

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BARNES ROADS AND RIGHT OF WAY COMMITTEE

April 8, 2025

Members present were Jeff Jordhiem, Doug Westerberg, Jack Gribble, Mark Holm

Also present: Paul Susienka, Brooks Ketchum, Carol Westerberg, Craig Willard

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm, quorum established

Motion to approve minutes of 3/4/2025 passed (Holm/Westerberg), no changes

**Posting of minutes**

RROW minutes have been submitted to town offices but have not been posted to web site in 2025.

**Barnstormers snowmobile club**

Continuation of committee discussion as reported in 3/4/2025 RROW minutes. Craig Willard presented on behalf of the Barnstormers, assisted by Brooks Ketchum, regarding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) submitted to Jeff in March which requested special treatment by roads crew on selected roads for snowmobiling. Discussion began with brief history of MOU which originated with the town board in 2021.

Township and RROW clearly recognize economic importance of snowmobiling to the town’s businesses – and wish to support and encourage the sport. At the same time, our efforts to do so may not always achieve perfection due to unpredictable weather and changing personnel.

Dialogue revealed that applicable plowing needs will range from ongoing to one-time work. To streamline this process and improve communication, committee strongly recommends the use of township’s existing Citizen Request for Service (CRS) by the Barnstormers. Highway department supervisor and roads crew will attempt to respond to any CRS as conditions allow.

Motion by Gribble, second by Holm:

***RROW committee recommends to town board that Barnstormers MOU should be used as a guide for winter plowing but that the document not be signed by RROW nor township representatives***.

Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Roads rating chart**

Jeff indicated he would like to move forward with use of the system. Jack has volunteered to evaluate selected roads in coming months.

**Highway 27 channel**

Jeff has met with the DNR regarding maintenance of channel linking Bony to Middle Eau Claire. DNR advised that Barnes township bears no responsibility for upkeep.

**Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn (Holm/Westerberg) passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned 7:41pm.

Respectfully submitted Mark Holm, recorder

**Next meeting Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 6:30pm, town garage**