

Doug Ducey Governor



Bob BroscheidExecutive Director



MINUTES

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

Friday, April 1, 2022

A. CALL TO ORDER

OHVAG Chair, Todd Davis called the meeting to order at 11:34a.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator led the Group in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance

C. MEMBER ROLL CALL

<u>Members Present:</u> Todd Davis-Chair, Holly Irwin-Vice Chair (virtual), Geoff Chain (virtual), Jason Cobb (virtual), Pat Headington (virtual), Chuck Wood (virtual)

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

D. AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Consideration of Action to Approve Minutes of the March 4, 2022 OHVAG Meeting Vice Chair-Holly Irwin moved to approve the OHVAG meeting minutes from March 4, 2022. Chuck Wood seconded the motion. Todd Davis, yes, Holly Irwin, Yes, Geoff Chain, Yes, Jason Cobb, Yes, Pat Headington, Yes, Chuck Wood, Yes. Motion Passed.
- 2. Presentation on Arizona Open Meeting Law and Conflict of Interest Laws. (Presenter: Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator)

Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator presented information on open meeting law and conflict of interest to the Group per Arizona Revised Statute § 38-431.

- 3. Table Mesa OHV Concerns: (Presenter: Jason Cobb, OHVAG Member)
 - Member Cobb lead the Group in a discussion regarding private land ownership and BLM trail closures impacting the BLM managed Table Mesa OHV Area. Member Cobb shared information related to several BLM trails south or Rock Springs that have been closed due to a private owner fencing his property. The question was raised to the legality of this and its impact to the OHV community. BLM representative Chris Gammage confirmed that the owner was within his right to fence and gate his property. Member Cobb requested that there be some type of effort made by BLM to either create alternative routes or with the landowner to keep the trails open. Chris informed the Group that BLM is currently looking into both options as well as re-opening travel management for the Field Office that this issue falls under.
- 4. Tread Lightly! Partnership Update: (Presenter: Matt Caldwell, Executive Director Tread Lightly!)

 Tread Lightly! Executive Director Matt Caldwell shared information about Tread Lightly! and all of their current work that is taking place in Arizona including grant programs, trail projects and a wide range of partnerships.

 Their partnerships now include Go Lake Havasu, Sedona Chamber of Commerce and a variety of national tire manufacturers. Matt and his team are working to disperse themselves throughout the southwest to be more involved with popular OHV states.
- 5. OHV Coordinator Updates (Presenter: Matthew Eberhart, State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator)

 Matthew Eberhart updated members on Senate Bill 1377 and 1596. Both bills have passed the Senate and their assigned House of Representatives sub-committees. Both bills will likely be read on the House Floor within the coming weeks. Members will continue to be provided updates as these bills proceed. Members were also updated on the Arizona State Parks and Trails Legislative Day taking place on April 5, 2022 and were encouraged to

attend if their schedules permitted. Lastly, members were updated on a variety of upcoming events including the Arizona Game and Fish Department Expo, Mormon Lake UTV Rally, Ambassador Program Memorial Day Camp and Ride, and the Mormon Lake Off-Road and Camping Expo.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Member Geoff Chain requested an update on Arizona State Parks and Trails mechanized OHV equipment and the future plans for it.

F. CURRENT EVENTS

Member Geoff Chain and Matthew Eberhart provided an update on the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council Mechanized Equipment Training that took place in the Prescott National Forest the week prior. Member Jason Cobb highlighted his Trophy Lite Speed Shop is working to host tours and events in the Wickenburg area to keep the area from being negatively impacted by OHV use through partnerships with a variety of non-motorized groups. Member Todd Davis shared information on their San Manuel Race and the positive impact it continues to have on the local community and schools. Their club, the Trail Riders of Southern Arizona was able to donate over \$3,000 this year with the race's success. Member Pat Headington informed the Group that he recently participated in a youth fishing clinic where 400 children participated and were able to take home new fishing equipment. He mentioned that moving forward he'd like to find ways to incorporate more motorized education in the events that take place in the Yuma area. Member Holly Irwin educated the Group on the Arizona Peace Trail continuing to work on route configurations and that the La Paz County Hippy Hole project was nearing its completion in the coming months. Lastly, Member Chuck Wood expressed his excitement for the Apache County ATV group to be hosting an OHV Ambassador Camp and Ride over Memorial Day weekend in the White Mountains. In addition, he let everyone know that the Arizona Alpine Trail continues to host meetings with city, county, and US Forest Service representatives in an effort to make the trail a reality.

G. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Kim Jackson with the Arizona Game and Fish Department took a moment to invite everyone to attend the Arizona Game and Fish Department Expo.

H. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The State Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator will be sending out a request for available dates to members.

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45p.m.