**Washington State Parks**

**WINTER RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Summer Meeting Minutes**

August 11-12, 2023

Wenatchee WA/ Microsoft Teams Meeting

ATTENDANCE

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Jim Rhodes (Area 1)

Peter Valaas (Area 2)

Michael Burns - Absent (Vice Chair, Area 3)

Emilie Blevins (Area 4)

John Baranowski (Chair, Area 5)

Dave Phillips (Area 6)

Tim Penelerick (Motorized)

Mike Couch (Motorized)

Glenn Warren (Motorized)

Joe Chavez (DNR)

Rob Jones - Absent (WAOC)

Tony Leonetti (WDFW)

**Washington State Parks Staff:**

Corey Tolar (Winter Recreation Program, Manager)

Jason Goldstein (Winter Recreation Program)

Rob Sendak (Washington State Parks)

Travis Larson (Winter Recreation Program)

Montse Walker My (Winter Recreation Program)

Rhonda Dobbs (Washington State Parks)

Peter Herzog (Washington State Parks)

**Guests:**

**Jack Thurston (Highland Nordic)**

**Cindy Hoover (SMAC)**

**Julien Locke (Nordic Pulse)**

**Nick Whitman (LandTek)**

**Josh White (WSPRC)**

**Kyle McCruhan (Cascade Backcountry Alliance)**

**Tess Wendel (Cascade Backcountry Alliance)**

**Jerry Drescher (Cascade Backcountry Alliance)**

**Karen Behm (CCWRC)**

**Joy Cordell (CCWRA)**

**Michael Johnston (NWSDS)**

**Lynne Oliver (Nooksack Nordic Ski Club)**

**Andy Dappen (El Sendero Wenatchee Outdoors)**

**Sarin Molnar (Loup Loup Ski Education Foundation)**

**Dave Claar (The Mountaineers)**

**Paul Tomas (WSPRC)**

**Ann Freeman (WSPRC)**

**Brad Johnson (Mt. Adams Nordic Ski Club)**

**Nicholas Lichtenstadter (USFS – Snoqualmie RD)**

**Lindsey Pruett (USFS – Cle Elum RD)**

**Pete Lopushinsky (WDFW)**

**Rosemary Seifried (USFS – Methow RD)**

**Scott Schell (NWAC)**

**Audra Sims (WSPRC)**

**Adin Simmons (DNR)**

**Kent Montgomery**

**Dave Millard (Kahler Glen Community)**

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| **Friday August 11, 2023, Agenda** | | |
| **CALL TO ORDER** | John Baranowski called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. | **No Action** |
| **INTRODUCTIONS** | Introductions were made by committee members, staff, and in-person guests. | **No Action.** |
| **AVERAGE COST PER MILE** | Jason Goldstein discussed changing the average cost per mile from the current rate ($34.75 for private and $16.50 for public) to $44.69 for both programs.  Question: Isn’t the incentive of having owned equipment to reduce costs to operate and private contractors factor upkeep on equipment into their hourly rates?  Answer: Yes, kind of, while the private groomer is factored into the grooming budget, the state owned owned is still maintained but comes out of the equipment repair fund.  Staff stated they could look deeper into the average cost per mile for public grooming.  **Tim Penelerick motioned to change the average cost per mile to $44.69 for both public and private contractors.**  **Peter Valaas Seconded.**  **Motion passes unanimously.** | **Motion Passes to change average cost per mile to $44.69 for both public and private grooming contracts.** |
| **SNO-PARK SALES UPDATES** | **Travis Larson, Washington State Parks**  Sales were reported to be slightly up this year, there was an increase in one-day passes from 20,148 to 24,580. Seasonal numbers were close going from 17,932 to 17,966. Special Groomed stickers decreased from 8,320 to 8,030.  Question: Why do you believe the special fee stickers had a decrease?  Answer: With the cost of fuel increasing and most things being higher prices, the user has more than likely had to rethink the frequency in which they can go to the sno-park and may be buying more one day passes than special groomed stickers. | **Information Only** |
| **REVIEW/APPROVE WINTER MEETING MINUTES** | John asked if there are any changes to the meeting minutes.  Peter Valaas, Area 2  Requested change to area reports stating that the word reports be added to the phrase Lake Wenatchee is the gold standard for grooming. Requested change to state that conditions were problematic for maintenance.  Staff stated they would make the requested changes.  **Peter Valaas motioned to approve the minutes.**  **Jim Rhodes seconded.**  **Motion passes unanimously.** | **Motion Passes to approve winter meeting minutes.** |
| **PERMIT FEE REVIEW/ SUBCOMMITTEE** | **John Baranowski, Area 5 (Chair)**  When fees were requested to be increased in 2020. It was stated that the committee would revisit the fees every 2-3 years and it has now been 3 years. It was requested to have Mike Burns on the committee since he was on the previous sub-committee along with some representation from staff. It was requested to have volunteers.  Joe Chavez and Jim Rhodes volunteered to be on sub-committee along with Travis, Montse, Mike Burns, and John.  John volunteered for Mike Burns to be chair of the subcommittee. | **Sub-Committee formed to revisit sno-park permit fees.** |
| **NORDIC PULSE** | **Julien Locke, Nordic Pulse**  Presented on Nordic Pulse including how the color coding works with the trail systems and what that represents as far as grooming. It was shared on the capabilities as far as what the groomer can add including pictures, reports and manual uploads if GPS doesn’t properly work.  Question: How is access restricted so anybody just doesn’t post as a groomer?  Answer: Washington State Parks would be able to control who is able to upload on the sno-park pages. | **Information Only** |
| **ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS** | **Jim Rhodes, Area 1**  Did not have anything to report.  **Peter Valaas, Area 2**  Was able to visit South Summit and had fantastic skiing. Was able to visit Lake Wenatchee and had good snow all year. Snow started early.  **Emilie Blevins, Area 4**  Had a new user group that formed a new Facebook group that has acted as grooming council for the east trails at Mt. Adams. The group now has over 100 members and is looking to do some volunteer work. Oregon Nordic Club Portland Chapter has been brushing some trails and doing good work in area 4.  **John Baranowski, Area 5**  Had great snow. Chinook and White Pass had personnel and equipment issues, which resulted in very limited grooming. Everything looked good on Snoqualmie including great snow and good grooming.  **Dave Phillips, Area 6**  Has noticed more backcountry skiing in his area. There has been issues with parking in snowmobile lots as snowmobile users have it down, but some signage could be used to help the issue.  **Tim Penelerick, Motorized**  In the Teanaway there is a new hut, and the parking lot was full every time he went. Expressed concerns with smaller sno-parks and commercial use with limited parking can cause difficulties. I-90 corridor seemed to be very well maintained and very busy.  Question: Could you please verify what is meant by commercial use?  Answer: A private entity acquires a special use permit from the forest service to operate a yurt in this case. This causes strain in an area with very limited parking.  Jason Goldstein, Washington State Parks  Currently a donation is requested too but finding a way to get revenue from these is something that could be looked into.  **Mike Couch, Motorized**  Had a good snow year at Mt. Baker, wasn’t able to get out much due to work. There are 3 warming huts at Mt. Baker that get good use and have even helped folks that have been stuck.  **Glenn Warren, Motorized**  Comes from same area as Dave and is cornered by Oregon and Idaho. Anticipates visiting Fields Spring with Dave this upcoming season and looks forward to seeing what they have to offer.  **Joe Chavez, DNR**  DNR is working on the beginning phases of the Outdoor Access and Responsible Recreational Plan. This will include feedback from stakeholders, tribal, and public. DNR also has a master agreement with Backcountry Horseman to hold chainsaw training courses.  **Tony Leonetti, WDFW**  Luckily region 4 Quad County was fully staffed this last year. Agency just bought more snowmobiles and guys are getting trained up on those.  Question: Does your agency do any grooming or just enforcement.  Answer: Just enforcement, no grooming. | **Information Only** |
| **RECES FOR EVENING** | John recessed the meeting for the evening to resume Saturday at 8:00. | **Meeting recessed.** |

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| **Saturday August 12, 2023, Agenda** | | |
| CALL TO ORDER | John Baranowski called the meeting to order. | **Information Only** |
| QUICK TEAMS ETIQUETTE | **Travis Larson, Washington State Parks** Asked people online to please mute if they are not actively speaking, made guests aware of the raise hand function and that presenters will be able to share their screen when presenting their priority 5 and 6 presentations. | **Information Only** |
| INTRODUCTIONS | Introductions were made by the committee and guests. | **Information Only** |
| FINANCIAL REVIEW OF 2022/2023 | **Montse Walker My, Washington State Parks** Began with overview of previous season’s budget with overall expenditures for the season. Moved onto priority 1 budget and expenditures explaining savings in salaries from vacancies.  **Question:** There is a lot of unspent money in the travel budget?  **Answer:** The previous summer budget meeting was held virtually resulting in a lot of savings.  Moved to snow removal showing the budget and expenditures in total, and for each individual area.  **Question:** Does this figure reflect the issues there were at Marble Mountain.  **Answer:** This figure is just the original budget, but there is more in the emergency reserve that will be shown in a bit.  **Question:** Why did USFS not spend any money at Blewett Pass?  **Answer:** WSDOT does the plowing at Blewett Pass, there also is a private contractor but that line item can be removed.  Moved onto sanitation showing total budget and expenditures. Then moved onto trail grooming both state owned and private contractors showing budgets and expenditures.  **Question:** I thought Elk Heights was groomed last season?  **Answer:** Snowmobile program paid for it.  **Question:** Why didn’t some of that come out of this budget?  **Answer:** There wasn’t an agreement in place for this season.  Move onto the emergency reserve showing what expenditures came out including $8,553 for Marble Mountain and $3,200 for Annette Lake/Asahel Curtis.  The committee suggested rolling over the funds that were spent in the emergency reserve into the budget.  The equipment repairs were shown next along with the pilot project of Nordic Pulse.  **Question:** In the past there was a sub-committee that helped determine that there should be two machines in each area and Mt. Spokane has 3 machines that we are paying for, why is that?  **Answer:** It is currently being held onto for a possible trade in, but the staff is working with Mt. Spokane to determine the best course of action for that machine.  **Question:** Where is the new haul truck on the equipment list?  **Answer:** Staff needs to add it to the list.  The committee raised concerns about equipment creep and the lack of information on snowmobile equipment.  Staff stated there has been a request for a full log of equipment from State Parks and will be gathering information. Stated the trend for new snowmobiles has been to purchase the equipment but then transfer ownership to the Forest Service so they pay for regular maintenance which should reduce ongoing costs.  Montse moved to total budget and expenditures for E&E. It was explained that State Parks had some issues with coding funds resulting in expenditures appearing less than they were. Then continued back through the budget through equipment.  **Question:** What has happened with the old rollback truck that was replaced at Lake Easton?  **Answer:** The truck was loaned to the Cle Elum ranger district.  **Question:** How long is the hauling truck just purchased going to last?  **Answer:** It should last about 10 years.  **Jim Rhodes motioned to move the old hauling truck from the non-motorized program to the motorized program.**  **Peter Valaas seconded.**  **Motion passes unanimously.**  **Question:** What do the line items for snowmobiles mean?  **Answer:** They are used for grooming.  The presentation then moved to priority 5 and 6 showing the budget and expenditures.  **Question:** Loup Loup is coming up with a new request for a substantial amount of money, but they only spent half of their priority 5 money.  **Answer:** They are looking to expand the number of days for their season and are going to be increasing their hourly rate.  This concludes the budget review. | **Information Only**  **Motion Passes: Old Lake Easton Hauling Truck to be transferred to the motorized program.** |
| PRIORITY 5 AND 6 PRESENTATIONS | **NWAC 3rd year, Scott Schell** Presented on how NWAC benefits the community with their information and what the funding would provide to the winter recreation users in Washington.  **Asahel Curtis/Annette Lake 3rd year, Nicholas Lichtenstadter** Presented on Annette Lake’s use and the benefits the sno-park brings to the program.  **Snoqualmie RD Increased E&E 3rd year, Nicholas Lichtenstadter** Presented on total visitation to the area. He shared that the district is planning on hiring more permanent employees that would allow them to write tickets.  **South Summit Expanded Grooming 3rd year and New South Summit Additional Expanded Grooming, Sarin Molnar** Addressed a question earlier about not using the full funding saying the season started with limited grooming due to not knowing about a contract. Wants to increase the hourly rate due to increased costs. Peter Valas showed support stating it is delightful skiing and has benefitted from recent logging activities giving more viewpoints.  **Question:** Where is triple the money going?  **Answer:** The original funding was with the reimbursement rate of $100 an hour. $20,000 got 2 days a week at that rate. Doubling the rate would require $40,000 for an additional 2 days a week.  The committee questioned if it should become a special groomed area with potentially 4 days a week grooming.  Jason Goldstein said there is no exact parameter for what determines a special groomed area, but staff could investigate it.  **Question:** Who does the grooming?  **Answer:** We do. (Loup Loup Ski Education Foundation)  The committee brought up that if the funding was approved it would be the third largest grooming operation and would want to think about making it a special groomed area.  Corey stated that he would like to search for specific guidance on classifying areas as a special groomed area and would like to hold off on changing the classification of the area.  Sarin stated they he believed there wouldn’t be a huge opposition to that with more consistent grooming.  **Methow Valley Increased E&E 3rd year, Rosemary Seifried** Presented showing that the funds would provide an additional forest protection officer for 23 days.  **Question:** The numbers shown are low on citations, are you prioritizing on-site permit purchases over citations?  **Answer:** The goal is compliance over citations and paying into the system.  **Mt. Spokane Expanded Grooming 3rd year, Russell Aldrich** Presented showing that the funding will increase grooming by 20 hours every week. Stated that there was an issue with coding of funds last season.  **Mountaineers P2C to Lodge 3rd year, Dave Claar** Stated that this summer they raised the road a little bit. Funds mostly go towards maintaining the road.  **Fields Spring Park Aide 3rd year, Ann Freeman** Park Aide provides customer service, sanitation services and are trained to use snow removal equipment. Said Park Aide is a vital part of their winter program.  **Question:** Your 2002 snowmobile, is it still alive?  **Answer:** There is not a 2002 but use a combination of the newer Skandic and the 1988 that is still a champion. | **Information Only**  **Information Only** |
| BREAK | John released the meeting for a break to return at 10:30 |  |
| CONTINUED PRIORITY 5 AND 6 PRESENTATIONS | **Cabin Creek Gravel Request repeat request, Suzanne Corcoran** There are potholes at Cabin Creek that were funded last year to receive grading but snowed early last year and was unable to happen.  **Cabin Creek Increased Grooming, Suzanne Corcoran** Increased funding allows to groom for the full season. Recognized that there is a new grooming contract that can complicate funding. Stated this funding serves more than just the super racers but also an enthusiastic public.  **Question:** Is it true that you didn’t spend all your allotted money?  **Answer:** That is not true, the club has funded additional grooming at the end of the season the last couple of years.  **Cle Elum RD Snow Ranger Staffing 2nd year, Lindsey Pruett** Shared the importance that the additional snow ranger plays allowing for a wider coverage of their system turning into more contacts and more compliance.  **NEW Highlands Equipment, Jack Thurston** The funding would provide for a new Tidd Tech groomer to pull behind the snowmobile and would allow to use two at once and also have a backup.  **Question:** Are you using a 6 foot?  **Answer:** Nope, a 4 foot.  **NEW Salmon Ridge Additional Grooming, Lynne Oliver** Only groomed cross country ski trail in Northwest Washington. This funding would allow grooming to go from once a week to twice a week and include Hannegan Rd.  **Question:** Is this for two additional days or two days total?  **Answer:** We are currently getting one day a week, and this would allow us to groom two days a week.  **NEW White Pine Sno-Park, Kyle McCruhan** Is located about halfway between Steven’s Pass and Cole’s Corner. Would allow for activities such as ice climbing, snowshoeing, and backcountry skiing.  **Question:** How is official forest service approval coming?  **Answer:** Just need to reach back out to the forest service and get the final approval.  The committee expressed concerns with the private organization that shares a lot as it would be opening them to potential vandalism and maybe considering some form of a law enforcement presence.  **NEW Tinkham Sno-Park, Jerry Drescher** Located off Tinkham Rd off I-90 exit 47. Would allow opportunities for backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, and winter scrambling. Would also provide relief to the busy I-90 corridor. Stated there was more time to get forest service approval for White Pine and doesn’t know if they would be able to get approval this year but are committed to the project and possibly getting approval for the 2024-2025 season.  **Question:** Who would do the snow removal?  **Answer:** We have a contractor nearby and are willing to add this area.  **NEW 92 Road & 1 Road E&E, Adin Simmons** Would allow DNR to pay an education and enforcement warden the winter months. The goal is to improve user safety, reduce user conflicts, reduce workload of MTTA. Warden would provide E&E on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.  **Question:** Are you hoping to hire a local or someone from the Tacoma/Pierce County area?  **Answer:** We are hoping to hire someone local, but we will see what kind of pool we get.  **NEW Pineside and McClellan Meadows Grooming, Brad Johnson** Is seeking 120 grooming miles for East Side Trails. Would increase grooming from 8 weeks to 13 weeks.  **Question:** Who would be doing the grooming?  **Answer:** Backcountry is doing the grooming.  **NEW Stemilt Snow Removal, Andy Dappen** Snow removal would provide best access for beginner and intermediate snowshoers and backcountry skiers. There is some private property that could cause some landowner permission questions.  **Question:** Who would build the parking lot?  **Answer:** Department of Fish and Wildlife would help with that. Wenatchee Outdoors would provide the manpower for that.  **Question:** Would the $5000 be a part of building the parking lot, or would it be contingent on building the parking lot?  **Answer:** It would be access to the area after it is cleared.  **NEW Crystal Springs Signage, Karen Behm and Michael Johnston** Funding request is for trail name signage. This would replace signage that has been lost over time on Erling Stordahl or provide trails signs that never had them. Would provide signs for Sled Dog trail system that has never had trail names posted.  **NEW Jente Loppet Route (Hyak) Grooming, Joy Cordell** Stated the proposal needed to be put on hold.  **Lake Wenatchee Ice Rink 2nd year, Paul Tomas and David Millard** Had a pretty successful season last year. His crew was able to learn how to operate the rink and offered some learning opportunities. Rink opened in December and operated until the end of February.  **Question:** Do you have an estimate on how many days it was open last year?  **Answer:** Don’t have days but next season will have better record tracking.  **NEW Naches Ranger District Snowmobiles** No one was present to present.  This completes priority 5 and 6 presentations.  **Jim Rhodes motioned to approve all priority 5 and 6 3rd and 2nd year requests prior to scoring.**  **Mike Couch seconded.**  The committee debated approving 2nd and 3rd year requests prior to scoring, but staff advised against that due to preset formulas used to ensure scoring is correct.  **Motion fails 3-5.** | **Information Only**  **Information Only**  **Information Only** |
| LUNCH | Meeting broke for lunch, to return at 1:30 |  |
| BUDGET REVIEW AND APPROVAL FY24 | Montse guided the board through the scenarios that staff has prepared.  **Question:** The last couple of years have been generous with increases, why isn’t the scenario closer to the rate of inflation?  **Answer:** The inflation rate up here is around 8% and the price of fuel has gone up.  The committee expressed concern over spending over the amount of revenue that came in.  The board wanted to work off scenario A (12% increase across the board) and reduce that number to 5%.  Jim Rhodes sought clarification on what the land acquisition/lease would be used for as well as the snowcat.  Corey stated the snowcat would be purchased for Lake Easton and replaced the current backup.  Jason stated the land acquisition/lease would ideally be for the I-90 corridor for a potential snow play area but currently doesn’t have anything specific they are looking at.  Montse moved to the priority 5 and 6 scoring by request.  Tony said he would like to see what the funding would look like without the Naches snowmobiles and the Cle Elum Ranger District funding at either 0 or 15,000 because their funding one person to create a team of 3 doesn’t benefit the program.  John recommended the board start at priority 1 and work their way down.  Corey showed the changes proposed in priority 1 including additional funding for Nordic Pulse, a pilot fund for a possible I-90 shuttle service, and a youth/club grant program.  Tim asked for clarification of what the shuttle service could be potentially.  Corey stated it would be potentially taking people from North Bend or even Ellensburg to the I-90 sno-parks.  Peter asked to hear more on the pilot youth/club grant program.  Corey stated that it could be used to possibly help underserved communities or maybe through the clubs to introduce non-motorized activities to people that don’t normally have the opportunity.  Jason added that clubs must have insurance for events, and this could possibly help with that.  **Tim Penelerick motioned to accept priority 1 at the budget of $404,900.**  **Peter Valaas seconded.**  **Motion Passes unanimously.**  Montse moved to priority 2 showing the 5% increase to sanitation and snow removal.  The committee wanted to look at snow removal and ensure that areas are being funded adequately.  Jim wanted to see Marble Mountain for $44,000. Annette Lake to $13,000 prior to a 5% increase.  Peter Valaas and Jim Rhodes both suggest increasing Mount Tahoma for an increase.  John suggested changing it $17,100.  **Peter Valaas motioned to accept snow removal as adjusted with a total budget of $407,865.**  **Mike Couch seconded.**  **Motion passes unanimously.**  Montse moved to sanitation currently showing a 5% increase.  **Peter Valaas motioned to approve sanitation as presented with a total budget of $88,188.**  **Jim Rhodes seconded.**  **Motion passes unanimously.**  Montse moved to trail grooming.  Tony wanted to see the trail grooming increase move from 5% to 8% for both state owned and private contracting.  Jim asked for Nick’s opinion on the increase.  Nick stated that the price of labor has increased, fuel has increased, so this increase isn’t going to result in more grooming, but with the contract hourly rate going up the 8% won’t be enough to maintain the same amount of grooming.  Tony asked to see a 10% increase for state owned grooming and a 15% to private contractors.  **Tony motioned for a 10% increase to trail grooming state owned and a 15% increase to trail grooming private.**  **Joe Chavez seconded.**  John opened for discussion.  Corey asked to hear from the groomers in the room if the increase would help.  Josh White stated that he didn’t know if he could do more than last year even with a 10% increase.  Nick stated that he is going to try to keep his hourly rate as low as possible when bidding, but stuff is getting more expensive.  **John called for a vote.**  **Motion passes 8-2**  Montse moved to emergency reserve and equipment repair.  Jim Rhodes asked to see the emergency reserve for snow removal dropped from $40,000 to $30,000.  **Jim Rhodes motioned to approve the emergency reserve as shown at $110,000.**  **Joe Chavez seconded.**  **Motion passes unanimously.**  Montse moved onto education and enforcement.  Tony asked to see the updated total with only a 4% increase.  John asked about state agencies and now needing to pay for driving time.  Jason stated that now drive time will need to be paid for some WDFW regions and will be paying for about 4 hours of drive time for every 1 hour on the snow. Citations will be prioritized over conversions with more limited time.  John asked about more targeted increases rather than across the board.  Tony stated he didn’t think it would be beneficial.  **Peter Valaas motioned to approve education and enforcement with a 4% increase.**  **Jim Rhodes seconded.**  **Motion passes unanimously.**  John asked to talk about the idea of purchasing a new snowcat.  **Jim Rhodes motioned to approve the purchase of a snowcat.**  **Tony Leonetti seconded.**  **Motion passes unanimously.**  Montse moved to the land acquisition/lease.  John stated he would like to see this explored by staff as in the past they have run into issues with the I-90 sno-parks being overwhelmed, especially at the peak of the pandemic.  **Peter Valaas motioned to create a line item for land acquisition/lease at $150,000 in the 2023/2024 budget.**  **Jim Rhodes seconded.**  Dave Phillips wanted to make sure that was enough or if more should be added.  Jason stated there are options, it just depends on what the match is for a grant.  **Motion passes unanimously.**  Montse moved to the scoring of the priority 5 and 6 showing the rankings.  Tim stated that he would like to see the Cle Elum Ranger District’s Snow Ranger be raised to $15,000 to give them 2 positions.  The committee proposed removing the $34,000 for the Naches snowmobiles, removing the Jente Loppet Race Route grooming and increasing the Cle Elum Ranger District snow rangers to $15,000.  Tony asked if NWAC was funded by SMAC.  Corey stated SMAC didn’t fund any priority 5 and 6 funding applications this year.  Tony asked if the user group finds NWAC to be helpful.  Kyle from Cascade Backcountry Alliance stated the information provided by NWAC helps dictate his whole backcountry experience.  Travis said from a staff perspective it is useful as a tool to help people with little experience in the mountains.  Jim Rhodes proposed removing Tinkham Sno-Park funding from the priority 5 and 6 due to not having landowner approval.  Tony asked to hear more on Stemilt Snow Removal project.  Peter stated it is a great concept that has had years of discussion and would keep it in line with the caveat that no money is given if the parking lot isn’t built.  Mike Couch supported the funding of the project since the money will just rollover if not used.  Jim Rhodes wanted to discuss Loup Loup’s first year application stating he would like to decrease the amount from 43,760 to more like 20,000.  Travis gave some background on the transition Loup Loup’s leadership and why there was some confusion while they were presenting.  The committee discussed whether the increase would make South Summit a potential special groomed area.  Corey stated that staff needs to figure out exactly what qualifies an area as a special groomed area.  Jim asked Montse to switch Loup Loup’s first year application to $22,000.  Emilie proposed moving Loup Loup’s (South Summit) 1st year application to its full amount.  Tony asked about DNR 1 Road and 92 Road stating it would be difficult to commute to that area if the hire isn’t local.  Joe gave some background saying the hire would be year-round thanks to an RCO grant, but this would just cover the winter portion of that salary.  **Jim Rhodes motioned to approve priority 5 and 6 as shown.**  **Mike Couch seconded.**  **John opened the floor for discussion.**  John talked about Pineside and McClellan Meadows and maybe increasing that amount to $7,000.  Tony stated he believed it should be $9,000.  **Jim Rhodes accepted the modification to his motion (increasing Pineside and McClellan meadows from $4,500 to $9,000).**  **Tony Leonetti accepted the modification to his second.**  Jason stated that he was notified by Mt. St. Helens Monument that they would be interested in grooming the access road to Marble Mountain but were not able to get an application in on-time for $10,000.  The board responded that they can apply next year if wanting funding.  **John called for a vote.**  **Motion passes unanimously.** | **Motion Passes, Priority 1 budget set at $404,900.**  **Motion Passes, Snow removal budget set at $407,865.**  **Motion Passes, Sanitation budget set at $88,188.**  **Motion Passes, 10% increase to trail grooming state owned and 15% increase to trail grooming private.**  **Motion Passes, emergency reserve budget set at $110,000.**  **Motion Passes, E&E budget set with a 4% increase.**  **Motion Passes, new snowcat purchase approved for Lake Easton.**  **Motion Passes, Line item for Land Acquisition/Lease for $150,000 created.**  **Motion Passes, Priority 5 and 6 funded at $241,090.** |
| NEXT MEETING | The board discussed where the next meeting would be.  WRAC winter meeting to be held tentatively in Spokane on February 2-3. | **WRAC Winter Meeting to take place in Spokane on February 2nd – 3rd.** |
| ADJOURN | Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. | **Meeting Adjourned.** |