

ROCK COUNTY ALLIANCE OF SNOWMOBILE CLUBS

November 4, 2015

Call to Order: at Edgerton Towne Country Club by President Bob Kaiser

Roll Call: Alliance officers present: Bob Kaiser, Sandy Tiffany, Jackie Olson. Absent: Don Myers. 8 clubs present. Absent: N. Rock County Club & Youth Riders, Rock County Snowblowers

Secretary's Report: Sandy Tiffany read the October 7th secretary's report. Steve Fausnaugh made a motion to approve the secretary's report. Gary Stapleman seconded it, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Copies of the treasurer's report were distributed. Jackie Olson read it, a copy is on file in the secretary's book. Levi Olson made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Josh Wendtland seconded it, motion carried.

Pay Bills: Bills were presented for payment. Dan Buttchen made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Levi Olson seconded it, motion carried. Savanna Wendtland from the Clinton Fencehoppers ran for Miss Snowflake. Erica Keehn also ran for Miss Snowflake and the Alliance paid for her hotel room. Levi Olson made a motion to pay for Savanna's hotel room. Motion was seconded by Scott Johnson and carried.

AWSC Director's Report/Workshop Report: It was great to see all of the kids involved and their enthusiasm at Workshop. The antique snowmobile registration bill passed. Registration fee for any sled 35 years or older is \$20 for 3 years and \$5 each year after, and will only have one sticker that indicates it is an antique – no separate trail pass required. Stickers can be purchased from the DNR. There is legislation for non-residents to the same effect. Anyone can purchase a trail pass sticker for \$30 from the DNR. If purchased online you can print out a temporary receipt until the stickers come in the mail. If you belong to a club you can purchase a trail pass sticker from the AWSC for \$10, and they are mailed from the DNR. It takes about a week, so it is in everyone's best interest to get your membership in early so you have your trail pass before the trails open. The trail pass system is working well. Membership is up. Clubs should get new and renewal memberships in to the AWSC right away so people can get their trail passes, but no more than once per day. Clubs should get a membership packet together for new members. Some items could be a club calendar, club website/Facebook info, trail map and trail pass info and Alliance info. There was a workshop on raffles. We can only sell raffle tickets in our state, and it is a federal offense with a 10-20 year sentence if you cross state lines. We can't use paddles for a raffle, must use 2-part tickets. If having a raffle for a charitable organization or anything else, we can only donate to something snowmobile related. (You can donate to anything, but a raffle is limited to what your club does.) If using pre-printed labels, only one name can be on as purchaser. If the label has two names, cross out one. If you have something like a duck race, a ticket should be given to the purchaser. If you give away something, like a pen, with the purchase of each raffle ticket, it no longer is a raffle because everyone wins something. Christine Jourdain was a speaker from the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA). She talked about their purpose – they represent all snowmobiling states – some of which is to work with the Forest Service, National Park Service, Federal Highway Admin, and are looking at the increasing use of ATV/UTV's and Fat Tire bikes on trails. They have free webinars in the evening at www.snowmobileinfo.org. Some DOT

projects will affect trails. If you know of a project that may be coming up in the future that could affect your trail, it is important to go to meetings and register that you are there and are looking out for the snowmobiler's interests. Cathy Burrow from the DNR talked about funding. Since it was a low snow year last year and only 15 counties applied for supplemental grooming, the balance left in the fund will stay there and not go back to the state. They are looking at how to spend the additional money coming in from trail passes. There will be more money for bridge rehab and trail rehab. They are having a snow chat on the DNR website on Dec 2nd to try and get the word out about trail passes. They are also trying to get back to inspecting trails again, and are recommending that clubs GPS their trails. Col. Don Hamilton talked about the Military Ride. It is a snowmobile trip organized for current and former military servicemen and their families. It was started in 2008 and is a 2-day event held in Eagle River, so they can go on a ride and attend the Eagle River Ice Derby. They provide snowmobiles and gear, and everything is available free of charge to participants. Each year they try to take a few more people, and it is only possible through generous donations. SnowGoer magazine is offering a one-year subscription for \$10, with \$5.00 of that going to the AWSC. Offer is good through Feb 1, 2016. Contact Sandy Tiffany, 608-751-4218, for a copy of the offer.

Trail Report: Signs and posts are at Levi's house. Not everyone will get all they ordered last year because we ordered bridge re-decking material. Clubs should see what they really need and contact Levi to pick up. Landowner lists were handed out, be sure to check for any changes and get one copy back to Levi. Previous changes are marked in red. Landowner checks will be paid from these lists. Road signs must be turned by Thanksgiving. If you have a sign that needs to be replaced, or is not needed, let Levi know ASAP. Put up stop signs at road crossings if possible. Be sure to keep track of time and equipment used when putting in trails. Most often missed on these reports is a trailer. Most clubs have electronic copies of trail maintenance sheets, or Levi has blank forms for those who don't. He needs everyone to be as accurate and consistent as possible because there is a chance of being audited. At the general meeting at Workshop they talked about GPS'ing trails. In this part of the state we frequently move a trail, usually from one side of the field to the other, or from one field to another, which would alter GPS locations slightly. They also talked about putting GPS in groomers. The DNR would monitor this. Groomer Tracking System, GTS, is currently being used in a few counties up north in a pilot program. It would eliminate paperwork and reduce administrative costs. Information entered into this system would be tiered, to include non-grooming trail maintenance and grooming hours. So far it is just being tested and ideas being discussed. A new trail from New Glarus to Sauk City is almost put together. There was a problem going thru Blue Mound State Park but they are working on it.

President's Report: None

Groomer Report: Tracks for the north groomer can be picked up anytime and should be on before trails open.

Youth Advisor Report: Erica would like to thank the Alliance for their help and support. The AWSC scholarship raffle was successful. They met Cordell Potter, Eagle River Ice Derby champion, at Workshop.

Old Business: We have plenty of maps left from last year. These should get us at least through the early part of the season. Levi will have info about Chapter 33 bylaws next month. Any club who wants to put up “Entering ... territory” or “Leaving ... territory” can make up their own signs.

New Business: Erica would like updates from clubs to put on the Alliance website, especially activities or events. Also if a club has a Facebook page please let her know so she can get a link to the AWSC. Lynsey Burzinski has applied to be the Rock County Youth Rep. One of the requirements is that you have to be high school age. Erica Keehn is in college and is considered a KAOS Youth Advisor. Scott Johnson made a motion to accept Lynsey. Motion was seconded by Dan Buttchen and carried.

Announcements:

Dec 2, Alliance meeting, Janesville Snow Chiefs, 7:30 pm at Maintenance Bldg, Clinton
Jan 6, Alliance meeting, Clinton Fencehoppers, 7:30 pm at Maintenance Bldg, Clinton
Feb 3, Alliance meeting, Country Riders

Safety Courses:

Clinton's is Nov 10 & 11
Sundowners is Nov 12 & 14
Milton's is Nov 16 & 19
Rock County Sheriff's Dept are Nov 7, Dec 12, Jan 9 and Feb 6

Kate Fuchs made a motion to adjourn. Wally Goeglein seconded it, motion carried. Thanks to the Sundowners for providing snacks.

Submitted,

Sandy Tiffany
Secretary