

LSRAB

MEETING MINUTES

10/29/2025

Meeting called to order at 10:13AM

Present

Robin Hudson- Secretary

Captain Joshua Bubier

Corporal Andrew Smart

Corporal Kris MacCabe

Hannah Stevens

Amanda Devine

Edith Dunlap

Luke Frankel

Al Swett

Steve Thistlewood

Kara Hodgins

Dennis Keschl

Doug Kulis

Deputy Commissioner Tim Peabody

Zoom: Joe Higgins and Matt Foster

- Matt and Joe started by discussing the issues that have been going on with hunting on the roughly 340-miles of state owned rail bed systems. They are looking for guidance on what they should do to clearly mark the rail beds notifying hunters of the 100 yd setback and other laws/rules associated with hunting on the rail beds as well as questioning what the difference between Dept laws and dept rules are as far as enforcement.
- Corp MacCabe reviewed Landowner Cleanup Day again. He is looking for suggestions on how to get the clubs involved on cleanup day specifically. A lot of clubs say they do it year-round, so they don't feel like they need to be present on that 1 particular day. Kris would also like to get the Wardens more proactive on the day as well. It was mentioned that Warden Service is finding it harder to find cleanup sites but that is a positive thing. Andrew said that a lot more commercial tires are being found in the Ashland area.
- Corp MacCabe spoke about the Public Access Working Group, Nate Webb is the Co-Chair. The group is looking to find more recreational access for the public on private land as public land is getting harder to access due to road conditions, Dennis also mentioned that people from out of state are purchasing property and closing parts of trails that go through their land which is causing problems for clubs. . Deputy Commissioner Peabody mentioned that he and Commissioner Camuso went to all 5 division meetings, and it was said that roads are the biggest concern for the future of public access for recreational use. Corp MacCabe mentioned that maybe the state could offer some incentives for landowners to allow

access. Landowners may also be concerned that if they leave their land open for access it may be a liability, and they want more assurance they will be covered.

- Steve Thistlewood gave a summary of the Violations Bureau for civil violations. Right now, courts are dismissing a lot of violations due to the volume of cases. The Violations Bureau would make it so the same day the summons is written the fine amounts would be available and the person can pay the fine on the same day or within a set time from the date the summons was issued and avoid having to appear in court. If they choose, they can request a court date and a hearing. There would be many steps to get the VB up and running as it would take Legislative adjustments to Title 12.
- Both Amanda and Luke gave great presentations on the work their organizations do for the State of Maine and their role in that organization. They both shared slides from their presentations by email to all the board members after the meeting.
- Josh commented that perhaps the board should look at adding board members from other organizations/groups that may be able to provide a different prospective for the goals of LSRAB.
- The next meeting will be the public meeting and is scheduled for December 16, 2025.
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM (LSRAB Board)
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM (Public meeting)
- The meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM