

2026-04-30 Meeting notes

Date

30 Apr 2026

Attendees

- [Garreth Wilcock](#)
- [Michael Bayern](#)
- [Paul Cihak](#)
- Cooper
- Nathaniel
- Jacob
- [William Elliman](#)
- Ashton

Absent - chair [Jason Harner](#)

Goals

- Discuss pros and cons of manual swapping the DMS Motorsports WRX with a BRZ transmission

Discussion items

Time	Item	Who	Notes
5 mins	Goals for the car	Michael	WRX is an entry level race car to make motorsports more accessible - 5 seats, don't need to commit to a weekend or buy a fire suit and spend \$1000 to get involved in motorsports The BRZ transmission is mated to a similar FA20 engine, and is an affordable alternative to keep the car as a useful tool (WRX STI transmission and parts are roughly \$4000-\$5000)
10mins	Goals for DMS	Michael	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ provide a vehicle with low barrier to entry. People see the WRX and want to get involved. More people can attend a local event - a rallycross or track day - costing \$100 rather than \$1000▪ The 240 is a racecar for endurance and track events▪ a manual swap is a project that involves mechanical, motorsport, electronics, welding, fabrication, design, CAD and is a good place to teach and mentor members to learn and make <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ It's a unique swap - it will bring attention at events to the range of skills at DMS▪ It makes a good car to learn to drive manual on - AC, 5 seats
10mins	Risks	Paul / Michael	The driveshaft would have to be cut, welded, tempered and balanced- maybe from parts we have - this might be best done at a driveshaft shop We may be able to hack the comms from the ECU to the TCU through a CANBUS hack. If this doesn't work, we could use a WRX manual ECU / TCU The transmission won't fit in the tunnel - starter on opposite side - we can enlarge the tunnel We may need to build a transmission support - we feel comfortable with this
10 mins	Budget	Garreth	There's a sample budget on Discord with a high and low estimate for works \$1359 - \$2550 range. Some parts (e.g. \$155 transmission) may be even lower than anticipated
5 mins	Alternatives	All	could we remove the WRX interior and cage it? This was make the car less accessible to new members - having 5 seats allows for better transfer of driving skills Could we put in a BRZ engine and transmission and sell the WRX engine? We don't think that saves us much, and loses power Could we sell the WRX shell and get a different second car? We don't think we'd get a low milage, 5 seater car that would be useful for track and rallycross for the price of the WRX

5 mins	Proposal	Garreth	We proposed presenting a proposal to the DMS board - proposing a \$2000 budget to proceed putting a BRZ manual transmission into the DMS WRX to provide a beginner friendly motorsports experience and create a unicorn vehicle that will attract attention to the skills and capabilities at DMS. Passed unanimously.
19:28			meeting closed

Action items

- [Garreth Wilcock](#) to present minutes to Motorsports chair and discuss presenting at next DMS Board meeting by 5/6/2026