



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

DRAFT

*Minutes Of The Meeting Held on April 25, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.
Hybrid*

HOST: **Moab Grand Center**
182 North 500 West
Moab, Utah 84532
(Virtual and in-person meeting)

ATTENDEES:

OHV Council Members

Present:

Jason Blankenagel (Chair)
Eric Nelson (Vice-Chair)
Cheryl Butler
Kirk Chester
Fred Christensen
Brett Davis
Dave Jacobson
Brody Johnson
Bonnie McCallister
Nicole Neilson
Scott Wheeler

Absent:

Nathan Curtis

**Division of Outdoor
Recreation:**

Evan Beitsch
Maureen Casper
Jason Curry
Patrick Morrison
Rachel Toker

**Division of Law
Enforcement:**

Steve Bullock
Jacob Hinton

Visitors:

Wade Allinson
Jabe Beal
Randall Berger
Dennis Blackburn
Michael Bouck
Suzette Bulloch
Michael Davis
Shannon Eberhard
Ken Green
Lynn Jackson
Ellen Johnson
Clif Koontz
Keri Nelson
Jakelle Pace
Marc Pett
Scott Purcell
Brett Stewart
Scott Sully

Video recording of this meeting is located at: [Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Council 4/25/2025](#)

TIME AGENDA ITEM AND SUMMARY

0:00

1. WELCOME

1.1. Call to Order

The Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Council Chair, Jason Blankenagel, 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

Chair Blankenagel asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves. Council members, Department staff, and members of the public provided their names and

affiliations for the record.

1.3. Approval of August 23, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Chair Blankenagel initiated the approval of the August 23 meeting minutes, providing council members an opportunity to review.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 23, 2024, MEETING MINUTES. BRODY JOHNSON MADE THE MOTION, SCOTT WHEELER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10:12 2. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT TRAINING (OPMA)

The Attorney General's Office Representative, Shane Stroud, conducted OPMA training, emphasizing transparency, public access, proper notice, and record-keeping. He clarified that a meeting involves a quorum (simple majority) convened to discuss official business, while chance or social encounters without such discussions do not qualify. The Division of Outdoor Recreation oversees most procedural OPMA requirements. Meetings are presumed open unless closed under specific conditions, which require a two-thirds vote and a sworn statement. All votes must occur in open meetings. Mr. Stroud outlined compliance measures, including maintaining agendas, recordings, minutes, and distributed materials, and cautioned against discussing official matters in informal settings.

38:12 3. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE & OHV RESTRICTED ACCOUNT DISCUSSION

Division Director Jason Curry provided a legislative update and discussed the OHV Restricted Account, which is funded through registration fees, non-resident permits, and fuel taxes. He acknowledged the council's contributions and emphasized the importance of public engagement, transparency, and compliance with GRAMA and OPMA. Mr. Curry reviewed the growth of the grant program and the strong leveraging of state funds through matching grants. He outlined key bills from the 2025 legislative session, including HB439 (grant funding), HB456 (outdoor recreation mitigation), and SB52 (vehicle registration). Appropriations were received for a maintenance shop and ranger residences. Mr. Curry emphasized division priorities such as transparency, access protection, public education, support for law enforcement, and continued collaboration with the council.

Mr. Curry discussed the OHV Recreation Grants annual funding and the expansion of the trail crew capacity, with plans to seek additional appropriations. He discussed upcoming infrastructure projects and an economic impact study leveraging a Colorado State University model. A concern was raised about non-OHV users benefiting from OHV grants without a financial contribution. Mr. Curry stated he is committed to enhancing council involvement in grant decisions and program direction, acknowledging past gaps in input, particularly regarding the online training course. OHV Safety Representative, Fred Christensen, provided feedback on OHV education, and Mr. Curry encouraged future input through formal channels for better documentation.

1:11:31 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS & INPUT

Brett Stewart with Utah OHV Advocates raised concerns regarding trail crew funding, prompting a review of current expenditures. Mr. Stewart highlighted discrepancies between funding allocations for law enforcement rangers and trail maintenance crews, questioning why a significant portion of the OHV Restricted Account is used for law enforcement when the Utah Highway Patrol already receives dedicated funding. He suggested that general funds, rather than OHV-specific funds, should support ranger operations. Mr. Stewart also emphasized the need for greater transparency about the substantial revenue generated by OHV registration fees, noting that the account produces

more funds than expected and that this information has not been adequately shared with the advisory council.

Mr. Curry responded by clarifying that the projected cost for the new maintenance facility is \$19.5 million, reduced from an earlier estimate of \$27 million, with ongoing efforts to further lower costs. He identified three funding sources for rangers: the OHV Restricted Account, the boating account, and State Parks. While acknowledging the historical role of OHV funds in supporting law enforcement, Mr. Curry advocated for transitioning that responsibility to the general fund. Steve Bullock, with the Division of Law Enforcement, provided additional context, explaining the recent consolidation of four law enforcement divisions, the longstanding presence of rangers in OHV enforcement, and the absence of federal funding for the program. He described the varied duties performed by rangers. Mr. Curry further clarified that, although rangers enforce laws on federal lands, the program receives no federal support, making state investment essential to meeting the needs of the OHV community.

1:41:45 5. REVIEW OF MOTORIZED RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP) GRANTS

RTP Grant Administrator Evan Beitsch initiated the scoring process and introduced five applications for the Motorized RTP grants totaling \$682,986.

BRODY JOHNSON PROPOSED A MOTION TO APPROVE APP-004041 - MOAB BLM AND APP-004083 - UTAH AVALANCHE CENTER FOR FUNDING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BRETT DAVIS AND WAS PASSED BY THE COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY.

The top two scoring projects were selected for funding without further discussion, while the remaining projects were discussed and considered individually by the committee.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO FUND APP-004374 - SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY AND APP-004506 - UTAH STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE. THE MOTION WAS PROPOSED BY BRETT DAVIS AND SECONDED BY BONNIE MCCALLISTER. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Most of the council initially gave APP-004489 a low score due to concerns about its non-motorized trail focus and the absence of partnerships with OHV groups. They also noted that the board of directors lacked representation from OHV enthusiasts and suggested either tabling the application or resubmitting it under non-motorized funding.

A motion was made and seconded to conclude the RTP grant scoring process, effectively denying the remaining application. The motion passed unanimously. Concerns cited included the applicant's weak connection to OHV interests and partnerships with groups, such as the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, which have historically opposed motorized use. Additionally, the restoration component of the grant was viewed as not exclusively focused on OHV trail restoration. After evaluating the proposals, the council approved the top four applications based on scoring metrics and concerns related to administrative costs and equitable funding distribution.

#	FY25 - Recreational Trails Program	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested RTP Moto Funding
1	Advancing Motorized Recreation: The Moab Field Office seeks funding to improve recreation	BLM - Grand County	\$255,000.00	200,000.00

	<p>opportunities for motorized users by improving trailheads (including trailhead signage), as well as mapping, marking, and delineating motorized routes. The grant would improve the availability of digital mapping for users (for example, by providing QR codes), as well as improve the marking and delineating of the many iconic routes in the Moab Field Office. The grant would enable the marking of the many motorcycle and UTV routes that abound in the area of the White Wash Sand Dunes. Funds would be used to purchase metal kiosks, signage for those kiosks, marking materials, and materials to delineate the motorized routes. The sheer number of users of Moab's motorized route system means that maintenance needs are constant and compelling.</p>			
2	<p>Virtual Kiosk Expansion: The Virtual Trailhead Kiosk Program enhances motorized backcountry safety by expanding and improving the daily trail and avalanche conditions reporting to better serve motorized recreationists. Since winter riders make their own trails, and since it's impossible to publish avalanche reports at every trailhead, the UAC publishes them digitally, and these reports serve as virtual trailhead safety information kiosks. This program keeps motorized users safe by ensuring they have the forecast on their preferred channel - online, mobile app, email, etc. The project integrates advanced forecasting technology, user-friendly digital tools, and enhanced data accessibility to provide riders with this critical safety information. Funding from the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Motorized grant supports avalanche forecasting to provide users with critical safety information, and the funding supports the technology to ensure it's always at users' fingertips. The UAC will also install new and replacement beacon checker signs at high-use non-motorized trailheads, providing backcountry users with a critical safety checkpoint before entering avalanche terrain. These programs help riders make informed decisions before and during their backcountry adventures, ultimately reducing accidents and increasing overall safety.</p>	Utah Avalanche Center	\$112,884.40	\$83,861.00
3	<p>Motorized Trail Improvement Crew: IIC crew members will complete work on the Markagunt and Paunsaugunt OHV Trail Systems in the Dixie National Forest, Utah, which is a network of off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails that traverse the scenic Markagunt and Paunsaugunt Plateaus between Cedar Breaks National Monument, Duck Creek, Panguitch Lake, and Bryce Canyon areas. Crews will perform repair and maintenance on the trails and trailheads to ensure the ATV/OHV trails and day-use areas remain safe,</p>	Southern Utah University	\$250,562.00	\$199,625.00

	sustainable, and enjoyable for riders while protecting the surrounding environment.			
4	Buffalo Soldier Heritage Trail Continued Educational Materials: The Utah Buffalo Soldier Heritage Trail is an ongoing project spearheaded by The Utah Cultural Site Stewardship Program, State Historic Preservation Office, and Sema Hadithi with the objective of preserving and showcasing the unique history of the Black American soldiers who served throughout Utah. This accessible trail system is centered around creating public awareness of cultural resources and the human history tied to locations that receive large numbers of outdoor recreationalists, tourists, and the general public year-round.	Utah's State Historic Preservation Office	\$19,680.00	\$11,000.00
5	GSEP Motorized Trails Maintenance and Restoration: Grand Staircase Escalante Partners (GSEP) will lead the Stewardship and Sustainable Visitation Program to restore and protect motorized trails in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM). Spanning 1.9 million acres, GSENM faces growing environmental pressures from increased visitation, resulting in trail erosion, campsite expansion, graffiti, and waste accumulation. This 28-month initiative (2025–2027) will mitigate these impacts through volunteer-led trail restoration, visitor education, and expanded digital outreach.	Grand Staircase Escalante Partners	\$237,548.97	\$0
	This project was NOT selected for RTP funding.			

2:04:19 6. MOTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDED MOTORIZED RTP GRANTS

Having reviewed and scored the five Motorized RTP applications, Chair Blankenagel sought a motion to recommend funding for four of the five applications at \$492,486.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO CONCLUDE THE RTP GRANT SCORING PROCESS, EFFECTIVELY DENYING THE REMAINING APPLICATION. SCOTT WHEELER MADE THE MOTION, AND NICOLE NEILSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2:08:30 7. LUNCH

At this time, the OHV Advisory Council turned off the recording and took a lunch break.

2:27:17 8. OHV RECREATION (OHVR) GRANT REVIEW FOR SPRING FY25

Ms. Toker announced that applicants requesting more than \$350,000 in funding would present their proposals during the meeting. Scheduled presenters included the Utah Snowmobile Association, Wayne County, Jordan River, and Emery County Sheriff Search and Rescue. Each presentation was allotted 10 minutes, followed by five minutes for questions and answers, except for the final presentation, which was limited to five minutes total.

8.1. Applicant Presentation (APP-004313)

Michael Davis and Michael Bouck, representing the Utah Snowmobile Association, presented a grant proposal to expand the Franklin Basin parking lot.

The association expressed a willingness to divide the grant into phases to accommodate the timing of easement acquisition. The potential to leverage RTP grants and other federal funding sources was discussed. Concerns were raised regarding the need for an environmental assessment due to the use of federal funds. Snowmobile Representative, Kirk. Chester suggested prioritizing the project, citing similar needs at multiple locations statewide. U.S. Forest Service Representative Cheryl Butler recommended that the applicant explore the Outdoor Recreation Initiative funding for future large-scale efforts.

8.2. Applicant Presentation (APP-004440)

Wayne County presented on their application. The council conducted a budget review. They discussed the potential use of RTP funds for equipment such as pumps and emphasized the need for ongoing maintenance funding. Motorcycle Representative, Scott Wheeler, highlighted the value of maintaining trails, referencing positive experiences with the well-kept trail systems in Wayne County.

Mr. Christensen expressed support for the project, noting its strategic connection to other trail systems. The project's role in preserving RS2477 roads and its broader regional significance were also emphasized during the discussion.

8.4. Applicant Presentation (APP-004180)

The Emery County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue team presented on two snowmobiles and associated safety gear. The request highlighted the growing need for updated equipment due to increased snowmobile rescue operations in the area.

During the discussion, Ms. Toker explained the application of the "flat rate" funding rule for search and rescue grants, designed to provide more consistent and equitable support for search and rescue operations. She clarified both the cost of the requested snowmobiles and how the flat rate rule would apply to this specific request.

8.3. Applicant Presentation (APP-004453)

Randall Berger with Utah State Parks presented a funding request to install permanent lighting at Jordan River OHV State Park. The project is intended to enhance safety, reduce water usage for dust suppression, and enable nighttime operations. Mr. Berger also shared future plans to install cameras on the light poles. The discussion included the park's off-road vehicle registration and fee structure.

3:20:13 9. CONT. OHVR GRANT REVIEW FOR SPRING FY25

The FY25 OHV Recreation Grant review began with the Wayne County trail project, which received the highest score of 91.7 and requested nearly \$650,000. The council voiced strong support for the project, citing the importance of trail maintenance and the county's history of strong performance. Jabe Beal with the Bureau of Land Management added that coordination between Wayne County and the BLM would be necessary. The project was ultimately approved unanimously.

The Western Single Track Alliance application prompted significant discussion due to its request for leased motorcycles, a generator, and protective equipment. Mr. Wheeler recommended removing those items and proposed a revised funding amount of \$50,500, citing asset management concerns and alternative volunteer-based solutions. The discussion extended into broader themes of non-profit equipment procurement and accountability. Ultimately, the modified proposal was approved, and council members requested additional trail-related details from the applicant.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO FUND APP-004051 AT \$50,050.00. SCOTT WHEELER MADE THE MOTION, BRODY JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Red Rock Rally application raised questions about the use of grant funding for promotional items like t-shirts. While the application received an 80% score, the group expressed concerns about setting a precedent. Chair Blankenagel and 4x4 Representative, Brett Davis, clarified that such items could not be used as matching funds.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO FUND APP-004470 AT \$47,787.00. BRODY JOHNSON MADE THE MOTION, BRETT DAVIS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Similarly, the UPLA grant application was tabled to address concerns about overhead costs, measurable deliverables, and long-term funding strategies. Additional scrutiny was placed on UPLA's advocacy role and its focus on both motorized and non-motorized recreation.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO TABLE APP-004454. ERIC NELSON MADE THE MOTION, SCOTT WHEELER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

As the meeting progressed, several applications were approved en masse based on high scores. The council voted to recommend approving all applications scoring 95% or higher.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO FUND ALL PROJECTS WHICH SCORED 95% OR HIGHER, EXCEPT FOR APP-004503 AND APP-004404. BRODY JOHNSON MADE THE MOTION, ERIC NELSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Helmet Project received a motion to increase its funding request by \$10,000. The additional funds were intended to provide more vouchers for youth participating in in-person safety classes.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO INCREASE APP-004503 BY \$10,000. BRODY JOHNSON MADE THE MOTION, NICOLE NEILSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The council discussed the Tread Lightly! application, focusing on concerns regarding the requested funding amount. SITLA representative Bonnie McCallister questioned whether the funding was primarily intended to support a single individual.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO TABLE APP-004404 UNTIL THE MAY MEETING. BRODY JOHNSON MADE THE MOTION, NICOLE NEILSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

At this time, the council debated funding all projects that scored 93.3% or higher.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO FUND ALL PROJECTS WHICH SCORED 93.3% OR HIGHER. BRODY JOHNSON MADE THE MOTION, ERIC NELSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The council discussed the San Juan County project, noting the county's small population—estimated between 6,000 and 14,000 residents—and the substantial trail work being undertaken despite limited resources. Members highlighted the impact of drought, summer floods, and increased recreational use due to the county's proximity to a much larger and busier neighboring area. Appreciation was expressed for the county's efforts, and the council considered increasing the project's funding request by \$10,000 to support continued maintenance and improvements.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO INCREASE APP-004492 BY \$10,000. BRODY JOHNSON MADE THE MOTION, DAVE JACOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The council proceeded with a motion to approve the next three high-scoring applications.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO FUND APP-004511, APP-004477, AND APP-004493. BRODY JOHNSON MADE THE MOTION, ERIC NELSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Noteworthy approvals included the Franklin Basin parking lot expansion and various search and rescue applications, including those from Rich, Carbon, Sanpete, and Garfield counties. Discussions often touched on equipment cost, matching requirements, and clarifications about eligibility, such as with the North Tooele Fire Department and Kane County's ebike request.

The council discussed APP-004458 and moved to approve the project, with a directive for staff to ensure the applicant coordinates with Wayne County to avoid duplication of efforts.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION TO HAVE THE APP-004458 COORDINATE WITH WAYNE COUNTY. NICOLE NEILSON MADE THE MOTION, SCOTT WHEELER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Snowmobile Representative, Kirk Chester, discussed concerns with APP-004180, stating that they can perform all their search and rescue activities using an 850 snowmobile, which has specifications more suitable for such operations compared to the higher-performance Chaos model. The Chaos sled requires a higher skill level to operate and is not typically considered appropriate for search and rescue.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL MOVED FOR A MOTION ON APP-004180 TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT FUNDED FOR EACH SNOWMOBILE TO \$15,000 EACH. KIRK CHESTER MADE THE MOTION, ERIC NELSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Toward the end of the session, the council addressed miscellaneous applications and policy matters. The SLC Built Jeep's education application was denied due to concerns about administrative vehicle modifications. Meanwhile, the Utah Off-Road Recovery Team's

request for first aid kits prompted a nuanced discussion about medical supply funding, volunteer support, and safety needs. Although some expressed concern over cost and precedent, the group acknowledged the unique nature of the request and the value of the team's work.

BRODY JOHNSON MADE A MOTION THAT THEY FUND APP-004076 AT HALF. FRED CHRISTENSEN SECOND IT.

AYE:

**BRODY JOHNSON
FRED CHRISTENSEN
CHERYL BUTLER
SCOTT WHEELER
DAVE JACOBSON
KIRK CHESTER**

NAY:

**JASON BLANKENAGEL
ERIC NELSON
NICOLE NEILSON**

ABSTAIN/ABSENT:

**BRETT DAVIS
BONNIE MCCALISTER
SHERIFF CURTIS**

The meeting concluded with various approvals and suggestions to revisit manufacturer relationships and eligibility criteria in future cycles.

SPRING FY25 - OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE RECREATION GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Out of the **36** Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation (OHVR) grant applications received, the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Advisory Council has recommended **32** for funding in the FY25 Q2 - Spring period.
 - **One** application was not recommended for funding.
 - **One** application was received but deemed ineligible.
 - **Two** applications were tabled for the next grant review.

Color Key	
Recommended for Funding	Not Recommended for Funding
Ineligible	Tabled

#	FY25 Q1 - Summer	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested OHVR Funding	Category
1	2025 & 2026 Singletrack Trail Maintenance (Originally requested \$136,660.00): The Summit, Wasatch, and Weber County Singletrack Trail Maintenance Project aims to ensure the sustainability and accessibility of off-road motorcycle trails by organizing regular volunteer efforts to repair and maintain trails, preserving their natural	Western Singletrack Alliance	\$93,782.00	\$50,050.00	Trail Work

	<p>beauty, and promoting safe riding experiences for enthusiasts.</p> <p>The council opted to decrease the funding request by removing the leased machines, generator, and bike protection items, citing concerns that the cost of leasing bikes and associated equipment was far too expensive; they also reduced the contingency amount.</p>				
2	<p>Garfield SAR SxS With Tracks and 2 Med Sleds: We are seeking funding for a 4-door, Search and Rescue Side X Side with a cab, along with a set of tracks so we could use it in winter as well, and additionally, 2 medical skid/med sled units to go in the back for hauling out injured patients. The second medical skid/med sled would be for a SxS we already have for search and rescue purposes. We frequently encounter this type of Rescue operation.</p>	<p>Garfield County Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue</p>	<p>\$42,814.00</p>	<p>\$38,365.00</p>	<p>Search and Rescue</p>
3	<p>Motorized Avalanche Forecasting Infrastructure Enhancements Project: The Utah Avalanche Center (UAC) requests funding for the Motorized Avalanche Safety, Forecasting Infrastructure, and Technology Enhancements Project to improve avalanche safety for motorized users. This project supports the maintenance and expansion of weather stations, equips forecasters with necessary PPE and snowmobiles for fieldwork, and funds the labor required to produce over 1,200 daily avalanche forecasts annually. Additionally, it incorporates new technology, including radiometers, to advance machine learning applications in avalanche forecasting, enhancing the accuracy and effectiveness of public safety information. These improvements are necessary to maintain the accuracy and fidelity of our forecasting.</p>	<p>Utah Avalanche Center</p>	<p>\$202,957.60</p>	<p>\$144,141.60</p>	<p>Snowmobile</p>
4	<p>NTFD Emergency Medical & Rescue Response: The North Tooele Fire District (NTFD) seeks funding through the OHVR Grant Program to enhance</p>	<p>North Tooele Fire Protection Service District</p>	<p>\$81,000.00</p>	<p>\$66,000.00</p>	<p>Search and Rescue</p>

	<p>emergency medical and rescue response capabilities for OHV-related incidents in Tooele County, Utah. NTFD has been responding for years to recreational emergencies in Delle, Knolls, and areas of BLM recreational land along the I-80 corridor, all of which fall within NTFD's jurisdiction. This project will acquire essential response equipment—including an ATV, UTV, enclosed trailer, flatbed trailer, medbed, and related accessories—items which NTFD does not currently possess, significantly improving the efficiency and effectiveness of SAR operations, enabling timely medical intervention, and ensuring the safe transport of injured individuals in challenging terrain.</p>				
5	<p>Utah Off Road Recovery Team First Aid Kits (Originally requested \$18,500.00): The Utah Off Road Recovery Team is requesting funding for first aid kits to provide our members so they can treat minor injuries in the field if needed during recovery operations for OHV and off-road vehicles.</p> <p>The council voted to reduce the funding request by half, allowing the applicant to purchase 25 first aid kits for 25 of its most active members.</p>	Utah Off-Road Recovery Team	\$27,754.00	\$9,250.00	Education
6	<p>SLC Built Jeeps OHV Limited Mobility and Tourism: This project aims to support the preservation of public lands and promote responsible off-roading by collaborating with SLC Built Jeeps. Through educational programs on trail etiquette, off-road recovery, vehicle maintenance, and community engagement, the initiative seeks to foster a sustainable and respectful off-roading culture. By empowering enthusiasts with knowledge and skills, the project ensures the continued enjoyment and stewardship of public lands for future generations.</p>	SLC Built Jeeps	\$18,150.00	\$11,150.00	OHV Tourism

7	<p>Trails Coordinator: The Uintah County Trails Coordinator manages and enhances the county's 1,000-mile trail network through maintenance, stakeholder collaboration, and grant funding. Responsibilities include supervising a seasonal trail crew, overseeing snow grooming, ensuring signage and safety, and implementing the Trails Master Plan. The coordinator also promotes community involvement by organizing major off-road events and improving recreational access for residents and visitors.</p>	Uintah County Grants	\$222,788.40	\$142,346.88	Trail Work
8	<p>Garfield County OHV Tourism Advertising: Garfield County requests OHV promotion grant funding for May-October 2025 to promote diverse trails in Garfield County, near Bryce Canyon National Park, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, and North Lake Powell, among others. The promotion will target Utah's Wasatch Front and St. George, plus regional markets in ID, WY, NV, CA, AZ, and CO. The campaign will also feature two annual OHV events: The Bryce and Ticaboo ATV Rallies. A \$50,000 media plan, including social media ads, banners, digital radio, and billboards, will reach OHV and dirt bike enthusiasts, driving tourism and economic growth.</p>	Garfield County Office of Tourism	\$50,000.00	\$37,500.00	OHV Tourism
10	<p>Emery County Trails Crew 2025 and 2026: Emery County has a thriving Trails program, which includes an active trails committee built of different user groups as well as a trails crew that completes trail work within the county monthly. This trail's crew has historically been funded through the Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation. Emery County is seeking funding to continue the great work being done.</p>	Emery County Travel Bureau	\$30,000.00	\$20,000.00	Trail Work
12	<p>Emery County Search and Rescue Snowmobile Grant 2025 (Originally requested \$51,848.00): Emery County is a snowmobile recreational destination within the Manti National Forest. Emery County Search and</p>	Emery County Sheriff Search And Rescue	\$39,553.00	\$33,848.00	Search and Rescue

	<p>Rescue desires to update our snowmobiles to allow us better access and more reliability in performing snow emergencies and rescues.</p> <p>The council opted to decrease the funding request to a flat rate of \$15,000 per snowmobile. After reviewing the model the applicant proposed to purchase for Search and Rescue (SAR), the council determined it was intended more for high-performance sport use, and that less expensive snowmobiles would be equally capable and better suited for SAR needs.</p>				
13	<p>Color Country OHV Trail Maintenance - Spring 2025: The project is to maintain the Color Country OHV Trail throughout Iron County. Funds will be used to hire a seasonal employee, an equipment operator to run the skid steer, trail dozer, and mini excavator on trails needing maintenance. Trails needing trimmed and minor repairs will be completed by the seasonal trail specialist and with volunteer assistance, and the purchase of an OHV Side-by-Side for trail maintenance.</p>	Iron County	\$94,364.75	\$70,864.75	Trail Work
14	<p>Dairy Trail Single Track Bridge Replacement and Related Maintenance: Single Track bridge replacement on the Dairy Trail and other single track maintenance on the Manti National Forest and BLM.</p>	Sage Riders Motorcycle Club	\$10,130.00	\$8,103.00	Trail Work
15	<p>Franklin Basin Parking Lot Expansion - Logan Canyon: The Franklin Basin parking lot in Logan Canyon is a popular parking lot used for winter and summer recreational access to Franklin Basin. This parking lot is often very crowded during the winter. It is used in the winter by snowmobilers, cross-country skiers, snowshoers, local private landowners, and for winter family activities. The parking lot is used in the summer by OHVs, hikers, hunters, horsemen, other recreationalists, and occasionally by</p>	Utah Snowmobile Association	\$662,050.43	\$617,877.43	Trail Work

	livestock grazing operations. The Franklin Basin parking lot should be expanded due to its popularity. The proposed expansion will increase the size of the lot from about 0.93 acres (40,305 sq ft.) to 1.57 acres (68,390 sq ft.) in Phase 1 and approximately 2.25 acres (98,000 sq ft) in Phase 2.				
16	Paiute Trail Maintenance 2026: The Paiute and associated trails are some of the best Off-highway vehicle trails in the Country. This grant will provide necessary funds for the maintenance of this renowned trail system. Visitors come from all over the world just to ride these trails. It provides a big economic impact on local communities. We must continue to provide a high-quality experience for visitors by keeping the trails well-maintained.	Fishlake National Forest	\$124,231.00	\$82,320.00	Trail Work
17	Sanpete County Search and Rescue Snowmobile Grant: Sanpete County Search and Rescue is seeking grant funding to acquire new snowmobiles and enclosed trailers to enhance their emergency response capabilities in increasingly challenging backcountry terrain. The upgraded equipment will allow SAR teams to access remote rescue locations more efficiently, improve response times, and provide a mobile command center for winter operations. This investment will strengthen SAR's ability to save lives and ensure public safety as winter recreation continues to expand.	Sanpete County Search and Rescue	\$100,320.64	\$89,610.64	Search and Rescue
18	Seasonal Employee for Trail Work: Garfield County will hire an additional seasonal worker to complete OHV trail work.	Garfield County Government	\$47,780.00	\$20,000.00	Trail Work
19	2025 Sevier County OHV Marketing: Sevier County would like to use this funding to promote the wide range of OHV trails throughout the county. ATV tourism is a staple in the community, and it's important to continue to promote these trails with a targeted digital marketing strategy. We will create campaigns targeting OHV	Sevier County Tourism	\$50,000.00	\$37,500.00	OHV Tourism

	enthusiasts across the Wasatch Front but also regional out-of-state drive markets in CA, CO, AZ, NV, WY, and ID. We'll target this audience with digital channels such as social media ads, digital radio, digital billboards, and YouTube ads.				
21	Robbers Roost Trail System: The Robbers Roost Trail System consists of nearly 800 miles of existing Roads and Trails in Wayne County, making connections to Green River in Emery County, Ticaboo, Bryce Canyon, and Antimony in Garfield County, Koosharem in Sevier County, and all of the Cities in Wayne County. Using existing RS2477 routes, the Robbers Roost trail will adjoin the Parker Trails and Paiute Trails, and Castle Country Trails. Trails are planned for the Last Chance Desert, Lower San Rafael Swell, Robbers Roost area, Factory Butte Area, the Henry Mountains, the Boulder Mountain, and the Barney Top areas.	Wayne County	\$691,694.00	\$648,144.00	Trail Work
22	Main Track Lighting: This project aims to provide the motocross community with a place to ride at night, especially during the hotter summer months. Installing lights on the main track will give riders of all ages and skill levels a safe and accessible space to ride after sunset.	Jordan River OHV State Park	\$519,868.04	\$500,000.00	Trail Work
24	Henry Mountain Field Station Travel Management Sign Maintenance: Henry Mountain Field Station (HMFS) recently completed and signed a new Travel Management Plan on January 17, 2025. Existing road signs, directional signs, and maps are out of date, require general maintenance, and need repair/replacement. The HMFS is requesting funds to conduct general maintenance to update signs on open roads, inventory, and replace directional signs, and to develop new maps (digital and paper) for road sign maintenance.	Bureau of Land Management - Richfield Field Office	\$33,9745.56	\$225,093.00	Trail Work
25	Moab REDROK Rally (Originally	Epic Off-road	\$87,149.92	\$47,487.00	OHV Tourism

	<p>requested \$49,755.00): Moab REDROK Rally is a multi-day UTV event held at the Historic Old Spanish Trail Arena in Moab, Utah, offering guided trail rides through Moab's iconic red rock landscapes. The event aims to boost motorized tourism in Moab while supporting local businesses and the community. The Rally also promotes responsible land use and trail preservation in collaboration with local, county, and state organizations.</p> <p>The advisory council noted that the applicant had requested funding for t-shirts and matching funds for event stickers. The council expressed concern that funding swag items—even though t-shirts are not single-use—could set a precedent for other applicants to request funding for similar promotional materials. With this in mind, the council opted to decrease the funding request and match, removing the t-shirts and stickers from the project.</p>	Events			
26	<p>Carbon County Search & Rescue Snowmobiles: Carbon County Search and Rescue is requesting funding for two snowmobiles to enhance their winter emergency response capabilities. Search and Rescue currently has two snowmobiles that are aging and, in future years, will need to be replaced. Adding two additional snowmobiles would also increase the number of rescuers to cover a larger area with greater efficiency.</p>	Carbon County Search and Rescue	\$36,000.00	\$27,000.00	Search and Rescue
27	<p>50" UTV: Purchase a 50" UTV for trail inspection and maintenance.</p>	Garfield County Government	\$20,000.00	\$15,000.00	Trail Work
28	<p>UCSS Off-Highway Vehicle Request and Tintic OHV Trail Education: This grant encompasses two different requests, both focused on supporting cultural resource preservation and OHV recreation here in Utah. The Utah Cultural Site Stewardship (UCSS) Program is requesting funding for a</p>	Utah's State Historic Preservation Office	\$38,306.00	\$24,000.00	Education

	<p>program-specific OHV for events related to and focused on connecting to local OHV communities, accessing archaeological sites, and other program-related initiatives, promoting responsible recreation when visiting archaeological sites. UCSS is also requesting funding for interpretive sign material for the Chief Tintic Trail system in Eureka, to enhance user experience and safety by creating, printing, and installing signs at several archaeological and historical sites in partnership with the land owner.</p>				
29	<p>Wayne County Digital Marketing Campaign: Wayne County is seeking funds for a targeted, six-month marketing campaign designed to attract out-of-state and regional off-highway vehicle (OHV) enthusiasts to our county's diverse trail system, leveraging a total budget of \$50,000 (\$12,500 county investment, \$37,500 state award). Running from May 1st to October 31st, 2025, the campaign will highlight the robust online trail resource featuring 18 distinct trails, showcasing the variety of terrain available, from desert to mountains.</p>	Wayne County Tourism	\$50,000.00	\$37,500.00	OHV Tourism
30	<p>Rich County Search and Rescue OHV Incident Response: The Rich County Search and Rescue team responds to calls in the most remote areas of the county to individuals and/or groups in dire situations. There is a current need to replace aging and unreliable OHVs that could affect the team's response. Rapid response from our team is critical in aiding these individuals or groups. Requesting assistance from neighboring agencies can take hours and could delay help for those individuals and/or groups in dire situations.</p>	Rich County Search and Rescue	\$62,110.91	\$47,500.00	Search and Rescue
31	<p>SJC Trail Maintenance (Originally requested \$54,018.00): San Juan County has had a lot of land and rock slides due to drought in the spring and summer, and flash flooding in the fall of 2024. Major damage has been</p>	San Juan County Road Department	\$73,804.80	\$64,018.00	Trail Work

	<p>caused by these extreme conditions.</p> <p>The council opted to increase the applicant's request by \$10,000 to support their four-person trail crew, helping to extend the work season and offset costs associated with increased trail crew demand.</p>				
32	<p>Dixie Nat Forest - SUU IIC - OHV Trail Improvement Crew - Markagunt Plateau: With an ATV purchase, IIC crew members can access the Markagunt OHV Trail System in Utah's Dixie National Forest. This network of trails, spanning the Markagunt Plateau, connects Cedar Breaks, Duck Creek, and Panguitch Lake. Crews will repair and maintain trails and trailheads to ensure safety, sustainability, and enjoyment for riders while preserving the surrounding environment.</p>	Southern Utah University	\$45,588.00	\$24,588.26	Trail Work
33	<p>OHV Volunteer Coordinator and Trail Maintenance Equipment: This project aims to re-establish an OHV Volunteer Coordinator within the BLM Price Field Office and acquire essential tools and equipment to enhance trail maintenance on BLM-managed lands in Carbon and Emery Counties. The initiative will facilitate multiple volunteer projects during the spring and fall, focusing on critical maintenance tasks such as installing route markers and signs, improving trailheads, repairing washouts, clearing rocks, and enhancing water drainage features. By engaging volunteers, we will promote stewardship of public lands while ensuring that OHV users can safely navigate designated routes. This effort not only supports trail sustainability but also fosters community involvement and awareness of responsible OHV use.</p>	Bureau of Land Management - Price Field Office	\$100,000.00	\$60,000.00	Trail Work
34	<p>Helmet Project (Originally requested \$27,500.00): The Paiute Helmet Project provides helmets to youth in a six-county area of south-central Utah. Helmets are distributed by cooperating law enforcement officers who</p>	Paiute Trail Committee	\$46,523.00	\$37,500.00	Education

	<p>encounter youth riding OHVs without proper headgear. While a citation may be issued, the officer can also provide a certificate for the youth to obtain a properly fitting helmet from participating dealerships. The objective of the program is to ensure that youth are protected while riding or operating motorcycles and ATVs.</p> <p>The council increased the award amount by \$10,000 to help the project reach more kids across the six-county area.</p>				
35	<p>Kane County Sheriff SAR Rescue Rangers: Kane County Sheriff Search and Rescue is looking to add two UTVs and two E-bikes to its fleet. KCSO SAR is looking to upgrade to the Polaris Ranger 1500 due to the popularity and uptick trend of recreationists accessing trails of the Kane County backcountry. KCSO SAR is looking to implement E-bikes to its fleet due to the easily accessible range and mobility of this type of equipment provides.</p>	Kane County Sheriff's Office	\$105,624.08	\$55,000.00	Search and Rescue
36	<p>Emery County Trails Equipment and Supplies: Emery County has a thriving Trails program, which includes an active trails committee built of different user groups as well as a trails crew that completes trail work within the county monthly. An important part of the success in the Emery County trails program is having appropriate supplies and equipment. We are seeking additional funding to purchase needed equipment and supplies such as new track for the mini X, a generator, a jackhammer, and culverts.</p>	Emery County Travel Bureau	\$46,662.33	\$24,966.00	Trail Work
			Total Project Cost	Requested Funding	
Total of the 32 Grants Recommended for Funding:			\$4,160,752.46	\$3,316,723.56	

Not Recommended for Funding

#	FY25 Q2 - Spring	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested OHVR Funding	Category
---	------------------	---------	--------------------	------------------------	----------

9	<p>SLC Built Jeeps Education Grant: This project aims to support the education of public lands and promote responsible off-roading by collaborating with SLC Built Jeeps. The initiative seeks to foster a sustainable and respectful off-roading culture through educational programs on trail etiquette, off-road recovery, vehicle maintenance, and community engagement. By empowering enthusiasts with knowledge and skills, the project ensures the continued enjoyment and stewardship of public lands for future generations.</p> <p>The council did not recommend this project for funding, noting that many items in the budget did not appear to be related to education. The council felt that the majority of the requested items were intended to outfit personal vehicles for entertainment purposes rather than supporting educational objectives.</p>	SLC Built Jeeps	\$38,000.00	\$28,000.00	Trail Work
			Total Project Cost	Requested Funding	
Not Recommended for Funding			\$38,000.00	\$28,000.00	

Ineligible

#	FY25 Q2 - Spring	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested OHVR Funding	Category
11	<p>Ride for the Brave: Provide Military service members & Veterans with an opportunity to attend OHV group rides to support their journeys of reintegration. These rides provide an opportunity for Warrior Revival members to spend time with fellow members and swap stories, and provide a sense of belonging and purpose, many times which are often lost post-service.</p> <p>Although the council was interested in supporting this project, the applicant did not meet the eligible criteria for an organized user group under 41-22-19(b)(viii); therefore, the project</p>	Ride for the Brave	\$14,030.00	\$13,200.00	OHV Tourism

was removed due to ineligibility.				
			Total Project Cost	Requested Funding
Ineligible Funding Requests:			\$14,030.00	\$13,200.00

Tabled

#	FY25 Q2 - Spring	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested OHVR Funding	Category
20	<p>Tread Lightly! Utah 2025 - 2027: Tread Lightly! is requesting funding to support a Utah-specific program manager who will operate a state-wide outdoor recreation ethics and stewardship/conservation program. The program manager will implement all aspects of the program, including public outreach, development and dissemination of educational materials, event attendance, and stewardship project execution.</p> <p>There was uncertainty within the project's budget regarding whether the salary request was intended for a single person and, if so, for how many months. The council felt the requested salary amount was too high for one individual. With these questions in mind, the council voted to table the grant until the next grant cycle to allow the applicant time to amend their budget and clarify their request.</p>	Tread Lightly!	\$423,678.64	\$309,220.00	Education
23	<p>Professionalizing the Leadership of UPLA: This project would enable the Utah Public Lands Alliance to hire an Executive Director to preserve, protect, and promote equitable and sustainable access to Utah's public lands. The Executive Director will lead the organization while working with other recreation groups, land managers, the State of Utah, and local communities. Programs include training on effective participation in land use planning, collaborating with or supporting local OHV groups, and providing public outreach at events across the state.</p>	Utah Public Lands Alliance	\$242,789.40	\$182,090.00	Access Protection

<p>With advice from the division's attorney, the council recommended tabling this application due to a lack of deliverables, which currently makes it ineligible. The application was tabled to allow the council time to discuss and define project overhead, access protection, employee deliverables, and related considerations.</p>				
	Total Project Cost	Requested Funding		
Total of the 2 Tabled Funding Requests:	\$666,468.04	\$491,310.00		

06:01:00 10. MOTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDED OHVR GRANTS FOR SPRING FY25

After funding 32 projects—including 16 for trail work, seven for search and rescue, three for education, one for snowmobiles, and five for tours—a total of \$275,000 remained in the grant budget. This distribution reflects a balanced investment in infrastructure, safety, education, and public engagement, while the remaining funds offer flexibility for future needs or emerging priorities in upcoming grant cycles.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED OHV RECREATION GRANT FOR THE SPRING FY25. BRODY JOHNSON MADE THE MOTION, AND DAVE JACOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

06:03:00 11. BREAK

At this time, the council forwent a break and continued on with the meeting.

06:03:45 12. REVIEW & MOTION TO APPROVE SAFETY & MEMBER-AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVES

Jason was unanimously elected as a member at large, as they were the sole applicant.

VICE CHAIR ERIC NELSON SOUGHT A MOTION FOR THE MEMBER-AT-LARGE POSITION. BRODY JOHNSON MADE THE MOTION, AND SCOTT WHEELER SECONDED IT. ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

A paper ballot was used to elect a safety representative from two qualified candidates, Michael Cook and Paul Wells. Both applicants had experience teaching off-highway vehicle safety courses, and the discussion highlighted their respective qualifications, experience levels, and geographic representation. Concerns were raised about a potential conflict of interest related to one candidate's involvement in county grant writing.

MICHAEL COOK:
CHERYL BUTLER
FRED CHRISTENSEN
BRETT DAVIS
NICOLE NEILSON
BRODY JOHNSON

PAUL DAVIS:
ERIC NELSON
SCOTT WHEELER
DAVE JACOBSON
KIRK CHESTER

06:19:35 13. ELECT COUNCIL CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR, & SECRETARY

With minimal discussion, the council unanimously elected a new chair and also elected a vice-chair.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL OPENED THE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIR. ERIC NELSON MADE THE MOTION TO NOMINATE JASON BLANKENAGEL, AND BRODY JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CHAIR BLANKENAGEL OPENED THE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-CHAIR. SCOTT WHEELER MADE THE MOTION TO NOMINATE ERIC NELSON, AND JASON BLANKENAGEL SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The decision on the secretary position was postponed to the next meeting to allow time for further discussion and possible bylaw revisions. The group considered eliminating the secretary role altogether in favor of having staff manage administrative tasks. A motion to add a discussion of the secretary's responsibilities to the next meeting's agenda was approved. Rachel Toker's default role as secretary was also noted during the conversation.

BRODY JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THE SECRETARY NOMINATION, AND. SCOTT WHEELER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

06:27:10 14. ADJOURNMENT

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

DAVE JACOBSON MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING, AND BRODY JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.