

Birchwood Bobcat Riders Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 15, 2014

President Rick Oswalt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 18 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 9/17/14 meeting: **Gary Koel/Bob Ellerbruch.** Correction: net profit from Alliance 30th Anniversary was \$79.35. **Motion carried.**

Financial Reports: Gladys Roux reported that

- checking account balance on 10/15/14 is \$43,899.18
- drag purchase was \$3,500
- landowner's meal cost was \$375
- income includes bank loan of \$20,000 secured from Dairy State Bank on 10/3/14

Motion: Gary Koel/Bob Ellerbruch to accept the report. Motion carried.

Trails/Equipment/Building & Grounds -Mike Robotka reported that:

- trail improvement/reroute grants were approved for Washburn County trails. Work will begin next year
- it might be helpful to post the number to call on the trails so that work needed could be reported
- Trail 26 is partially closed. It might be helpful to get volunteers out to monitor speed and remind users to respect the use of private property.
- drag recently purchased is here - take a look
- LMC groomer rehab is close to completion
- BR-160 needs tires - 3 tires will cost about \$150 each
- don't drop off waste oil at the clubhouse
- don't burn garbage that contains bottles
- Monday, October 20 is a work day - meet at the clubhouse at 9 a.m. to help with signing
- Washburn County ATV trails close the third Sunday in October
- the Tuscobia trail is closed from 11/15 - 12/15.
- recently purchased equipment needs to be insured. Rick will follow up with our agent.
- It was suggested that we develop a method to keep track of our expenses for each machine so that the club is in a better position to budget for purchases and repairs.
- pick-up is getting worn and needs some repairs
- remember to keep track of and report time and equipment used when you are out working on the trails; this information is needed for billing purposes.
- Mike will follow up with Mark Heil regarding the status of releasing funds due from last year's contracts
- brushing and trail maintenance with the posi-trac is in progress
- new tracks for the BR-160 will be available in approximately two weeks

Membership - LaVonne reported 137 family and individual members and 53 business members. Steve Bethke explained the effect of the new trail pass legislation, which goes into effect on 7/15/2015.

Map Boxes - \$29.00 collected

Web Site - merchandise for sale has been added. PayPal function is working. Discussion was held on flat rate shipping and handling of \$7.00.

Public Relations - Steve Bethke reported that:

- this month's article in the Birchwood News will feature the Alliance 30th Anniversary Bash.
- the newspaper continues to run our "ride safely and responsibly" display ad for free. The club

may want to consider a donation for this service sometime in the future.

- Steve presented the concept to raise funds and educate the general public on the cost of maintaining snowmobile trails. The plan would be to place an old snowmobile boot with a donation can insert at local businesses. There would be a sign attached stating the cost of equipment, etc.; for example "the groomer needs new shoes". Support was expressed for Steve to proceed with this project.

Map Ads - Committee members are Maryhelen Drew, Lee Ellerbruch, Gary Koel, Roger Beffa and Rick Oswalt.

- Maryhelen reported that 26 ads were sold for the Sawyer County map.
- Lee Ellerbruch is working on mailings, etc for the clubs 2-year ATV/snowmobile map. Rick volunteered to help with this project.

Old Business

- **Building and Equipment Use** - Rick volunteered to put together a log book for user sign-up.
- **Landowners/Volunteers Appreciation Dinner** - Event was not well attended by landowners. Food was good. Thanks to all the volunteers!
- **Billboard for Business Advertisements** -
 - It was suggested that the "board" be constructed on wheels for ease in moving.
 - Advertisers are being sought in conjunction with the club's map ad promotion.
- **"Adopt a Trail"** - this project is on hold.
- **Raffle License** - The application has been submitted. It was suggested that tickets be distributed before deer hunting season. Discussion was held with regard to the pay-out. The committee will work on this as well as getting the tickets printed and distributed.

New Business

- **Bank Loan** - Rick reported that a \$20,000 loan with Dairy State Bank has been secured for the purchase of new tracks for the BR-160 and for incidental related expenses. The loan will be repaid in monthly installments with a 5-year pay back.

Other Business - None

Correspondence

- Sawyer County Forestry Dept meeting agenda and minutes (posted)

50/50 - Ken Leners won the money!

Next Meeting - Wednesday, November 19th at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Motion: Bob Ellerbruch/Roger Beffa. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary LaVonne Thompson

Dates to Note: October 21st and November 18th - Sawyer County Alliance Meeting