



**Fifield Sno Drovers**  
**CLUB NEWSLETTER**

**Mike Sloane – President**

**W761 Whitmore Rd, Park Falls, WI 54552**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 13th at 6:00 PM at the Round Up**  
Below are the minutes from the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting at Peninsula Pines

Meeting called to order by President, Mike Sloane at 7:00 pm.  
There were 37 people who attended the meeting.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all members.

**SECRETARY REPORT**

Minutes from the previous meeting were emailed to all members. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Jim Nelson/2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick Sironi. Motion carried.

**TREASURER REPORT**

Ryan Howe reported the beginning balance, expenditures, deposits, and ending balance. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Rick Sironi/2<sup>nd</sup> by Melissa Dupke. Motion carried.

**Membership: 218**

New member – Jason Carlson new owner of Moose Jaw was present.

**TRAIL AND EQUIPMENT REPORT**

All eight of the scheduled workdays have been completed. There was an average of 14 workers per workday which is outstanding. There was 342 hours entered into the SNARS system as a result of the great work. Every Sno Drover's trail has been went over at least once. A shoutout to all who used their personal equipment to maintain the trails!

Trail 106 has now been brushed and signed. This trail is a reroute connecting to Iron County.

We received approval from the Forest Service for a short reroute of Trail 120 to Foulds Creek to eliminate riding on Sheep Ranch Rd.

A gate was replaced at the Oneida County line.

One bridge deck was replaced near Hick's Landing road and a bridge surface off of Highway 70 was secured.

The trail located at the north end of Pike Lake has been rerouted. This will allow Leo Kalmerton to better maintain this trail. Stump grinding will take place on this trail as well as others.

The paper version of the No Trespassing signs is now available to be placed in establishments on the Sno Drover trails. The metal signs are still being made and will be delivered to the groomer barn in Phillips for distribution to the Price County clubs. Clubs will be billed individually for these signs. Troy Larson, President of the PCSTA, was present at our meeting and indicated the metal signs should be placed off of the trail at a 90 degree angle to alert snowmobilers they are no longer on a designated trail. Stay Between the Blazer signs are also available from Rent A Flash and can be used by the clubs.

Roy Funk has contacted the Forest Service regarding the beaver dams causing issues on Trail 101. Roy has been told that this will be taken care of. There are five beaver dams per the Forest Service. The Forest Service will be asked to grant permission for the Club to address the issue if not resolved by the end of the week.

There were many signs replaced and additional signs have been ordered.

The Pike Lake Chain Fire Chief has approved the clean up of the groomer area located in the fire barn. Volunteers will be needed to assist with this. Jim Nelson and Rick Sironi will obtain permission to dispose of certain items. Mike Sloane to send email soliciting volunteers.

### **GROOMER UPDATES**

Groomer training has been scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup>. There are currently 21 volunteer groomers. Mike Ida has made a few updates to the groomer protocol. The final grooming schedule will be out this week to all groomers.

The grooming schedule of non-funded trails was discussed as well as the various ways to reduce depreciation and the cost of operation of the tractor. Troy Larson calculated this expense to be \$45 per hour when not grooming funded trails or grooming in a required manner. Contributors to this expense included idling more than seven minutes, running roads and operating the groomer faster than 15 mph.

A discussion took place at our October 11th meeting regarding when grooming operations should begin. Troy Larson made some clarifications to this question. Price County does not have zones like some other counties. The Price County trails are all open or all closed. Establishing zones in Price County has been a discussion in the past. The trails the Sno Drovers groom are unique because many are in the national forest. Four inches of snow is needed on all surfaces before the Forest Service will allow opening of the trails. A clarification will be obtained as to whether grooming can begin following muzzleloader deer season which ends December 7th or if we would be required to wait until the antlerless deer season closes which is December 11<sup>th</sup> before grooming.

Troy also clarified the teamwork that is expected in the event another Price County club experiences a breakdown with their groomer. The Price County Snowmobile Trail Association (PCSTA) is available to answer our questions.

### **COUNTY MEETING**

The county meeting will occur on November 14<sup>th</sup>. No report available.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

An update on the BRAAP fest was given by Roy Funk. The Mercer Sno-Goers involvement in the BRAAP fest was confirmed. They will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs and brats. We are at liberty to sell these items or do something different. Roy confirmed that he has communicated with Craig at Springstead that we are "in". Suggestions for our menu included chili and pulled pork. Both being easy to prepare and serve out of a Nesco. The Board will discuss the menu at a future upcoming meeting. There were 3,500 people who attended the BRAAP Fest event last year.

An update on the clothing sale was given by Derek Dieringer. Derek has been working with Eric Strey on the clothing sale. Items now also include a quarter-zip sweatshirt and a full-zip sweatshirt. Clothing orders must be in by 11:59 pm on November 25<sup>th</sup>. It is recommended that orders be placed online but can also be done by mail. Orders will be delivered

locally for distribution. Ann Sloane volunteered to store items that could not be delivered on the designated date to allow for alternate pick up days.

Members also discussed selling apparel at The Big Dipper and at the BRAAP Fest. A motion was made by Cindy Ley and 2nd by Bonnie Ida to only sell online at this time.

A shout out was given to all who helped make the Kickoff Party a success.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Christmas Party is scheduled on December 13<sup>th</sup> at the Round Up. Members are asked to bring hors d'oeuvres or desserts to round out our delicious dinner. The festivities start at 6 pm.

Winter run planning is underway. Posters to be distributed at the Christmas Party.

MTA by Rick Sironi and seconded by Pat Ley. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Kuss