

## RESOLUTION REGARDING OPERATION OF SNOWMOBILES ON COUNTY ROADS

WHEREAS, the past polity of the Gogebic County Road Commission of not authorizing the operation of snowmobiles on county roads has proven burdensome and unworkable for law enforcement personnel,

WHEREAS, the Gogebic County Road Commission has met with representatives from the Gogebic County Sheriff's Department, township police departments, township officials, Gogebic County Board members, and DNRE Conservation Officer to gather public opinion towards snowmobiles on the road system under the jurisdiction of Gogebic County Road Commission,

WHEREAS, all counties which are adjacent to Gogebic County have opened their county roads to snowmobiles and this lack of uniformity has created confusion with some snowmobile users and imposed difficulties on law enforcement personnel,

WHEREAS, liability laws have recently changed and now provide greater protection to road commissions which open their roads to snowmobilers,

WHEREAS, the road commission has been presented with DNRE data showing no difference in fatalities between counties which do and do not open their roads to snowmobilers,

WHEREAS, the road commission recognizes the importance of snowmobile tourism to the economy of northern Michigan and the state,

WHEREAS, the road commission shall erect and maintain, in accordance with the Michigan manual of uniform traffic control devices standards, the basic snowmobile sign unit together with a supplemental panel stating "PERMITTED ON RIGHT-OF-WAY OR SHOULDER OF ALL GOGEBIC COUNTY ROADS – MCL 324.82119. EXCEPT AS POSTED" at the county line on all state trunk line highways and county roads,

WHEREAS, the township officials shall formally notify the road commission of specific roads the township requests to be posts for no snowmobiles with the Board of County Road Commissioner's making final determination,

WHEREAS, the Gogebic County Road Commission has decided that it is now appropriate to revise its policy regarding snowmobiles and county roads,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the operation of snowmobiles is authorized on all county roads in the Gogebic County road system on the right-of-way or shoulder when no right-of-way exists on all snowplowed roads in the Gogebic County road system which are outside of incorporated city or village, which is designated and marked for snowmobile use by the county road commission having jurisdiction.

Passed at Gogebic County Road Commission Meeting on Monday, October 11, 2010