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Governor

ARIZONA STATE PARKS & TRAILS

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SEPTEMBER 27, 2022
MINUTES
of
THE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ADVISORY GROUP
of
THE ARIZONA STATE PARKS AND TRAILS

Meeting Location: 1110 W Washington, Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Members Present Telephonically: Todd Davis (Chair), Holly Irwin (Vice Chair), Geoff Chain, Jason Cobb, Pat Headington, Tom Murphy

Staff Present: Chief of Grants and Trails Mickey Rogers, State OHV Coordinator Matthew Eberhart

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. MEMBER ROLL CALL

D. AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Consideration of Action to Approve Minutes of the June 2, 2022, OHVAG Meeting.**
Todd Davis moved to approve the meeting minutes for the June 2, 2022 meeting. Holly Irwin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2. OHVAG Will Consider and May Take Action on A Recommendation to the Arizona State Parks Board to Approve, Modify, Or Deny Funding for The Submitted 2023 Motorized Grant Application(s). (Presenter: Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator)**
State OHV Coordinator Matthew Eberhart presented on the two submitted 2023 Competitive Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Applications. Members had no questions or comments on the projects. Member Headington moved that OHVAG recommend that the Arizona State Parks Board approve funding for the Motorized Grant Applications as follows; Mohave County, Sawmill RV Park/Staging Area Development project in the amount of \$267,594.00 and Coconino National Forest: Red Rock Ranger District, OHV Program Development project in the amount of \$243,360.00. Member Irwin seconded the motion. Geoff Chain, Yes, Jason Cobb, Yes, Todd Davis, Yes, Pat Headington, Yes, Holly Irwin, Yes, Tom Murphy, Yes. The motion passed.
- 3. OHVAG Will Consider and May Take Action on A Recommendation to the Arizona State Parks Board to Approve, Modify, Or Deny Funding for The Submitted 2023 Supplemental Grant Application(s). (Presenter: Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator)**
State OHV Coordinator Matthew Eberhart presented on the nine submitted 2023 Supplemental Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Applications. Member concerns related to supplemental projects included the following:
 - Low law enforcement match funding.*
 - Potential USFS closures that could impact the ability to complete awarded projects.*
 - Where OHV Trail Counter will be located in the Red Rock Ranger District and what they will be counting.*

- *If dirt bikes will be sufficient enough for aiding in patrols and monitoring in the Sedona area.*
- *Law Enforcement overtime hours being used for drug, trespassing, general traffic, and DUI enforcement vs actual OHV patrols within city limits for smaller municipalities like Peoria, St. John, and Show Low.*
- *The number of hours per month being provided for patrol as match by project sponsors.*
- *Concern over the lack of trail maintenance, education, outreach, and other non-law enforcement grant applications that are being brought forward.*
- *A need for law enforcement agencies to communicate trail maintenance needs to land manager or Arizona State Parks and Trails to hopefully increase the number of education/outreach and maintenance type grants that are submitted.*
- *Consistency in vehicles that are being purchased with law enforcement funds and if there can be manufacturer standards for these types of units.*

Member Cobb moved that OHVAG recommend that the Arizona State Parks Board approve funding for the Supplemental Grant Applications as follows; Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, Springerville Ranger District, Law Enforcement Project in the Amount of \$100,000, Bullhead City Police Department, Law Enforcement Project in the amount of \$100,000, Coconino National Forest: Red Rock Ranger District, Law Enforcement Project in the amount of \$93,040, City of Peoria Police Department, Law Enforcement Project in the amount of \$30,000, Pinal County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Project in the amount of \$100,000, Show Low Police Department, Law Enforcement Project in the amount of \$100,000, St. Johns Police Department, Law Enforcement Project in the amount of \$96,000, and Tonto National Forest: Cave Creek Ranger District, Law Enforcement Project in the amount of \$94,224. Member Irwin seconded the motion. Geoff Chain, Yes, Jason Cobb, Yes, Todd Davis, Yes, Pat Headington, Yes, Holly Irwin, Yes, Tom Murphy, Yes. The motion passed.

Member Cobb moved that OHVAG recommend that the Arizona State Parks Board approve funding for the Supplemental Grant Applications as follows; Trail Riders of Southern Arizona, Red Springs Trail Improvements Project in the amount of \$9,025. Member Headington seconded the motion. Geoff Chain, Yes, Jason Cobb, Yes, Todd Davis, Abstain, Pat Headington, Yes, Holly Irwin, Yes, Tom Murphy, Yes. The motion passed.

4. Report on Fiscal Year 2022 awarded Motorized Projects. (Presenter: Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator).

State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator, Matthew Eberhart provided members an update on Fiscal Year 2022's awarded grant projects. Member Cobb expressed that moving forward there's need to be more of an effort in awarding projects for education and trail maintenance. Matthew expressed that there will continue to be incoming revenues and that the current scoring criteria guides the distribution of funds but that the projects that are brought to the agency are out of their control. The Grants and Trails team does a wide range of outreach efforts to try and promote the funding opportunities but have seen very few education, restorations, or maintenance grants come forward.

5. Chevelon Wildlife Area Project update. (Presenter: Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator).

State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator, Matthew Eberhart provided members an update on the completion of the Chevelon Wildlife Area Emergency and Mitigation Project.

6. OHV Coordinator Updates. (Presenter: Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator).

The State OHV Coordinator provided updates on the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC)/International Off-Highway Vehicle Administrators Association (INOHVAA) annual conference, OHV Ambassador Program, website changes, and working groups/collaboratives that he has been engaged in on the agency's behalf over the past year. Member Irwin informed the Group that the County Supervisors Association would be getting together in October to review any potential legislation and that she would keep the Group updated on any possible OHV legislation that may be brought up.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Member Cobb requested that there be a discussion at the next meeting about education efforts heading into the spring for potential fire dangers based on all the rain we have received and the increased vegetation growth that will take place over the winter months.

F. CURRENT EVENTS

Members had current events to discuss or share.

G. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Micah White provided an update to members on the Off-Highway Vehicle Ethics video that is currently being used as an education tool by rental companies prior to customers taking vehicles out for use. Members were interested in learning more about how the distribution is going and Member Cobb who owns a rental company requested a link that he can share. Member Murphy asked if the video could be used for more than just rental companies and member Headington asked how the video could be shared with the hunting community. Micah confirmed that it certainly could be shared with the outdoor recreation community as a whole. State OHV Coordinator Matthew Eberhart ensured he'd share the video link with members following the meeting.

H. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The Group will plan to meet in late November.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:32p.m.