



**P.O. Box 1167
Lac du Bonnet, MB
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www.eastmansnopals.com

Monday, January 16, 2012
Seven Sisters Motel

Present: Wally Sapach, Rebel Lister, Brian Morash, Roy Ticknor, Mac Pellow, Mark Krupka, Norm Bruneau, Ray Lansard, Len Oleksuk, Len Trotter, Roy Sochoski, Gus Wruck, Pat Blaney, Herb Brown, Robert Stelko, Craig Arndt, Don Marion, Shelley Marion.

Call to Order & Introductions:

Call to order 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Approved as presented: Mac Pellow/Norm Bruneau

Last Meeting's Minutes:

Accepted as presented: Don Marion/Mark Krupka

Business arising out of Minutes:

Expense payment policy for Eastman SnoPALs - a one page draft policy was circulated, as discussed at the last meeting. During the discussion, it was felt that some members may want to be reimbursed, others may not, and on occasion a member may want to be reimbursed for a portion of their expenses, and that should be allowed. Moved by Mark Krupka/Robert Stelko that the policy as presented will be accepted. A copy will be sent out.

Financial Report:

The 2005 Sur-Trac Groomer has now been added, as an asset. Some membership funds have been received. "Parts & Service" was for repairing the Lac du Bonnet groomer, which is now operating. "Tires & Repairs" was for new tire for groomer. Extra expenses were for PST & GST on the new groomer, as well as shipping costs. Trail Repairs for \$6678.00 was for numerous contractors hired in the Fall to clean out ditches, rail beds, etc. Unfortunately, PST can not be claimed back.

Financial Report accepted as presented: Norm Bruneau/Mac Pellow.

Correspondence & Communication

Email from Ken Lucko; wants Solara units back for upgrading; Gus will take LDB unit into the City this week.

President's Report: - Gus Wruck

Brush bar cutter - Gust talked to Ian, should be in sometime this week.

Need more members that wish to be part of the Club. A two tier membership fee would not be a good idea.

Electronic Download provision from Bank to Quicken has been done.

Eastern Region Snowmobile Association (ERSA) Report:

Congress cost \$ 15,000.00. Looking for cost cutting measures for next year. We have to drop mileage somewhere else, if we want to add another trail. Trappers' trails indicated by blue ribbons, please do not use these trails. Snoman trailer for sale. Upgrade trails, anywhere you can access the trail by snowmobile, signage must be visible. Lawsuit in Lee River was lost, Snoman has to pay the deductible and Lee River has to pay \$ 1,000.00. There was an old map left on the wall in one of the huts which was the determining factor; make sure that every year any old signs be cleared out. A \$ 5,000.00 cheque has been guaranteed, a second cheque may have to be requested a second time from ERSA, interest free. If it is a bad snow year, we are guaranteed two groomings.

Gus is meeting with Celina at the Royal Bank this week, but we will hold off on borrowing anything at this point.

Communication:

Very few hits on the website until last week, when we had more snow. Gus will do the trail report every Thursday.

4-wheelers are wreaking havoc on our trails, is there anything we can do about this? If we consider our trails unsafe, we can still groom them, but will make "Notables" on the website, and put up signs.

Old Business:

Groomers:

Pinawa - it's working well; have groomed a little bit.

Lac du Bonnet - we've just started working with the new one, seems to be doing a super job. The other one is working fine, but needs a power steering pump, as it's hard to steer and loses pressure. It's at Selkirk right now.
Whitemouth - it's working, have done some grooming.

Operational Checklists - must be in place, and must be followed. Gus has requested the operational manual for the new groomer. We need to know what is the best kind of grease to use on all of the groomers.

Trail Improvements & Reports:

Pinawa - King's hasn't been done yet, could go over to Lee River. Most of the trails have been done. Service road along hwy 44 between Pellow and Seddons - signage seems to be on the wrong side. Can't go through Kings, we went between Julius and Peat Moss Rd., and groomed to Lac du Bonnet. It's very rough.

Whitemouth - Groomed almost to Hwy 15 from Elma, and went to Seven Sisters pole line. The riverbank has not been done.

Lac du Bonnet - not too bad, except for railbed. Along centre line, we were asked to move the trail further south, which we could do next year, since all the signs will have to be moved as well. Mac will check with Resources, as on occasion, their trucks have been driving on our trails.

Warm Up Shelters:

Halfway Hut - we put up some posters, and left an axe there.

Mappage & Signage:

Nothing to report

New Business:

New Groomer Shed - it looks like the Government could fund us, up to approximately \$ 19,000.00, but we'd still have to put in about \$ 30,000.00. Gus talked to Lynn Lemoine from Beausejour, who said we could still apply, and build later on this year, October or November. The application would have to be in to them by January 20th; they had asked for additional information. The government grant money may not be available next year, we don't know. Some discussion about whether we need to have such an "elaborate" shed. It was decided that it would be better to have a heated shed, for when we need to work on equipment. While having one heated shed for all of the groomers would be better fiscally, practically it wouldn't work. Should we build on LGD property, some concern that we would not be able to sell the building, if it is not located on our own property. However, if the building needs to be sold, it would be because the club was folding, and would therefore be a non-issue. The location is safe and secure, already has electricity, and resources, in the way of staff and equipment. We do need to have a good agreement, in writing, between the LGD and Eastman Snopals. In Lac du Bonnet, there is a plot of land, alongside the trail, owned by the town, that may be available for building of storage shed on the property. Also a discussion about whether a good quality tent would work. It was decided to shelve the discussion for now. We will look for funding for a shed for Pinawa, and will look at Lac du Bonnet at a later date.

Gratuity for LGD of Pinawa - in the past, because of all of the work they do for us, we have given them a \$100.00 gift certificate for Solo, since they go there for coffee all the time.

Motion to give LGD of Pinawa a \$ 100.00 gift certificate for Solo: Mac Pellow/Robert Stelko.

Rebel Lister is a heavy duty mechanic; he is joining the Club, and offering his services.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be Monday, February 13, 2012 at the Pinawa Golf Club at 6:30 p.m. This will be a supper meeting, since we would like to support our sponsors, as they support us.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn: Robert Stelko/Mark Krupka. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Shelley Marion