



**OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ADVISORY COUNCIL
DIVISION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Minutes Of The Meeting Held on September 25, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Department of Natural Resources

Virtual Meeting

ATTENDEES

Council Members Present:

Eric Nelson (Acting Chair)
Brody Johnson
Fred Christensen
Jason Blankenagel
Laura Ault
Nathan Curtis
Cheryl Butler

Host:

Department of Natural
Resources

Visitors:

Division of Outdoor Recreation:

Chase Pili
Rachel Toker
Jorge Vazquez

Excused:

Tyson Todd

Audio/video recording of this meeting is located at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L-Qikbqj5Qk4yF1xQZSO8H139xoeRBI8/view?usp=sharing>

TIME AGENDA ITEM AND SUMMARY

5:01

1. WELCOME

1.1. Call to Order

Acting Chair Nelson called the meeting to order, and Off-highway Vehicle (OHV) Grant Administrator Rachel Toker recorded the minutes. Ms. Toker also took attendance of the council members present. With a quorum of council members in attendance, the meeting proceeded with its agenda.

1.2. Attendance and Introductions

Acting Chair Nelson asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves. Council members provided their names and affiliations for the record.

1.3. Approval of August 18, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Acting Chair Nelson presented the minutes of the August 18, 2023, OHV Advisory Council meeting and requested their approval as presented.

BRODY JOHNSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 18, 2023 OHV ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING. FRED CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION, AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4:35

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THREE COUNCIL POSITIONS

Acting Chair Nelson opened the floor to Ms. Toker, and Chase Pili regarding the open vacancies for council positions. Ms. Toker took the time to discuss these positions which included the 4-Wheel Drive Representative, formerly held by Ron Tolmand, who served two consecutive terms totaling 8 years. Additionally, there are vacancies for the positions of Motorcycle Representative (previously held by Scott Wheelers, who served one term) and Snowmobile Representative (previously held by Kirk Chesters, who served one term as well). The council had these vacancies open for applications for a month, receiving one application for each of the mentioned positions.

2.1. 4-Wheel Drive Representative

Brett Davis applied to be the 4-Wheel Drive Representative. Mr. Davis received support from both Mr. Pili and Sheriff Curtis for his application.

2.2. Motorcycle Representative

Scott Wheeler applied to be the Motorcycle Representative. It was noted that Mr. Wheeler had previously served on the council.

2.3. Snowmobile Representative

Kirk Chesters applied to be the Snowmobile Representative. It was noted that Mr. Chester had previously served on the council.

Council members were asked to take a vote on the candidates for the three positions. All council members agreed on the candidates, and Acting Chair Nielson sought a motion.

BRODY JOHNSON MOVED TO APPROVE ALL THREE CANDIDATES FOR THE COUNCIL POSITIONS. SHERIFF CURTIS SECONDED THE MOTION, AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

08:20

3. ELECT COUNCIL CHAIR, VICE CHAIR, AND SECRETARY

3.1. Secretary

Acting Chair Nelson moved the meeting into discussions on electing the council Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, opening the floor for nominations for these positions.

The meeting moved to the election of the Council Secretary, with Brody Johnson nominating Ms. Toker for the position. Mr. Pili voiced his concerns, stating that Ms. Toker's extensive background work for the council might be better utilized in other capacities to maintain a healthy balance within the council. Ms. Toker shared her willingness to serve as Secretary but also acknowledged the concerns raised by Mr. Pili. After careful consideration and acknowledging Mr. Pili's concerns, Ms. Toker's nomination for the position of Council Secretary was withdrawn.

Following the withdrawal of Ms. Toker's nomination for the position of Council Secretary, Jason Blankenagel requested a detailed explanation of the full responsibilities of the Secretary. Acting Chair Nelson and Ms. Toker provided an overview of the duties and responsibilities traditionally associated with the Council Secretary position.

Laura Ault sought clarification on Ms. Toker's original nomination for Secretary. Mr. Pili re-clarified his position, emphasizing that the Secretary position would be best suited for an active council member due to Ms. Toker's substantial workload as the Grant Administrator.

Acting Chair Nelson emphasized that council members nominated for positions must genuinely want to serve and possess the ability to do so without conflicts. Sheriff Curtis informed the council that he had been appointed to an additional board, and due to this commitment, he expressed concerns about the time constraints. He indicated that while he wanted to support the council, taking on additional council positions might pose challenges in managing work.

Tyson Todd expressed his willingness to serve in the role of Council Secretary if needed. Jason Blankenagel nominated Tyson Todd for the position of Council Secretary. Brody Johnson seconded the nomination.

ACTING CHAIR NELSON OPENED THE FLOOR FOR THE VOTES ON TYSON TODD TO BE APPOINTED AS COUNCIL SECRETARY. TYSON TODD WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED IN AND OFFICIALLY APPOINTED AS COUNCIL SECRETARY.

3.2. Chair

Acting Chair Nelson opened the floor for nominations for the Council Chair position, providing a brief description of the duties. Ms. Toker added additional details about the Chair's responsibilities. Mr. Blankenagel inquired about specific tasks and coordination between the previous Chair (Ron) and Ms. Toker, seeking clarification. Ms. Toker and Mr. Pili provided further insight into the coordination process.

Nominations were opened for the Council Chair position. Ms. Ault nominated the current Acting Chair, Mr. Nelson. In response, Acting Chair Nelson nominated Mr. Blankenagel. Mr. Christensen motioned to close the nominations, emphasizing the need to proceed, which was seconded by Mr. Johnson. With unanimous agreement, the nominations were closed.

ACTING CHAIR NELSON OPENED THE FLOOR FOR A VOTE FOR JASON BLANKENAGEL FOR THE POSITION OF COUNCIL CHAIR. WITH UNANIMOUS SUPPORT AND NO OPPOSITION, JASON BLANKENAGEL WAS VOTED IN AS THE OFFICIAL CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL.

3.3. Vice Chair

Acting Chair Nelson opened the floor for nominations for the Vice Chair position. Mr. Blankenagel nominated Mr. Nelson. Mr. Christianson nominated Mr. Johnson. Mr. Johnson then nominated Mr. Nelson for the Vice Chair position.

Sheriff Curtis sought a motion to close the nominations, and Laura Ault seconded the motion to close the nominations.

ACTING CHAIR NELSON OPENED THE FLOOR FOR VOTES ON THE VICE CHAIR. WITH NO OPPOSITION, ERIC NELSON WAS APPOINTED AS THE VICE CHAIR FOR A SECOND TERM.

23:30

4. SET MEETING DATE FOR AUGUST 2024

Acting Chair Nelson proposed setting the next meeting date for August 24, 2024. Mr. Johnson inquired about scheduling additional meetings for an earlier date. Ms. Toker

clarified that specific dates had already been set for various upcoming meetings, outlining the schedule as follows:

- October 27th: Site visit in Eureka
- April 26th: OHV Grant review
- May 31st: Recreational Trails Program
- October 4th: Site visit for the following year
- August (Date to be confirmed) 2024.

Brody Johnson made a motion to schedule the next meeting for August 23, 2024. Laura Ault seconded the motion. The motion to set the next meeting for August 23, 2024, was confirmed and approved unanimously.

ACTING CHAIR NELSON PUT THE MOTION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT MEETING FOR AUGUST 23RD, 2024, INTO A VOTE. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

27:25

5. OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Johnson shared that he met with Iron County Search and Rescue, who expressed immense gratitude to the council for approving their drone request. He reported that they were able to utilize the drones and were extremely pleased with their performance. They expressed their heartfelt thanks for the council's support, emphasizing that the drones had proven to be valuable assets in their operations.

Mr. Blankenagel inquired about the status of information regarding the rules related to County B roads. He also sought updates on the roads in Washington County.

Ms. Toker addressed the council regarding County B roads, explaining requests for funding can come from the roads department. She highlighted the challenge faced by the Desert Road Trail Society, which was unable to receive funding due to not being part of the county. She then passed the discussion to Mr. Pili, who provided an update on the Great Zion road.

Mr. Pili clarified that the road was categorized as a B road owned by St. George, making it difficult to secure additional funding as there were already allocated funds for it. He emphasized that the responsibility for funding fell on the city or county, depending on ownership. Ms. Toker further elaborated that the unallocated 1.1 million dollars would be returned to the funding pool and earmarked for the next year's cycle, set to commence in February.

Mr. Blankenagel inquired about the county's plans regarding the Toquerville Falls road. Ms. Toker responded, stating that the council did not have much information on it at the moment and deferred the question to Mr. Pili.

Mr. Pili clarified that the crucial aspect regarding roads like the Toquerville Falls road was understanding the jurisdiction. He emphasized the need to guide the concerned parties in the right direction to ensure they receive appropriate assistance. Mr. Pili mentioned that B and C roads would likely not receive funding, as they were covered by different funding sources. Exceptions could be made under certain circumstances, but the primary focus would be on D roads.

Sheriff Curtis proposed obtaining certification from the county to clearly identify the types of roads, making it easier to determine which roads were eligible for funding. He emphasized that this certification process would provide essential clarity for the council's funding decisions.

Ms. Toker acknowledged Sheriff Curtis's. She mentioned that the changes resulting from classifications of roads would be reflected in the program guide and updated on the website.

Sheriff Curtis informed the council about his conversation with Sheriff Doug Anderson from Juab County regarding the Little Sahara applications for Mika. He mentioned exploring alternative options and scheduling a meeting to discuss the matter further. Additionally, Sheriff Curtis shared positive feedback he received during the Search and Rescue and Sheriff Conference, where attendees expressed satisfaction with the council's initiatives and extended their gratitude for the council's efforts.

38:30

6. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Acting Chair Nelson sought a motion to adjourn.

BRODY JOHNSON MOTIONED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. LAURA AULT SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.