

**Meeting Minutes 5/14/25**  
**Palermo Volunteer Fire Department**

President John Gray called the meeting to order at 7:01PM

Meeting minutes from 4/27 were read by Betty Wills

Motion to accept the minutes: Ryan Skipper

2nd: Bruce Hyde

All in favor

**Old Business:**

Audrey Haynes read the treasurer's report

Income in the past month: money from NYSSA memberships \$738

Ending Balance: \$77,557.42

Fundraiser: deposit of \$1,752 was made from Chicken BBQ last September

Expenses: \$2

Ending Balance: \$44,808.76

Motion to accept: Ryan Skip

2nd: Bruce Hyde

All in favor

Nominations for new board members:

Blaine Wills and Dave Lacey verbally withdrew their nomination

Ryan Skipper was nominated by Hannah Fravor: 2nd John Luther

Jordan Storrs was nominated by Heather Fravor: 2nd Hannah Fravor

Motion to accept new board members: Ryan Curry

2nd: John Luther

All in favor

Board Members:

- Bruce Hyde
- Dan Cartier
- Reed Fravor
- Buddy Ruby
- Ryan Skipper
- Jordan Storrs
- John Johnson

The by-law committee met on 5/13. A copy of the 2020 by-laws and the suggested revised by-laws were passed out to members

- Next meeting we can vote to change the by-laws. If anyone has any concerns they should bring it to the next meeting.
- Major changes
  - Removed the gratuitous membership for volunteers who work a certain number of hours
  - Removed the minimum number of 12 board of directors
  - Spending limits were changed
    - President, VP, and Treasurer have the authority to spend up to \$600 without approval
    - Trail Coordinator and Groomer Maintenance up to \$1,500 for emergency
    - Up to \$2,500 = majority of elected officers (5 of 8)
    - Up to \$10,000 = majority of the board (8 of the 15)
    - \$10,000 and more will be brought to the general or special meeting and the general membership will vote on the purchase
    - All major purchases should have a record of who approved/voted to approve the purchase
    - Added back in the fire departments for asset disposal
    - Audit of finances by the president and 3 others being added back into the by-laws

Member suggested that in the treasurers section, the checks should have 2 signatures to ensure checks and balances. The credit cards were discussed and use of the checkbook.

The annual meeting being held in April was discussed. The finances do not line up well with the fiscal year and board. There was an influx of membership money in March from the election which showed a high amount of income in the last month of FY25. If the meeting is held in March, the financials will be better represented.

Motion to change the annual meeting to March: Bruce Hyde

2nd: John Gray

All in favor

NYSSA says if you join after April 1st, your membership will follow to the next year since the membership year is September to August. It became iffy on who is eligible to vote since the annual meeting was after April 1st. The question was if someone joined after April 1st - can they vote which is a yes since the membership year is not aligned with the fiscal year.

Ryan discussed status of equipment/upgrades/sales

- Tucker 2
  - Good shape but lacks maintenance - needs oil change, filters, ect.
  - Both rear sprockets need to be replaced or recoated

- Tracks are in good shape
- Tucker at Luther's
  - Major oil leak that needs to be addressed
  - Belts are junk, cleats are in rough shape, tracks are in bad shape, will need basic maintenance
- Potential Sales: big tractor - wont fit on a lot of the bridges, drag is big - not a great use - can discuss sale and purchasing new equipment. Brush hog could be sold as well
- Excavator - there is some use but it is heavy to move. A smaller one would be more useful or we can rent or volunteers can help out with their machines.
- Would like more people to come give a price input on the tractor & excavator so we can sell them and put the money towards a better use

Motion to create a committee for equipment sale: Ryan Skipper. The committee is going to work this month to come up with a good price for the equipment that needs to be sold and the general membership will vote next meeting. Committee members: Marty Cowles, Rich Cummins, John Johnson, Ryan Curry, John Gray

2nd: Tyler Cartier

All in favor

Actively working to gain the trust back of the landowners whose land we have lost.

Future meetings 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm. Locations will be determined on a month to month basis as we are trying to spread out across local businesses.

Cornhole tournament June 14th at Dominick's Sports Tavern - registration 12pm, bags fly 1pm.

Lumber was moved from Erics to Luthers. What we are going to do with it is unknown.

Groomer Operator Course is September 13th 9am likely will be in Pulaski but final location TBD.

Old computer - we have still not been able to get into the laptop. Have someone who is going to try and get into the computer.

Grant status: phase 1 that is due June 1st is complete. Phase 2 is around September and Phase 3 due at the end of February. On track. Any reroutes after phase 1 will not be funded by the State.

2024 tax info was submitted to Carusos.

**New Business:**

Land between 6 and Mack Rd - the owner wants stone and water bars brought in. Jake spoke to the landowner. Should be a simple fix. Jake and Blaine will set up time with the landowner.

We organized the signage on May 3rd - will need to order some new signs. Trail stakes are soft & bent need to order some new ones.

We cancelled the textedly group messaging platform that cost over \$600 a year. We now are using GroupMe which is free. QR code was brought to the meeting for members to sign up.

Venmo is set up user is @mexicotrailriders - can venmo the club for cornhole and chicken dinners

New members: 69 people signed up before the April meeting. We have created a welcome letter for the new members and will include a sticker and we will include information about the groupme app going forward.

Next meeting June 11th at 7:00pm location TBD

Trail sponsorship - gold, silver, bronze. We have 3 or 4 businesses who want to get on board.  
\$1000 - Gold membership will have website space, groomer drag space (4 signs per drag - 4x4), and kiosks at major intersections.

\$500 - Silver: website space, kiosk at major intersection

\$250 - Bronze: website space

Motion to accept sponsorship levels by Betty Wills

2nd: Brynn Wills

All in favor

Motion to adjourn: Ryan Skipper 8:28PM

2nd Heather Fravor

All in Favor