

Snowmobile Advisory Council  
Holden – Eastern Maine Snowmobilers Clubhouse  
June 29, 2021  
9:02am – 11:09am

At 9:02am, Gary Marquis called the meeting to order.

**Agenda Item: Introductions.** Participants (*Alphabetical Order*):

Council Members:

Brad Barker, Organizations of Interest, Leeds Stumpjumpers  
Craig Lemieux, Four Winds S.C.  
Gary Marquis, City of Caribou  
Matt Stedman, Large Landowners, Irving Woodlands, Ashland S.C  
Mike Grass Jr, MSA President, Sebasticook Valley S.C.  
Steve Dudley, Municipal Grants, Rangeley S.C.  
Sue Rogers, Southern Maine, Portage Lakers S.C.

Not Present:

Blaine King, Club Grants, Bowlin-Matagamon S.C.  
Joe Kruse, Coburn Summit Riders  
Don Berry

Off-Road Recreational Vehicle Office Staff:

Candice Pinkham, Planning and Research Assistant  
Joe Higgins, Snowmobile Program Supervisor  
Lana LaPlante-Ellis, Senior Planner

Public:

Al Swett, Maine Snowmobile Association  
Larry Lafland, Eastern Maine Snowmobilers

**Agenda Item: Term limits of Council Seats.**

Terms Expiring in September 2021:

Blaine King, Bowlin-Matagamon S.C.  
Craig Lemieux (Staying on another term.)  
Steve Dudley (Staying on another term.)

Terms Expiring in September 2022:

Brad Barker, Organizations of Interest, Leeds Stumpjumpers (Staying on another term.)  
Matt Stedman,  
Mike Grass Jr., Programs of Interest in Snowmobiling, MSA President. (Staying on another term.)  
Sue Rogers,

*\*Candidates will need to submit a resume which will go to the Commissioner who will choose the new council members.*

**Agenda Item: Capital Equipment Grant Application Scoring.**

**Machines UNDER 20k:**

Funding adjustments on applications who already purchased equipment:

\$2,500.00 -- Embden Travelers  
\$5,000.00 -- Rome Ruff Riders  
\$3,000.00 -- Sno-Devils  
\$3,000.00 -- Turner

Making these adjustments help fund:

\$2,500.00 -- Standish Sno-Seekers  
\$3,000.00 -- Palermo S.C.

Gary Marquis motioned to keep these adjustments to help fund two more clubs.

Moved by Mike Grass Jr.

Second by Sue Rogers.

One opposed, motion carries.

13 machines under 20k were funded.

**Machines OVER 20K:**

USDA Grant scores are NOT in currently. They don't have a Director who is a part of their scoring process. The Snowmobile Program will let clubs know who are funded as is and if USDA grants are awarded and funds are available, Joe will notify clubs of additional funding. Won't broadcast until USDA grant approvals are available.

9 machines over 200 thousand were funded. (Before USDA approvals)

Mike Grass Jr. motioned to accept the scores as printed.

Moved by Matt Stedman.

Second by Gary Marquis.

All in favor.

**Agenda Item: LD280 Impact.**

Bill was written as:

\$10.00 increase to residents (\$45 to \$55)  
\$20.00 increase to 3-day non-residents (\$49 to \$69)  
\$20.00 increase to 10-day non-residents (\$75 to \$95)  
\$20.00 increase to season non-residents (\$99 to \$119)

Bill passed as:

\$10.00 increase to residents (\$45 to \$55)  
\$25.00 increase to 3-day non-residents (\$49 to \$74)

\$24.00 increase to 10-day non-residents (\$75 to \$99)  
\$20.00 increase to season non-residents (\$99 to \$119)

Notes:

LD250 will double funds into the Capital Equipment Grant. Registration history shows the first year after a registration increase, registrations will decrease about 10-15%.

**Agenda Item: Financials.**

2020-2021 season was a good year overall. Registrations stayed high even with the pandemic and short snow season. All grants were honored for the season and gas tax income didn't suffer.

Roughly \$500,000 increase to the Trails Fund Program.

**Agenda Item: Financial Order to replenish Disaster Relief Grant Program.**

\$56,444.62 to replenish Disaster Relief fund. Joe will replenish in the first financial quarter for fiscal year 2022.

Motioned by Mike Grass Jr.  
Second by Sue Rogers.  
All in favor.

**Agenda Item: Vote on percent of FY22 Capital Equipment Grant Increases.**

*\*Within the rules, the council can change the percentage or make adjustments outside the rule itself.*

Sending the rules out to the Snowmobile Advisory Council members to look over and put together feedback for future rule making.

**Agenda Item: Club Grant and Municipal Grant increases.**

Increase Club Grant mileage rate from \$180.00 /mile to \$200.00 /mile statewide up to 30 miles.  
Motioned by Matt Stedman.  
Second by Craig Lemieux.

Increase Municipal Grants by 10% plus any adjustments due to activities and expenses.  
Motioned by Craig Lemieux.  
Second by Matt Stedman.

**Agenda Item: Club Landowner List with Club Grant Applications.**

Landowner lists to be required with club grants due to landowners not knowing who their local clubs are and complaints.

**Agenda Item: Date change for Club Grants to match Municipal Grants.**

Application Due Date: December 1<sup>st</sup>

Reimbursement Due Date: May 15<sup>th</sup>

**Agenda Item: New Business.**

Insurance:

Snowmobile Clubs currently on V&V insurance will be bonded on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Will take on new snowmobile clubs.

State only covers landowner liability.

Mapping:

Data from outside consumers (BRP, Polaris, SledTRX, etc.) are not accurate. No benefit to the landowners or clubs. The Snowmobile Program is under law/statue to not allow mapping data to be given out.

Discussion: Maps printed today aren't accurate tomorrow. If landowners allow paper maps with old data, wouldn't it be better to keep the data up to date with digital maps. Liability for accurateness. Snowmobiler may be riding an old trail and hit a tree. Disclosure for apps about data not always being current.

Gary Marquis motioned to adjourn.

Moved by Sue Rogers.

Second by Matt Stedman.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:09am.**