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OUTDOORS

Winter severity index 48

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The winter severity index for the International Falls area was 48 on Wednesday, reports Larry Petersen, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources area wildlife manager. The WSI was 104 last year at this date, and 64 two years ago. The average WSI for this date is about 65, said Petersen. The harshest winter in the mid 1990s had an index of 123 on this date. All the winter severity

data dates from 1966 to present. The snow depth is around 12-16 inches in the International Falls vicinity, reports Petersen. “We have now reached the point, at least in north-eastern Koochiching County, that snow depth will contribute to the index,” he said.



Larry Petersen

The winter severity index is a standardized number natural resource managers use when considering impacts of the winter on deer. It is calculated using temperature and snow depth in the period from Nov.r 1 through April 30 or whenever winter ends. Every day the daily low temperature is 0 or below is one point, and every day the snow depth is 15 inches or deeper in an open aspen woods is one point. The points are added each week until winter ends.

IVSC TRAIL REPORT

**International Voyageurs Snowmobile Club**  
Well we finally got some much needed snow today (Tuesday). We received around 3-4” with another couple coming tonight. With all our trail system freshly groomed it should be awesome riding. Our operators have a large supply of fire wood at our shelters for all to use. Please keep the fires within the fire rings and make sure the fire has died down before leaving. The new bridge on the Arrowhead Trail west of Highway 53 has been completed and the old bridge has been removed with new signage installed by the Department of Natural Resources. It’s MnUSA Winter Rendezvous weekend with a lot of groups out riding from many different areas so please pay special attention on the trails. So get out this weekend and ride the best groomed trails around, and be safe.

**Voyageurs National Park**  
Voyageurs would like to welcome the Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association (MNUSA), members of which will be riding the park and area trails this weekend. Fresh snowfall this week has helped improve all trails and portages just in time for their 2015 Winter Rendezvous. Snowmobilers can enjoy the ease of traveling on groomed surfaces at Voyageurs National Park thanks in part to the park’s gateway community snowmobile clubs: International Voyageur, Ash River – Kabetogama Snowdrifters, and Voyageur Trail Society. Visitors to the park can enjoy the groomed trails by visiting a scenic rock formation, Grassy Bay Cliffs. Located on Sand Point Lake between the communities of Ash River and Crane Lake,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Grassy Bay received its name from being a portage that was most likely used during the fur trade. The portage was a short cut between Sand Point Lake and Namakan Lake, and its earliest map reference was in 1913 on the International Joint Commission map. Outstanding geologic outcrops, such as Grassy Bay Cliffs, are one of the reasons Voyageurs National Park was established. Visitors to this area of the park can see a unique outcrop of the Lac La Croix biotite granite, the same rocks that make up much of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. While the geologic story of the park dates back 2.8 billion years and shows a variety of different geologic features, this outcrop shows some of the “younger” rocks of the park, “only” 2.6 billion years old. In addition to its impressive age, this rock outcrop reaches more than 80 feet high and is truly a scenic experience. The snowmobile speed limit within the park is 45 mph on frozen lake surfaces and 25 mph on all overland portages. Speed limit signs are posted at trailheads and portages. The speed limit for the ice road is 30 mph. The most up to date winter trail conditions are available at [www.nps.gov/](http://www.nps.gov/)

voya.  
**Snowmobile trails**  
■ International Falls to Kettle Falls (Purple Trail) – Open, staked, and groomed  
■ Rainy Lake/Black Bay to Kabetogama Lake to Ash River (Green Trail) – Open, staked, and groomed  
■ Ash River to Crane Lake (Green Trail) – Open, staked, and groomed  
■ Chain of Lakes (Dashed Black Trail) – Open, staked, and groomed  
■ Ash River to Kettle Falls (Yellow Trail) – Open, staked, and groomed  
■ East Namakan Lake to Sand Point Lake (Blue Trail) – Open, staked, and groomed  
**Ice roads**  
■ Rainy Lake Ice Road – Open to Cranberry Bay and around Dryweed Island  
■ Kabetogama Lake Ice Road – Open  
**Ski trails**  
■ Echo Bay Ski Trail – Open, packed, and tracked  
■ Black Bay Ski Trail – Open, packed, and tracked  
■ Tilson Connector Trail – Open, packed, and tracked  
■ KabAsh Trail – Open  
**Snowshoe trails**  
■ Black Bay Beaver Pond Trail – Open, not packed  
■ Blind Ash Bay Trail – Open, not packed  
■ Oberholtzer Trail – Open, not packed  
■ Sullivan Bay Trail – Open, not packed

CO REPORTS

2-9-2015 District 5 — Eveleth area



CO Darrin Kittelson

■ CO Darrin Kittelson (International Falls) reports the week’s activities included animal complaints, ice fishing and snowmobile enforcement, vintage snowmobile run, and deer depredation complaint. An invasive species meeting with Koochiching County was also attended. Found on the Arrowhead Snowmobile Trail in the Lake Kabetogama area was a Yamaha black vinyl/leather gear bag, to claim please contact CO Kittelson at (218)285-9501. ■ CO Jim Van Asch (International Falls) spent the week checking angling and snowmobilers throughout the area. The recent snow has rejuvenated the trail system for snowmobilers and cross country skiers over the weekend. CO Van Asch observed several machines that were quite dated and very interesting to see participating in a vintage

snowmobile run on Kabetogama Lake. Fish on area lakes are still hard to come by although; a few anglers were able to put a couple in the bucket on Rainy Lake. Enforcement action was taken for operating a snowmobile in excess of posted speed limits and angling without a license in possession. ■ CO Brad Schultz (Cook) reports the area snowmobile trails remain in poor shape due to the lack of snow. Ice fishing remains slow and not many anglers were observed throughout the week. Office work was completed. ■ CO Marc Hopkins (Tower) assisted COs Fredin and Frericks with a search warrant that led to large game violation charges. The officer assisted CO Grundmeier with some problem areas in his station. CO Hopkins and CO Grundmeier interrupted a burglary in progress while checking for anglers on a remote lake at night. The officers found a vehicle coming out of a WMA. The driver was cited for possession of marijuana and sent on his way. Officers then continued their patrol into the remote area and

found where tracks from the recently stopped vehicle had come from a private cabin. Further investigation found the private property freshly burglarized and damaged. CO Grundmeier and Hopkins were able to catch up to the suspect’s pickup truck and the driver was arrested for burglary, theft and criminal damage to property. ■ CO Don Bozovsky (Hibbing) worked angling, ATV, and snowmobile activity and assisted local law enforcement in searching for a stolen vehicle and the State Patrol on an impaired driver complaint. A vintage snowmobile run was worked with (nearly 200 sleds) between Chisholm and Kinney. An ATV was stopped for operating on a snowmobile trail and was also found to have drug paraphernalia. Enforcement action was taken on no angling license in possession, no ski pass on a state park ski trail, unregistered ATV, snowmobile registration display, snowmobile speed, operating an ATV on grant in aid snowmobile trail and possession of drug paraphernalia

Independent School District #361

Koochiching County International Falls, MN

*Mission Statement: To prepare all learners for a changing world by developing their potential within a climate of mutual respect and trust.*

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday, February 17, 2015

Falls High School Cafeteria

5:00 p.m.

PRELIMINARIES:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

2.0 ROLL CALL

Gordon Dault \_\_\_\_\_ Toni Korpi \_\_\_\_\_

Michelle Hebner \_\_\_\_\_ Heather McBride \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Holden \_\_\_\_\_ Kevin Grover \_\_\_\_\_

Tom Holt \_\_\_\_\_ Gary Harala \_\_\_\_\_

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4.0 PREVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried/failed by a \_\_\_\_\_ vote.

5.0 OPEN FORUM

5.1 February students of the month: Alexis Emanuel-Roche and Clay Bergstrom

5.2 School Board Recognition Week

5.3 Presentation from the Falls High PBIS team

5.4 Public open forum

6.0 Approve the minutes from the regular meeting of January 20, 2015. moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed

7.0 Approve the bills due and payable amounting to \$217,221.51. moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed

OLD BUSINESS:

8.0 Adopt the FY15 revenue budget. moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed

NEW BUSINESS:

9.0 Receive the FY15 expenditure budget for adoption in March.

10.0 Approve a request from Abby Oveson, paraprofessional for unpaid leave for February 12, 13 and 17 for personal reasons. moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed

11.0 Approve the amended Joint Powers Agreement with the Recreation Commission with the insertion of “Rules of Conduct” language.

12.0 **Program Consent:** moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the program consent agenda items as presented. carried/failed

12.1 Approve donations in the amount of \$5619.00

1/20/15 TruStar Federal Credit Union; Swim Team Timing System \$250.00

1/23/15 Paul Bunyan Telephone; Annual Scholarship Award \$300.00

1/26/15 Boise Paper; Swim Team Timing System \$2500.00

2/9/15 Boise Paper; Bronco Hall Of Fame \$1000.00

1/30/15 Boise Paper; Falls High School Prom \$250.00

1/30/15 Bremer Bank; Falls High School Prom \$100.00

1/30/15 County Market (Gift Card); Falls High School Prom \$40.00

1/30/15 Domino’s (40 Pizza Certificate); Falls High School Prom \$200.00

1/30/15 Dairy Queen 6 Mini Blizzards & 6 Dilly Bars; Falls High School Prom \$24.00

1/30/15 Essentia Health (2 Fleece Blankets); Falls High School Prom \$30.00

1/30/15 Family Chiropractic Center; Falls High School Prom \$50.00

1/30/15 Herzig Dental; Falls High School Prom \$50.00

1/30/15 Island View Realty; Falls High School Prom \$25.00

1/30/15 Jeff Briggs Construction; Falls High School Prom \$100.00

1/30/15 Northernnaire Houseboats; Falls High School Prom \$50.00

1/30/15 Rainy River Vet Hospital; Falls High School Prom \$25.00

1/30/15 Streiff’s Floral (Gift Certificates); Falls High School Prom \$125.00

1/30/15 Thunderbird Lodge; Falls High School Prom \$50.00

1/30/15 TruStar Federal Credit Union; Falls High School Prom \$100.00

1/30/15 Waschke Family GM Center; Falls High School Prom \$50.00

1/30/15 Wells Fargo Bank; Falls High School Prom \$100.00

1/30/15 Wenberg Transfer; Falls High School Prom \$200.00

TOTAL \$5619.00

12.2 Accept the quote from Clifton, Larson, Allen, LLP of Baxter, MN for audit services for FY15, FY16 and FY17 in the amount of \$19,400 per year.

13.0 **Personnel Consent:** moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the personnel consent agenda items as presented. carried/failed Classes. Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Second \_\_\_\_\_ carried/failed

13.1 Approve the hire of Sevon Simon as the assistant golf coach for the 2015 season and in accord with Schedule “D” of the Master agreement between ISD 361 and Local 331.

13.2 Approve the hire of Hailey Silvers as the Head Boys Swim Coach for the remainder of the 2015 season effective January 8, 2015.

13.3 Acknowledge Greg Thorstad as a volunteer swim coach for the 2015 season.

13.4 Accept the resignation of Aimee Droba, paraprofessional with last day of employment February 6, 2015.

13.5 Accept the resignation of Vicki Burns, paraprofessional with last day of employment January 23, 2015.

13.6 Accept the resignation of Abby Oveson, paraprofessional with last day of employment February 20, 2015.

13.7 Acknowledge Jay Bartkowski and Darrin Kittelson as volunteer baseball coaches for the 2015 season.

14.0 **Policy Consent:** moved \_\_\_\_\_ second \_\_\_\_\_ to approve policy consent agenda items as presented. carried/failed

14.1 Adopt revised Policy 713 Student Activity Accounts.

14.2 Receive revised policies for adoption in April:

14.2.1 Policy 201 Legal Status of the School Board

14.2.2 Policy 202 School Board Officers

14.2.3 Policy 204 School Board Meeting Minutes

14.2.4 Policy 206 Public Participation in School Board Meetings....

14.2.5 Policy 208 Development, Adoption and Implementation of Policies.

14.2.6 Policy 213 School Board Committees for adoption in April.

14.2.7 Policy 214 Out-of-State Travel by School Board Members

14.2.8 Policy 511 School Fundraising

REPORTS AND INFORMATION:

15.0 **Administrative Reports:**

15.1 Tim Everson, Principal

15.2 Melissa Tate, Principal

15.3 Kevin Grover, Superintendent

15.3.1 Strategic Planning

15.3.2 Arena update

15.3.3 Budget work session

15.3.4 Transportation/Maintenance Director Position

16.0 **Committee Reports:**

16.1 Student member

17.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to adjourn the meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. Motion carried/failed by a \_\_\_\_\_ vote.