

**The New Brunswick Federation of Snowmobile Clubs**  
**Board of Directors Meeting - Minutes**  
**November 29, 2008**  
**Atlantic Host, Bathurst, NB**

**Those in attendance were:**

Leon Bourque, Manfred Knappe, Sandy Thompson, Darren Caterini, Peter Thompson, Sandy Young, Ralph Dickinson, Ross Antworth, John McLellan, Mark Brown, Sandy Thompson.  
Absent: & Reg MacDonald & Gary Smith

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Leon Bourque @ 7:45 a.m.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

*Moved by Ralph and seconded by Mark to accept the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.*

**3. Approval of the Minutes**

Ross asked that the item 7.2 wording be changed to read " He and Ross were disappointed with their progress to date".

*Moved by Sandy Young and seconded by Ralph to approve the minutes of September 13, 2008 with correction.. Motion Carried*

**4. President and G.M.'s Report**

**4.1 CCSO Meetings in Toronto**

Leon reported on the meetings that he attended. A copy of the minutes of the meetings was presented to the BOD. Leon informed that the dues we pay to the CCSO were being increased to \$1800.00. A discussion was held on the value of membership and what we receive from them.

**4.2 IASA / USFS Meetings in Denver**

Ross reported on the meetings. One of the main items on their agenda is a standardized trail signage system. A copy of the minutes of the meeting was presented to the BOD.

**4.3 DNR/Licensee / NBFSC**

Mark reported that the bridges are being abandoned by logging companies/Licensees as they are no longer using them. DNR is looking at the NBFSC to take them over, manage and maintain them.

**4.4 NBFSC Annual Autumn Zone Meetings**

Ross reported that the meetings were well attended. The presentation by the ORVE was well received.

**4.5 Brian Kenny**

Ross reported on update responsibilities in cabinet.

**4.6 Wally Stiles**

Ross reported that Wally Stiles was the new Minister of Natural Resources.

**4.7 Trail Management Trust Fund**

Ross reported on on-going meetings.

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**4.8 Trails Strategy Meetings**

Ross gave an update on November 19, 2008 meeting.

**4.9 GW Training Meeting**

Ross reported that GW Training have been contacted to do training courses. NBFSC does not have the resources to do this training.

**4.10 Northern Odyssey / NBFSC Meeting**

Ross reported on a meeting he attended with this group November 21, 2008.

**4.11 On the Snow Magazine**

Ross reported that the NBFSC was sending copies of this magazine to all ministers and MLA's.

**4.12 NB Tourism Strategy.**

Ross reported on a meeting with them in St. Andrews on November 25-26-27<sup>th</sup>, 2008. John McLellan reported on the Protected natural Areas. He noted that 25 new blocks of land have been added to this system.

**5.0 Treasurer's Report**

Darren presented a detailed report.

*Moved by John and seconded by Peter to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion Carried.*

*Moved by Mark and seconded by Sandy Thompson to approve the Audited Financial Statements as prepared by John Clark, Professional Corp. Motion Carried.*

**5.1 Trail # 12**

The NBFSC is paying invoices for work on this project but will re-invoice the Department of Tourism.

**5.2 Trail #58**

Ross reported that this trail may not be open this season due to lack of funding.

**5.3 Sustainability Funding.**

Leon reported on the sustainability with the province. The Province promised \$300,000.00 to go to the Northeast region to purchase grooming equipment. Three clubs, Restigouche Timber trails, Nepisiguit and Chaleur will each receive \$90,000.00 to go towards the purchase of a new groomer.

*Moved by John and seconded by Ralph that the NBFSC pay the three \$16,000.00 deposits required by Lamtrac for a total of \$48,000.00. Motion Carried. Mark abstained.*

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**6. Zone Reports –**

- Zone 1** – Gary Smith – written report included.
- Zone 2** – Peter Thompson – verbal report presented.
- Zone 3** – Mark Brown – written report included.
- Zone 4** – Ralph Dickinson - written report included.
- Zone 5** – Reg MacDonald - Ross gave verbal report in his absence.
- Zone 6** – Sandy Young - written report included.
- Zone 7** – Manfred Knappe – verbal report presented.
- Zone 8** – Sandy Thompson - written report included.

**7. Old (Current) Business**

**7.1 Sustainability Funding Requirements**

**7.1.1 Proposed Memorandum of Understanding**

Ross presented a draft copy of M.O.U. for member clubs receiving grants for grooming equipment.

*Moved by John and seconded by Ralph that the M.O.U. be presented as written. Motion carried.*

*Moved by Darren that he and Ross fine-tune the wording in the M.O.U. and get legal advice on the content. Seconded by John. Motion carried.*

**7.1.2 Proposed Allocation of \$300,000.00**

*Moved by John and seconded by Peter that up to \$10,000.00 per club receiving new groomers through the grant be paid by the NBFSC to the suppliers doing repairs to their current groomers. Motion carried. Mark left the room for the vote.*

*Moved by Manfred and seconded by Peter that the NBFSC have a financial stake in the repaired groomers, and that these clubs be responsible to repay 80% of the repair funds at the time of receipt of the new groomers. Motion carried.*

**7.1.3 Lamtrac Deposits**

Dealt with under the Treasurer's Report.

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**7.1.4 Changes to July 2008 document**

Sustainability Funding Report was presented. To all clubs. Member clubs will be kept informed of any changes and progress.

**7.2 NBFSC Trail #12 - Update**

Ross gave an update on progress with developments on Trail #12.

**7.2.1 Bridges in Edmundston area.**

Ross reported that the Edmundston area has some bridge and routing issues.

**7.2.2 Bridges in Grand Falls area.**

Ross reported that the three bridges in Grand Falls area are being replaced.

**7.2.3 28 km new trail proposed. Progress on Trail 12.**

**7.3 Lawsuits**

Ross gave an update on the current lawsuits against the NBFSC and stresses the importance of clubs doing everything possible to avoid new lawsuits as they control our insurance costs and availability

**7.4 Club #71 Caribou Snow Drifters**

*Moved by Manfred and seconded by John that the club payouts be set at 75% of grooming hours for clubs grooming with snowmobiles. Motion carried.*

**7.5 NBFSC Policy TRL-001**

Grooming Equipment by Class

Mark gave a detailed report on various sizes of grooming equipment being used by member clubs.

**7.6 NBFSC Policy TRL-001**

*Moved by Ralph and seconded by Peter to amend the policy statement to modify payouts to 75% for grooming hours for clubs grooming with snowmobiles. Motion carried.*

**7.7 Trail #32 status**

Manfred and Ross will do a trail audit when conditions permit and report back to the BOD.

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**7.8 MADD**

Leon asked that each club coordinate an event involving their local chapter on Safety week.

**7.9 Snowarama 2009**

Ross reported that the issue was brought up at the fall zone meeting and interest and resources were declining in recent years. Leon encouraged all clubs to make an effort to raise funds for this important cause.

**7.10 Future Charities**

FYI

**8. New Business**

**8.1 Distribution of BOD Minutes**

*Moved by John and seconded by Manfred that after the approval of the BOD meeting minutes, they will be posted on the NBFSC website under "Member Clubs Only". Personal issues will be excluded. Motion Carried.*

**8.2 International Snowmobile Congress**

This meeting will be held in Summerside PEI on June 11-12-13, 2009. Leon encouraged everyone to attend part or all of the events.

**8.3 Non Profit Secretariat**

**8.3.1 Regional Conferences**

Ross attended the last conference.

**8.3.2 Advisory Board Membership**

Ross is going to volunteer to serve as a board member.

**8.4 Tracking Grooming Hours**

Mark gave a presentation on Electronic Tracking Systems. That are now available and different costs.

*Moved by Mark and seconded by Peter to spend a maximum of \$4,000.00 to set up a pilot trail electronic tracking system. Motion carried.*

**8.5 PNB "A Long term Trail Management Strategy"**

Ross is attending a meeting on December 11, 2008 and will keep all informed.

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**8.6 NBATVF “Strategic Planning Committee Report”**  
FYI

**NBFSC Priorities**

As requested by Ross, all board members submitted a list of their three top priorities for NBFSC. Ross will put these together and make a report for the March BOD meeting.

**9. Permanent Committee Reports**

- 9.1** By-Laws & Policy Committee  
Mark Brown - FYI
- 9.2** Fund Raising Committee  
Ralph Dickinson - FYI
- 9.3** Auditing Committee  
Gary Smith - No report
- 9.4** Nominating Committee  
Sandy Thompson – looking for new board members
- 9.5** Human Resources Committee  
Reg MacDonald – Nothing to report.

**10. Date of the next Board of Director’s Meeting**

Proposed date for the next BOD meeting is March 13, 14, 2009 in Dalhousie, NB

**12. Adjournment**

*Moved by John to adjourn the meeting.*

Respectfully prepared and submitted,

Sandy Young  
NBFSC Secretary