

Meeting Minutes February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023      Called to order: 7:35 by Char Hillmyer

**WCSA Officers:**

President: Char Hillmyer (French Lake)  
 Vice President: Ted Pribyl (Maple Lake Sno Trackers)  
 Treasurer: Randy Neumann (St. Michael Foxtailers)  
 Executive Secretary/Trail Administrator: John Berning (Albertville)  
 Secretary: Martin Posthumus (Monticello)

**Members: present (18)**

Randy Neumann	St. Michael	Voni Sorenson	Otsego
Martin Posthumus	Monticello	John Berning	Albertville
Char Hillmyer	French Lake	Jim Sorenson	Otsego
Mike Nelson	South Haven	Brian Byrnes	Otsego
Tom Berning	Albertville	Charlie Koch	Buffalo
Pat Hilden	St Michael	Curt Ritter	Delano
Robin Hillmyer	Cokato	Kirt Shermer	Otsego
Keith Goeplert	St Michael	David Neske	Buffalo
Jessica Stockamp	Mayor of Otsego	Chris Roehl	St Michael

**Secretary's Report:**

- A Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the corrected January 2023 Secretary's report.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the February 2023 Treasurer's report. Curt Ritter is going to check on the Delano fuel expenses for accuracy.

Greg Sorenson had a question about the December 2022 treasurers report. Marty will look at what was sent out with the minutes because the printed reports that Randy has do not match what Greg has.

**Executive Secretary/Trail Administrator Report:**

- John Berning reported we are waiting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> BM Check. He also mentioned we have a new DNR officer in the area that is our monitor for the trails . She has not be able to ride the trails but has inspected them from the roadway. She says we are doing a great job.

**Old Business:**

- John Berning also contacted Tim Edgeton from the DNR about using GIA signs off trail in the county. Basically it sounds like only on our near GIA trails. Here is his response.

*Per the manual, signs purchased with GIA Snowmobile funds are intended to be used for designated Grant in Aid trails. They are designed to provide direction, information, and safety for trail users. They may also be used to reinforce designated trail routes where trespass issues have occurred or areas such as trailheads, junctions, and areas where safety of the user is involved. If there is a history of issues involving users going off the GIA trail, some discretion could be justified however that added signage should still be in close proximity to the GIA trail. Using GIA signs in a random fashion is not the intent of how signs are used. For those instances where signs are placed away from GIA trails, signs can be purchased using other funds and should not resemble or reflect, in my opinion, that it is associated with a GIA Snowmobile Trail.*

- Charley Koch talked with the rouge groomer around the Buffalo area. He is trying to make safe trails in his area for kids to be able to cross roads etc. without having to bust thru snowbanks. He was warned about trespassing and said he is getting permission from land owners that crosses.

**New Business:**

- Ussett property at 5493 State Highway 55 SE, Buffalo. Wants more signing to keep people on trail. Rockfords trail. Tim, Gary will handle this.

Triplett property So of Waverly. Not landowner. Needs more signage. Delano will handle it.

Peterson driveway. Co Rd 8 at lake across from Siler creek township hall. Marty, Ted, Char. Need more signage on Co rd. 8 ditch. Char talked with him and he has posted signs along the shore and driveway. DNR and County Shariff will be monitoring and patrolling the area for trespassers.

- Jim Sorenson from Otsego brought up some things about the PB100. Being the oldest groomer will it be the next to be replaced, and if so he thinks it a good idea for the drivers grooming the Otsego area try all the different groomers in Wright County to see what is best for the area. There were discussions about height and width of groomers.

Jim also wondered what the problems were with the PB100 this year and why we did not groom until early January. John Berning updated everyone on the problems with Batteries, and the PB100 starting issues that kept it off the trails for a while.

Jim introduced Jessica Stockamp, Otsego member and Mayor of Otsego. She expressed concerns about the trail and grooming in Otsego. There was also talk that WCSA was going to stop grooming Co Rd 39 in Otsego. This has never been discussed at a WCSA meeting until tonight. There have been private discussions elsewhere about the problems with grooming that ditch. John Berning has identified with photos some areas that really need to be addressed for the groomer to get thru. This will have to be worked with the City of Otsego, the Otsego club, Wright county Hwy Dept, and WCSA.

Brian Byrnes of Otsego would like to become a groomer operator. Char will have the PB100 coordinator contact him and schedule training and a ride along.

There was also a discussion about the groomer tracker app that is available. This has been discussed before and WCSA does not believe this is a good idea for our groomers.

- Tom Berning is looking for signs that say Crops Planted. Some were made in the past but don't know by whom.

- South Haven had their first hot dogging on the trail event and it was a great day. Over 100 sleds stopped by.

- Marty asked Curt R. about the Co Rd 8 trail south of Waverly. Is it unmaintained or ???? Marty marked it as unmaintained on the Polaris app. This needs more discussion before the next map this fall.

- Robin Chaffins funeral is on March 7<sup>th</sup> Zion Lutheran church in Buffalo.

**Around the County Club News:**

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Meeting adjourned: 9:20 PM.

Next regular meeting: **March 28<sup>th</sup> 2023**

Martin Posthumus, Secretary WCSA