

Grand County Motorized Trails Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 12, 2024

APPROVED October 23, 2024

The meeting was held at the Grand Center and called to order by Clif Koontz at 12:40 pm.

Members in attendance:

Clif Koontz, Chair

Payton Blasco, BLM

Reid Bakkan, E-Bike Rep

Zane Taylor, Motorcycle Rep

Dave Cozzens

Anna Sprout, GCATT

A. Approval of Minutes

Reid Bakken made a motion to approve the August 8 minutes, Zane Taylor seconded, motion passed unanimously.

B. Citizens to be Heard

None

C. Scheduling Trail Projects

Payton said that the BLM and RR4W could probably use more volunteers for the Sevenmile Rim project on September 28th, which is National Public Lands Day. He said they'll work on Wicked Ledge, relocating some buck-and-rail fence, plus extending it by forty feet. Clif said the MTC's Facebook page can be used to recruit volunteers for that project.

Reid suggested switching the dates for the White Knuckle Hill and Cliffhanger Waterfall projects in order to avoid weekend congestion on Cliffhanger, and the group agreed, so Clif said he'll update the MTC's Facebook page to show Cliffhanger on September 19 and White Knuckle on September 21.

E. Updates from MTC Stakeholder Representatives and Executive Subcommittee members

Clif said he introduced himself as MTC chair to Lena Pace, who is the new superintendent of Arches NP, Canyonlands NP, Natural Bridges NM, and Hovenweep NM. He said that Lena was receptive to introducing herself and other NPS staff at the MTC meeting next month. He said the MTC might wind up scheduling an outing in Arches or Canyonlands, and might provide feedback on the primitive roads, so he's interested in the preliminary thoughts of other MTC members. Reid said that the MTC

could help the NPS improve its educational content and expand it to locations such as both ends of White Rim Road as well as inside the restrooms where visitors might take more time to read it. The group was glad to hear of Lena's interest in the MTC.

Payton said that paving the parking lot of Poison Spider Mesa 4WD route should be finished in about a week.

Reid reported that the BLM said its environmental assessment of e-bike use on designated mountain bike trails has been delayed by perhaps one month. He also noted that Rim Tours is now a dealer of the WAG bag by Cleanwaste (formerly Restop), so Rim Tours could sell them to other local businesses or agencies.

Zane and Dave had no updates this month.

Anna said GCATT hired a motorized- and hiking- trail ambassador named Rusty who has experience with TreadLightly, Leave No Trace, and an overlanding event. Also Ryan is an existing trail ambassador who will get trained to drive OHVs, as he has done some motorized trail guiding in a previous job. Last month Anna and Keltain attended the Utah Outdoor Recreation Summit near Bryce Canyon.

F. Adjournment

Clif thanked everyone for their time and adjourned the meeting at 1:27 pm.