

OHV Advisory Council Meeting
July 8, 2009

Present: Kevin Kesler, Fred Hayes, Dale Grange, Todd Andersen, Josh Jurgensen, John Borg, Todd Adams, Chris Fausett and Doug Page.

Excused: Dave Jeppesen

Doug called the meeting to order.

Josh asked Fred for an update on how many street legal OHVs are in Utah. Fred does not know the number and he will not know after a year cycle and Fred will get the numbers from DMV. Fred believes the number is very low.

Todd Andersen made the motion to approve the April minutes; Josh made the second, all in favor.

Council Updates

Dale:

- The 6th Annual ATV Jamboree went really well. 270 people attended.
- Working on a Washington County ATV map with Bill Thompson, they have a review meeting on July 23 with Forest Service, BLM, SITLA and the County. With the Washington County Lands Use Bill, Washington County will be starting on a travel plan.

Josh:

- Region 4 travel management plan is the Forest Service's number one priority.
- Uintah/Wasatch/Cache District is another priority. 50% of the recreational trail and road dollars will be spent on travel management.
- Heber/Kamas District is staying busy with illegal routes, signage, etc. July 4th visitation was down.
- Tom Tidwell is the new chief of the Forest Service.

Kevin:

- Their summer season is going well. They have held ATV activities in half of the counties in Utah. They have taught classes in 12 counties totalling around 200 4H kids.
- Their target is for kids on farms that may end up riding on public lands. Most of these kids probably won't end up on public land so it is good to get these kids taught since they would not go through the State training.

Todd Andersen asked how the online education was coming along. Fred said there are two companies that should have been online July 1 but neither one made it. Both companies are working hard to get their courses online.

Todd Adams:

- The new Compass, which is the publication for the Utah Four Wheel Drive Association, was mailed to their members.
- Their summer convention is being hosted by some of the southern clubs and will be held in Richfield July 31 and August 1. They generally get a couple hundred jeeps to participate.
- August 8th, the Association is helping with the rally at the Capital. This will be a stand up and be counted for the motorized trail users.
- The Association is working hard to help the other clubs in the State.
- They are in the process of organizing all of the clubs for the National Public Lands day in September.

Chris:

- They are spending a lot of time on the LaSal Mountains inventorying trails and roads. They have 2-3 people working on this right now. Once they gather all the information they will look at designating routes. They have nine or ten kiosks going in. The Counties and SPEAR have been helping with this project. Fred will have Bill and Dale get a hold of Chris to get him what they have been working on.
- They are continuing on getting county road claims cleared up. Their Board has asked them to complete 5 counties a year working on Class B roads.

Todd Andersen:

- He is still working on an urban area for a trail, but running out of options. He has made contact in Alpine City that might be willing for a motorized trail.
- Would like suggestions on date and where from the Council on an outing for the Council to get together and ride. He suggested the Sawtooth Forest. Dale suggested meeting Friday and riding Saturday. Fred mentioned that these outings are usually in the fall. Dale and Todd will get some suggestions and propose them to the Council.

Doug:

- Very little snow is left.
- Doug would like some ideas on direction or certain things the Council would like to see the Board to do, i.e. letters of support, of non support or whatever from the Board. By getting more involved.

John:

- John had a meeting with Fred, David Wagner and Jordan River OHV Center of a possibility of a trials area. It sounds like there is potential of a little trials area.
- John has sent some emails considering the legislation. Fred said they are putting in a clean up bill. Doug would like the Council to look at those emails and get back to John with their comments.

- John has been doing a lot of trail work with all the rain.

Fred:

- Our folks are working on their summer field work. There is still snow that is limiting their work.
- Bill and Dale are working on maps of Manti front area getting them tied in with the Arapeen.
- Dale will be in St. George looking at a Washington County map.
- They have spent a lot of time on the Ashley making comments and trying to work with their travel management plan.
- We are still teaching classes at a quick pace.
- Dale has finished the Four Wheel Drive CD.

Process they will follow for reviewing and prioritizing grant applications:

- Entertain motions of projects that you don't think we need to consider since they are so poorly written or not the kind of thing we should be spending money on.
- We will number the projects 1 to 22.
- We will talk about the projects, voice our concerns and review applications individually.
- Fred will give each member seven dots that they will put on their seven top projects. They will then sort everything.
- Doug will ask for a motion for a specific recommendation that will be taken to the State Parks Board who will then award the grant.

Fred asked the Council once they get to a recommendation please do not go to the project and tell them they got the grant. Nothing is final until the Parks Board awards the grant. You can talk about the recommendations but please do not give the impression that the money is there. The project will receive an official letter from the Board awarding the grant.

The other thing is the option exists for the Council to make a different recommendation than the State Parks staff will make. The Council can make a pitch to the Board about a project and then the Staff will give their opinion on the project. The Board will then make the decision what to do. This is pretty rare

We have \$850,000 in RTP money and \$175,000 in state money to award. We don't have to spend all of this money. What RTP money we do not spend will go to the non-motorized trail program. State money not spent will stay there.

We do not have to award the money that is asked for. We can award less than what is asked for.

Fred asked the Council if there were any projects that anyone had heartburn and would like to have those thrown out right off the bat. Most of the council had a lot of questions about the West Mountain Track/Trails project. So the Council just started discussing the following projects:

1. West Mountain Track/Trails 3 VOTES RTP 12 - \$105,500 or balance of RTP \$
2. Brianhead Town Trails no funding
3. PFO Volunteer Coordination 6 VOTES State 1 – full amount
4. Paiute Trail Rangers 5 VOTES RTP 5 – full amount
5. Sandwash Trail 3 VOTES State 3 – full amount
- ~~6. Range Creek Trailhead~~ (does not meet grant requirements)
7. Fishlake Cut-offs 6 VOTES RTP 3 – full amount
8. 6 Mile Trails 6 VOTES RTP 4 – full amount
9. Dry-Mitchell Trails 5 VOTES State 2 – full amount
10. Dixie (PV) Maint/Ed 1 VOTE State 4 – pending project description
11. Arapeen Maint/Ed 6 VOTES RTP 2 – full amount
12. Richardson Fk Rehab 7 VOTES RTP 1 - full amount
- ~~13. Buckhorn Info Ctr~~ (does not meet grant requirements)
14. Dixie NF Map done in house with Fred
15. Marking Motorized Routes (Moab) no funding
16. Markagunt Maint/Ed 4 VOTES RTP 12 – full amount
- ~~17. Rhino Purchase~~ (already purchased with state funds)
18. Snowmobile Grooming 4 VOTES RTP 10 – full amount
19. Snowcat 1 RTP 6 - full amount
20. Snowcat 2 RTP 7 – full amount
21. Snowcat 3 RTP 8 – full amount
22. Snowcat 4 RTP 9 – full amount

The Council votes are in blue and the prioritizations are in green. The Council was all in favor on the snowcat purchases, they just did not have enough dots.

Todd Andersen made the motion not to fund the Brianhead Town Trails project, Josh seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Todd Andersen made the motion not to fund the Marking Motorized Routes in Moab project, Josh seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Todd Andersen made the motion not to fund the Dixie NF Map project and just have Fred get those printed in house, Josh seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Todd Andersen made the motion to put the Dixie Maint/Ed project State funding on hold awaiting a detailed project description, Todd Adams seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

RTP recommendations:

1. Richardson Fk Rehab
2. Arapeen Maint/Ed
3. Fishlake Cut-offs
4. 6 Mile Trails
5. Paiute Trail Rangers
6. Snowcat 1
7. Snowcat 2
8. Snowcat 3
9. Snowcat 4
10. Snowmobile Grooming
11. Markagunt Maint/Ed
12. West Mountain Track/Trails (\$105,500 or balance of RTP \$)

State Money recommendations

1. PFO Volunteer Coordination
2. Dry-Mitchell Trails
3. Sandwash Trail
4. Dixie (PV) Maint/Ed (pending project description)

Todd Adams made the motion to accept the list above, Dale seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Fred would like the Council to think about an award system for those outstanding volunteers and outstanding agency folks who go above and beyond their call of duty with the OHV program.

Fred would like the Council to consider hosting a motorized trail conference on an annual basis adjacent with some other event, like a jamboree or even on its own. Fred has been to three state trail conferences and they have been all for non motorized trails. This is to bring people for training, like trail patrol, and discussions with land managers about what we want to see now. Present a Land manager of the year award and volunteer of the year award. Admin has already agreed to compensate a room and maybe some meals for these individuals. Maybe have the Division pick up half the cost, participants pick up the lodging, people tend to participate more when they pay a fee. Maybe have some vendors show up. These conferences are a lot of work and we do not have enough time to get one together for 2009 but we maybe able to pull one off in 2010. Doug asked if the Division would take lead or the Council and Fred would like the Council to lead the conference with support from the Division.

The Combined Trails Committee meeting is scheduled for August 4, 2009 at 6:00 pm at the Department of Natural Resources building. It is important to have a quorum from this committee to be there. If you are not able to make this meeting please proxy a vote to someone else on the Council as those votes will count.

The next OHV Advisory Council meeting is Wednesday October 14 at Utah Lake.

Todd Adams motioned to adjourn the meeting, Dale Grange seconded that motion, and all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned.