



# KOOTENAI COUNTY

## Snowmobile Advisory Board

---

**KOOTENAI COUNTY**  
**SNOWMOBILE ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Regular Meeting**

**Minutes of Meeting**

January 5, 2022 8:30 a.m.

Kootenai County Search and Rescue Building  
10865 N Ramsey Rd Hayden, Idaho 83835

**Members Present:** Donald West, Chairman; Joe Wuest, Vice Chairman; Rodney Waller; Paul Ellis; Al Beauchene; Tom Stangeland; John Dawson

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Chandra Newberry, Administrative Secretary; Chris Adam, Noxious Weed Superintendent; Nick Snyder, Director

**Others Present:** Deputy Brett Fletcher, Kootenai County Sheriff's Office; Deputy Adam Zitterkopf, Kootenai County Sheriff's Office; Program Specialist Nate Sparks, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation; Recreational Training Coordinator Samuel Hoggatt, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

**I. Call to Order:**

Chairman Donald West called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman West.

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Action)**

**November 4, 2021:**

John Dawson moved to approve the November 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes. Al Beauchene seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**December 8, 2021:**

Tom Stangeland moved to approve the December 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Dawson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### **IV. New Business (Action)**

##### **a. 2022 Snowmobile Advisory Board Meeting Dates**

Chairman West suggested having the 2022 Snowmobile Advisory Board meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month. The Board agreed. Paul Ellis moved to approve the 2022 meeting dates. Mr. Beauchene seconded the motion. The motion carried.

##### **b. Fernan Hill Plowing**

Joe Wuest called Forestry Technician Ian Cotter and Recreation Program Manager Jason Smith with the US Forest Service to include them in the meeting. Mr. Wuest gave a history on the plowing of Fernan Hill. Discussion ensued between Director Nick Snyder, the US Forest Service and the Board about the amount of staff hours that have been used to plow Fernan Hill. The County website has a calendar that shows the days Fernan Hill has been plowed. Director Snyder suggested moving the barricades and not plowing Fernan Hill. One of the Board Members asked if there was a school bus turnaround on Fernan that moving the barricades would affect. There was an overall agreement of the Board to find out if there is a school bus turnaround, and report their findings at the next meeting.

Mr. Cotter and Mr. Smith exited the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Director Snyder mentioned the condition of the loader that is being used to plow Fernan Hill. He explained that the loader is older, and is likely to fail. A new loader is expensive, and the Snowgroomer Department does not have the funds or revenue to purchase a new loader. He proposed different funding options to buy a new loader. He suggested increasing the price of the Snowgroomer Stickers, or decreasing the time and resources into the program. Director Snyder went into a detailed discussion with the Board about a Snow Parking Pass. It could be implemented for the 2022/2023 season for the members of the public that are going up to the parking areas the Snowgroomer Department maintains, but are not there to snowmobile. They currently do not need to pay a fee. One of the Board members recommended talking to the Forest Service to get their approval. Mr. Wuest moved to table this item for discussion to the next meeting agenda. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

##### **c. Letter of Recommendation to Move Barricades**

Mr. Stangeland began the discussion of moving the barricades at Hayden Creek. Director Snyder explained that the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office had given their support for moving the barricades, but the Forest Service Law Enforcement had concerns. Discussion ensued on whether the Board should move forward with giving a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to draft a letter to the Forest Service to move the Hayden Creek Barricades. There was also a discussion about whether Hayden Creek should be a shared use road for both off-roading vehicles as well as snowmobiles. Mr. Ellis moved to move barricades and have the road shared use. Mr. Wuest recommended the shared use rule for Hayden Creek starting in the 2022/2023 season. Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Program Specialist Nate Sparks suggested leaving a 'shared use road' out of the conversation. Chairman West moved to table this item for discussion to the next meeting agenda. Mr. West seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**d. Trail Grooming Map**

Chairman West explained that he was not able to make it to the Shoshone Snowmobile Advisory Board meeting, so he was not able to ask for their recommendations on the attached map. Director Snyder asked the Board to rework the attached map to show the prioritized trails to ensure the trails with the most priority are being taken care of.

Mr. Ellis moved to make #2 on the attached map #4. Mr. Sparks introduced a new tracking device which will be placed on every Snowgroomer in the State of Idaho. It will be used to give a statewide glance as to what will be groomed in the entire state.

**V. Staff Reports (Discussion)**

**a. Nick Snyder – Program Update**

Director Snyder did not have any updates for the Board. He did mention a failure that happened the previous week to one of the Snowgroomer machines. He explained there was a piece of plastic that made its way into the fuel line that caused the failure. The issue had been fixed and the groomer was up and running shortly after.

**b. KCSO – Enforcement and Program Update**

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Office did not have an update. They explained that there had been no problems so far.

**VI. Public Comment (Discussion)**

There was no public comment.

Chairman West moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wuest seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chandra Newberry  
Recording Secretary