robotka volunteered to serve on the Alliance Executive Committee.
- **Trail Captain** - Mike Robotka will continue to serve in this capacity.

Trail Captain Recognition - Motion: Gary Koel/Jim Fischer authorizing \$599 to be paid to Trail Captain Mike Robotka for his dedication and outstanding work. Motion carried.

Committee Reports and Appointments

- **Building and grounds** - Mike Robotka reported that:
 - the water can now be turned off; running the stream of water has improved water quality
 - the water heater was drained
 - the roof needs to be checked; look at replacement in a couple years
 - all locks on the building will be changed next month
 - the parking lot needs more gravel **Motion: Bob Ellerbruch/Jim Fischer authorizing the purchase of 24 yards of gravel for the parking lot. Motion carried.**
 - the equipment is in good repair
- **Trails** - Mike Robotka is working with Mark Heil with the Washburn County Forestry Department to work out the details for trail reroutes and maintenance. Discussion was held with regard to options for reroutes. Grants may be available for some of this work.
- **Membership** - LaVonne Thompson reported 119 family and single members and 52 business members.
- **Sawyer County Alliance Report**
 - The annual banquet was held on April 15th at the Wannigan with good attendance
 - Gary Koel was recognized as the most avid snowmobiler having logged more than 5,000 miles.
 - Mike Robotka received the service and maintenance award.
 - planning for the 30th anniversary is in progress; the event will be held on Saturday, September 13th.
 - an attempt is being made to organize a teen program in the Hayward area
- **Public Relations/Fundraising** - Steve Bethke reported that:
 - Raffle winners and Gary and Mike's recognition by the Alliance will be published in next month's

- issue of the Birchwood News.
- Kids Games during the Bluegills Fest will be managed by Mary Stoeklen, a member of the Lions. **Motion: Mike Thompson/Jim Fischer authorizing \$250 to support the Kids Games. Motion carried.**
- "Open house" at the Berry Road shelter - Discussion was held with regard to the date, menu and location for this event. **Motion: Lee Ellerbruch/Mike Paul to hold the event on Saturday, May 24th at the clubhouse. Motion carried.**
- **Map Boxes** - Liz Drew reported that map boxes will be checked later this month and ATV maps distributed.
- **Social** - A proposed summer ride calendar was distributed. **Motion: Lee Ellerbruch/Roger Beffa to publish and distribute a summer ride calendar. Motion carried.**

Other Business

- **By-laws** - Article III. Section 2 was reviewed. Changes were recommended as follows:
 - Article III. Section 1.b. change from 90 days to 60 days
 - Article III. Section 2.b. change due date to anniversary date
 - Article III. Section 3.b. change to "A family membership shall have a maximum of two votes, provided the two voting members meet all other voting requirements."
 - Article III. Section 3 add c - "A business membership shall have a maximum of two votes, provided the two voting members meet all other voting requirements."
 - Article III. Section 3. - change the existing c to d
 - **Motion: LaVonne Thompson/Mary Helen Drew to approve the above-noted changes to the by-laws. Motion carried.**
- Mike Robotka reported that he, Gary Koel, and Roger Beffa looked at a 1992 LMC groomer which Mike recommends that the club purchase for \$6,000. He explained that the club needs a back-up groomer for use in Washburn County, and this unit would be a good investment for the club. Discussion was held with regard to the club's current obligations, the condition of the roof and the cost to rehab the groomer being purchased. **Motion: Jim Fischer/Mary Helen Drew authorizing up to \$10,000 to purchase and recondition the 1992 LMC groomer recommended by Mike Robotka. Motion carried.**
- Lee Ellerbruch noted that new maps need to be printed for 2015-2016.
- Steve Bethke reported that there are 48 sweatshirts and t-shirts remaining from the club's original order.
- Roger Roux solicited support for opening the roads in the Town of Cedar Lake for ATV travel to the trail system. The town's annual meeting is on Saturday, April 26th at 10:00 a.m. at the Cedar Lake Townhall. Members were encouraged to attend the meeting.
- Mike Paul announced that he is receiving an award from the DNR for 30 years of service as a snowmobile safety instructor. He would like the club to be recognized for their support over the years. Steve Bethke will coordinate publication in the Birchwood News.
- Mike Paul announced that the DNR has published notification to permanently eliminate the field portion of ATV and snowmobile safety class training. It was noted that this component of the training is an important segment of the education process to ensure that young riders experience hands on safe operation.

50/50 - Mike Robotka won the money!!

Next Meeting - Wednesday, May 21st at 7:00 p.m. at the clubhouse.

Adjournment: Motion: Bob Ellerbruch/Steve Bethke. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by LaVonne Thompson, Secretary