

**OTSEGO RIVER RIDERS**

14932 77th St. NE

Otsego, MN 55330

 [otsegoriverriders.com](http://www.otsegoriverriders.com)

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**February 6th, 2025 7:00 PM**

**Wyndham Garden - Otsego**

**Minutes**

**ATTENDANCE**

Brian Byrnes Jim Stockamp Brandon Johnston Brian Culkins

Aaron & Sarah Stritesky Marvin and Keela Johnson Vonie Sorensen David & Shannon Abel

Don & Donnie Johnson Jim and Kris DeGonda Chad Ahlers

**WELCOME**

* David Abel
	+ Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

**SECRETARY REPORT**

* Brian Byrnes
	+ Motion to accept January Minutes made by Brian Culkins, 2nd by Brandon Johnston, motion passes

**TREASURER REPORT**

* Aaron Stritesky
	+ Updated club on Account balance
	+ Received payment for 3 membership
		- 1 paypal - Albert Barthel
		- 1 check - Russel Harnios
		- 1 cash - Chad Ahlers
	+ Motion to accept made by Vonie Sorensen, second by Brian Culkins, motion passes

**TRAIL REPORT**

* Brandon Jonston
	+ Trails still closed…..
	+ No new reports of ATV trespassing
	+ Talked to WCSA about tree trimming
		- We have 1 bid
		- WCSA requested additional bid
		- WCSA was hesitant to approve expenditure

**BOARD ELECTIONS**

* Elections will be held at the March Club Meeting
* If you are interested in running please notify the ORR board of what position you would like to run for to be included on the ballot
* Open Seats
	+ President - Brooks Bjorklund
	+ Secretary - Brian Byrnes
	+ Member At Large
		- Bob Lind
		- Kirt Shermer
	+ Jim Sorensen to head election committee
	+ Brian Culkins indicated he would run for an at-large board seat.

**Schedule of Events**

 **Prairie Festival**

* Brooks was contacted by Connie at the city about securing our booth for the ‘25 festival. Discussion around attending and securing our booth for this year's event.
	+ Group discussion, we would like to secure a booth spot for the event in Sept, prefer the “no pay” option

**Club Rides**

February

* Dates: 2/14 - 16, the 17th is Presidents Day
* Location: Grand Marias
* Lodging: Spruce Glen Inn 218-387-2500

Aspen Inn 218-387-2448

Shoreline Inn 218-387-2633

* Brandon Johnston made a motion for club to spend to $400 for pizza party for the February Club Trip, Vonie Sorensen 2nd, motion passes

Local Rides

* Ad Hoc, coordinate via email

**Scholarships**

* Scholarship Committee Volunteers/Nominations
* 1 X $500 Scholarship
* Details to be provided via email to members and to the schools for non-member students
* Rogers has scholarship form
* Form sent to all club members
	+ Due End of March

**Memberships**

* General Membership fees are due for the ‘24-’25 season, a final reminder will go out to the club
* 40 paid, 30 Family, 11 individuals. 88 total members. 5 memberships less than last year

**Membership Drive Update:**

* Brian Byrnes to order Business Cards and Stickers
	+ Ordered 2/4/2025

**Year End Fun**

* Date March 21st, 2025 - Confirmed
* Year End Committee Volunteers/Nominations
	+ David Abel
* Silent Auctions Items
* Vonie made a motion to approved $1200, $800 for venue and $400 for apparel order. Some apparel will be provide for silent auction, reminder for sale and inventory, for year end party, Shannon Abel 2nd, motion passes

**Otsego City Council Meeting:**

* Club needs representation at these meetings
* Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 7pm
* Brandon Johnston attended last month’s meeting, we will need a volunteer to attend February’s Meetings.

**Wright County Snowmobile Association:**

* Club needs representation at these meetings.
* Meetings are the last Tuesday of the month, at the Maple Lake Legion at 7:30pm
* January WCSA Meeting Recap
	+ Jim Sorensen and Brandon Johnston
		- WCSA did not approve tree trimming budget, asked for second bid
		- Waiting on First and Second DNR Benchmark payments
		- Groom has been paid in full
		- Discussion regarding trail map advertisement sales. If you are interested in selling advertising space to local businesses please let the ORR board know and we will get the form for you.
			* Advertisers who would like to be added to Polaris Ride Command can do so for an additional fee.
		- WCSA March Meeting will have a vote to amend by-laws, the main change is in voting. Member clubs will only be allowed a vote per club for expenditures over $12,000, ties will be determined by WCSA board vote.
		- Discussion about Albertville Snowmobile Club and their right to a voting seat, they are a WCSA member club in good standing and are allowed 1 vote in WCSA matters, this is no different than the other 10 clubs that make up WCSA.
		- WCSA is in need of a new Secretary, Mary has been holding the seat for 17 years and would like to give up his seat. At the Fall vote, there were no interested parties. If you are interested, the seat is yours, please let the ORR board know and we will work on getting you plugged in with WCSA

**New Business:**

* Open Discussion
	+ We are still in need of a new Web Admin to take over for Jeff Novak at the end of the season. Dave Abel is willing to take on the responsibilities if nobody else would like this role.
	+ Northwest Trail System meeting attended by a number of ORR folks to discuss trail plans and timing of the new Dayton/Maple Grove connector trail. They have made headway in getting landowner permission to use land. Anticipate this trail opening for the ‘25-’26 season. We need to continue to communicate this with WCSA to ensure we groom our portion of the Dayton trail up to the Northwest Trail System boundary
	+ Cluster will be created for February Trip, please notify ORR if you are attending and would like to be included in the Cluster.

**Thank You!**

**Meeting Close:**

Vonie mad a motion to close the meeting at 7:41pm, Shannon Abel 2nd, motion passes