HOLA

Road Committee Report Oct 2021 – Sep 2022

by David Douglas

The following is a summary of HOLA road committee events that took place in 2021-2022.

**Winter:**

In general, the winter was historically mild with only a couple of significant snowfalls and a couple of cold spells. The roads held up well in all cases and the HOLA snow removal contractor did a great job clearing and sanding the roads. As mentioned before for new owners and people to the Rangeley area. Snow removal in general will not start until at least 4 inches of snow has accumulated. This may seem a lot from people that are from away, but that amount is consider drivable for locals.

I want to thank all the HOLA owners for doing your part in driving slow and under control in winter conditions. I witnessed or was notified of very few accidents and towing incidents on HOLA roads.  Please keep up the great driving, get snow tires, and have fun this coming winter!

The budget for snow removal and plowing was set at 45k, actual was $43,700.

**Summer:**

HOLA was fortunate this year that M&H, our summer road contractor, was able to begin work before the summer construction rush. We completed all scheduled / identified ditching and culvert work (new or re-set) before Memorial day! During that same time, I want to thank those volunteers that help me fill pot holes until the grading could begin and continue after grading for those roads that are effected. THANK YOU!

Once the ditching and culvert work was completed, we can focus on building up sections of the roads and then finish with grading. Starting on June 10th, M&H began tackling the big project of rebuilding the beginning section of the Overlook road with reclaimed asphalt. The cost was expensive, but it is holding up well. Reclaimed asphalt was also applied in a smaller amount at the beginning of Lynn Way. Once that was done, M&H continued to add shale/gravel to those sections of roads that the road committee approved. The focus was on Overlook rads first then Highland roads. As work was being completed and invoices were being received, it was clear that the cost of material had increased greatly from past years, and that we had to reduce the planned / scheduled work to avoid going over budget.

In discussion about the budget and work to be completed, I worked with the Board of Directors to get approval to access some Road Committee “Emergency Funds” to complete the reduces road buildup and grading. M&H finished ALL road work on July 14th for the summer. I want to thank M&H for their commitment to HOLA for completing the work early in the Summer.

In order to keep the HOLA roads in better condition, i.e. reducing the washboard effects on uphill grades, the BOD approved the implementation of reducing HOLA speed limits to ALL HOLA roads to 20 MPH with additional reduction of speed limits to 10 MPH on all uphill grades. Please engage your 4WD if you have it when on the hills, especially the pickup trucks. Collectively if we can keep to these speed limits the roads will last longer, have less problems, less dust, and for the near term keep our annual dues in check without increases to continue to repair the roads. It is up to all of use to help out.

Lastly, we have some tree work to be completed (mainly in the Overlook area), but since I am out of money, I am asking for volunteers to help clear overhanging trees before winter sets in. Hanging trees / tree limbs are a safety hazard as well as blocking the sun in the winter to melt the snow. If you have trees on your road front hanging into the road, please see if you can cut those. HOLA will pick up the brush if left along the road side. Just give me a call to pick up. Regarding the tree effort, I want to recognize Rene’ who has done a fantastic job trimming trees on Morel Road. THANK YOU Rene’.

I also want to thank all those road committee and other volunteers that assisted me with various efforts throughout the year! THANK YOU!

The budget for summer road work was set at $49,100, actual was $70,600.

David Douglas

Road Commissioner