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ARIZONA

STATE PARKS & TRAILS

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MINUTES
of
THE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ADVISORY GROUP
of
THE ARIZONA STATE PARKS AND TRAILS

Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Meeting Location: Arizona State Parks Office, 1110 W Washington, Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

Members Present Telephonically: Nena Barlow, Pat Headington, Holly Irwin, Tom Murphy

Members Present: Jeff Olson

Staff Present: Mickey Rogers, Matthew Eberhart, Juan Colorado-Alvarez

Staff Present Telephonically: Alec Wilcox

A. CALL TO ORDER

Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator Matthew Eberhart called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OHVAG member Jeff Olson lead the Group in the Pledge of Allegiance

C. MEMBER ROLL CALL

State OHV Coordinator Matthew Eberhart tool roll call to confirm a quorum.

D. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Consideration of Action to Approve Minutes of the May 21, 2024 OHVAG Meeting.

Member Olson moved to approve the meeting minutes from the May 21, 2024 OHVAG Meeting. Member Irwin seconded the motion. None were opposed and 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 2024 Competitive Motorized Grants Applications. (Presenter: Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator).

Matthew Eberhart, State OHV Coordinator, provided members an overview of the La Paz and Mohave County OHV Education and Law Enforcement applications that were submitted. Member Headington asked for clarification on the issues that vehicle purchases and patrol hours would be used to address. Both agencies expressed that the vehicles and patrol hours would be used for OHV enforcement efforts in remote areas where their current fleet of trucks was unable to access. Mr. Eberhart reminded members and both applicants that the projects were ineligible for search and rescue, drug/alcohol patrols, and needed to be strictly used for the enforcement OHV Laws. Member Barlow also reminded members and meeting attendees that the Arizona Peace Trail crosses both project sponsors jurisdiction and that this project would be great to educate riders utilizing the trail.

Member Headington moved that OHVAG recommend that the Arizona State Parks Board approve funding for the submitted 2024 Motorized Grant Applications as follows; La Paz County Sheriff's Office OHV Law Enforcement and Education Program request in the amount of \$421,995.00. Member Olson Seconded the motion. None were opposed, Member Irwin abstained, and the motion passed.

Member Olson moved that OHVAG recommend that the Arizona State Parks Board approve funding for the submitted 2024 Motorized Grant Applications as follows; Mohave County Sheriff's Office OHV Law Enforcement and Education Program request in the amount of \$435,400.00. Member Headington seconded the motion. None were opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

3. OHVAG Will Consider and May Take Action on a Recommendation to the Arizona State Parks Board to Approve, Modify, or Deny Funding the Cost Amendment Increase to Arizona Alpine Trail Master Plan Project 552321 as Presented by Staff (Presenter: Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator)

Matthew Eberhart, State OHV Coordinator, provided members an overview of the amendment request for the Arizona Alpine Trail. Member Murphy asked what the additional funds would be used for specifically. Mr. Eberhart clarified that the funds would be used to increase an existing scope item related to on the ground research and trail data collection which would be completed by Logan Simpson, the contractor who is currently assisting AZAT with their Master Plan project.

4. State Parks 2025 Statewide Trails Plan. (Presenters: Deb Pryor, CEO, Partners in Brainstorm).

Deb Pryor, CEO of Partners in Brainstorm provided OHVAG members an update on the trails plan survey and the process to date. Matthew Eberhart provided updates on the Partner Toolkit and Incentives Packages for survey participants as well as gave an overview of the timeline a head for getting the report finalized and approved prior to the end of Fiscal Year 2025 in June of 2025.

5. Emergency and Mitigation Supplemental Grant Application Update. (Presenter Matt Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator)

Matthew Eberhart provided an overview of the Cottonwood Spring Fencing project and the positive impact it will have long term on the environment and surrounding wildlife. Mr. Eberhart informed members that the project will be featured in an upcoming newsletter as a Grant Success Story video and that he'd send the link to members to view the story.

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

OHV Coordinator, Matthew Eberhart, provided OHVAG members updates on the Where to Ride Website and interactive OHV mapping work that is being completed, OHV Dealership Backpack Education Program tracking measures, the OHV Ambassador Program, and the Appreciate AZ Campaign.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Members had no future agenda items to request at this time.

F. CURRENT EVENTS

Member Barlow provided an update on an upcoming field outing for the Greater Sedona Recreation Collaborative on Friday, September 27th which will focus on route evaluation and how to incorporate new access points that will minimize residential exposure to OHVs.

Member Headington updated members on being more diligent in being actively involved in the BLM, USFS, and other agencies travel management processes because the Yuma Rod and Gun Club was recently involved in a BLM TMP that proposed a number of trail closures for AZGFD hunt units near Yuma. Member Olson provided insight on Travel Management Plans from a USFS perspective based on conversations he and other members of the Apache County ATV club have had with the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest about having roads being converted to motorized trails as a way to keep them from closure and maintaining them as part of the motorized network.

G. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

The Group had not call the public for this meeting.

H. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next OHVAG meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2024 from 1pm to 3pm.

I. ADJOURNMENT

State OHV Coordinator, Matthew Eberhart adjourned the meeting at 2:12 pm.