

**Birchwood Bobcat Riders Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, February 19, 2014**

President Jeff Johnston called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. There were 16 members present. The agenda, minutes, and financial reports were distributed.

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

Approval of the minutes of the 1/15/14 meeting: **Roger Beffa/Jim Fischer. Motion carried.**

**Financial Reports:** The reports were reviewed. The checking account balance on 2/19/14 is \$25,190.62.

**Motion: Gary Koel/Roger Beffa to accept the report. Motion carried.**

**Trails/Equipment** - Mike Robotka reported:

- the club will be receiving a check in the amount of \$7,304.75 from Washburn County, which is payment for grooming and ATV winter maintenance.
- a meeting with Town of Birchwood Chairman was attended by Mike Robotka, Jeff Johnston and Mark Heil to discuss trail issues, especially the Crystal Point re-route scheduled to be completed by Fall.
- trails are in excellent condition; thank you to volunteers for their work grooming the trails.
- the Town of Edgewater board will consider an ordinance at their March meeting to open all of their town roads to ATV travel to give residents access to the trail system
- the Sawyer County Alliance will be contracted for brushing and maintenance of 58 miles of the Tuscobia Trail
- plans are in the works to gravel the portion of the Tuscobia Trail in Washburn County
- discussion was held with regard to options to patrol the trails and address landowner concerns
- County Forester Greg Peterson is again responsible for the recreational trails in Sawyer County.

**Membership** - LaVonne Thompson reported 124 family and single members and 51 business members. Notices and membership forms are being mailed to members to remind them to renew their membership.

**Map Boxes** - Liz Drew and Gary Koel collected money and restocked map boxes last weekend.

**Web Site** - Rick is working on updating the site.

**Public Relations** - Steve Bethke reported that:

- there will be two articles in the Birchwood News to include reports on trail grooming and the new logo. He will place a display ad promoting safety and responsible riding. The 2/28/14 issue will contain articles on the DNR safety course and the raffle fundraiser.
- It was suggested that an article about our club be submitted for publication in the AWSC magazine. Steve volunteered to work on it.

**Organization Development**

- the IRS 1024 application is pending
- The dump truck is now titled to the club; Jeff plans to take care of the vehicle title transfer for the pick-up next week

**Old Business**

- **Raffle Tickets** - Everyone's help is needed to ensure successful sales.
- **YouthAmbassador** - Dorie Forward reported that Jenna Henk has been selected. Discussion was held on whether or not other applications were received.
- **Financial Audit** - Rick Oswalt, Tim Lee and Roger Beffa reported that the 2013 financial audit was completed. The records were found to be accurate, complete and in good order. No discrepancies in the transactions were noted.
  
- **Clothing Order** - Steve Bethke reported that pre-orders for clothing totaled about 2 dozen items. No

clothing was ordered. Discussion followed on how to proceed and color preference for clothing items. **Motion: Roger Beffa/Gladys Roux authorizing \$900 for the purchase of forest green t-shirts and sweatshirts in a variety of adult sizes. Motion carried.**

- **Weather-proof logo stickers** - Steve Bethke advised that 1,000 stickers about the size of an index card could be purchased for \$300. It was suggested that 2 stickers be provided to family club members and one sticker for a single membership. Additional stickers could be purchased for \$1 each. **Motion: Jim Fischer/Bob Ellerbruch authorizing \$300 for the purchase of 1,000 weather-proof stickers. Motion carried.**

#### **New Business**

- **Raffle Drawing on 3/22/14** - Discussion was held on the meal and activities. Jim Fischer, Gary Koel, Jeff Johnston, Liz Drew, Roger Beffa, Mike Robotka and Steve Bethke volunteered to contact businesses to obtain paddle raffle prizes and to coordinate the event.
- **WATVA Membership** - **Motion: Steve Bethke/Ted Simpson authorizing \$80 to renew the club's membership with WATVA. Motion carried.**
- **Edgewater St. Patrick's Day Parade** - Jim Fischer, Tim Lee, Rick Oswalt, Gary Koel, Roger Beffa, Mike Robotka and Steve Bethke volunteered to work on this project.

#### **Other Business**

- Steve Bethke reported that he will be writing an article about the club to be published in the Bluegill Fest booklet. He suggested that the club purchase a small ad in the booklet. **Motion: Steve Bethke/Bob Ellerbruch authorizing \$45 to purchase an ad in the 2014 Bluegill Fest booklet. Motion carried.**
- Roger Roux provided an update on his request to the Town of Cedar Lake board to open town roads allowing ATV travel for town residents to access the trail system. The Board denied his request to have this issue placed on a future town board meeting agenda. Other avenues to address this need were discussed.

#### **Correspondence and calendar updates:**

- WATVA Annual Meeting and Workshop - March 28 - 30 (information is posted at the clubhouse)
- AWSC Snowmobiling Sport Show on February 20 at Heartwood
- Birchwood Chamber Meat Raffles from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on 2/28 at the Bluegill Bar and on 3/15 at the Chit Chat Bar
- Sawyer County Alliance meeting on 3/18 at the Deerfoot Lodge

**Next meeting - Wednesday, March 19th at 7:00 p.m.**

**50/50** - Mike Robotka won the money!

**The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by LaVonne Thompson, Secretary