Grand County Motorized Trails Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 8, 2025
DRAFT

The meeting was held at the Grand Center and called to order by Clif Koontz at 12:34 pm.

Members in attendance:

Madeline Logowitz, GCATT
Brian Martinez, Grand County Commission Liaison
Keri Nelson, BLM
Payton Blasco, BLM
Zane Taylor, Motorcycle Rep
Dave Cozzens
Reid Bakken, E-bike Rep
Keltain Reece-Sullivan, GCATT
Jeff Stevens, Vice Chair
Bill Jackson, Grand County Roads Supervisor
Clif Koontz, Chair

Guests in attendance:

Scott Scolle, SAR

A. Approval of Minutes

Reid Bakken made a motion to approve the April 10, 2025 minutes, Zane Taylor seconded, motion passed unanimously.

B. Citizens to be Heard

None

C. Approving draft letter on Cliffhanger area maintenance

Clif Koontz summarized the draft letter to BLM proposing major maintenance along the first quarter-mile of Cliffhanger 4WD route. When asked about alternatives to cutting a motorcycle-wide ramp into the far W side of the first ledge, Clif pointed out that the far E side of that ledge will become somewhat confined by a fence installation, and a ramp on the far W side that's built up (instead of cut) could get backed into accidentally. Payton asked if the fence could be post-and-cable instead of range-style, and no one expressed concern with this substitution. Clif relayed Brendon Cameron's feedback from Trail Mix that no outstanding comments or changes were suggested other than making sure the intersections are well-marked and that motorcyclists look out for mountain

bikers as they ride down the trail. Clif said he welcomes additional input from Trail Mix and GCATT as the project progresses. Zane Taylor made a motion to approve the draft letter, Dave Cozzens seconded, motion passed unanimously.

D. Scheduling Trail Projects

The Metal Masher field trip on May 16th will scout the climb up to Widow Maker as well as a braid below the rim that doesn't appear to serve a purpose. Since the braid below the rim is further east, we'll meet at the bottom of Gemini Bridges Road at 8am.

For a rake & ride, Keri Nelson pointed out that signs need repair SE of Red Wash on motorized singletrack, so May 24th was scheduled for motorcyclists to meet at the Blue Hills Road intersection with Dubinky Well Road at 8 am, although Clif pointed out that he may wind up being out of town then.

E. Updates from MTC Stakeholder Representatives and Executive Committee

Maddie Logowitz mentioned that GCATT won awards at this year's Utah Trail Conference and the International Trails Symposium hosted by American Trails. GCATT is on track to receive a non-motorized RTP grant for the non-motorized Trail Ambassadors, improvements to the MOAB Brands mountain bike trails, and the Falcon Climb to create a loop for mountain biking in Sand Flats.

Scott Soule said he'd like to join the Metal Masher field trip to provide a SAR perspective. He'd also like to get MTC support letters for an OHVR grant along with the new state grant program that covers SAR, roads, and waste-water treatment. In 2024, Grand County SAR had the most calls since 2016 when NPS was short-staffed. So far in 2025, they've had 43 calls, 10 of which were for incidences involving OHVs.

Brian Martinez said that, after attending the Trail Mix and MTC meetings, he felt that the previous commission's e-bike comments to the BLM should be augmented. He said that opinions are varied, which warrants a wider scope of study. He was glad to find that, even when people disagree, they have remained friendly with one another. Clif said that e-biking has been contentious, and he appreciates Brian for engaging with the issue.

Keri Nelson said that the Raptor on the Rocks event will take place this weekend, and Ultra 4 later this month. Red Rock Rally will be June 12th through the 14th. She said that the BLM aims to release an e-bike Environmental Assessment by mid-June with at least a 30-day comment period.

Payton Blasco said that the BLM was able to improve Dome Plateau and Top of The World with major help from Tread Lightly! and Jeep manufacturer Stellantis, respectively. Other help included Keltain from GCATT and Nena Barlow with an off-road trailer that Ride with Respect purchased through a state OHV grant.

Zane said he's preparing to clear logs from motorized trails in the La Sals and Abajos in the coming weeks. The USFS appreciates info from sawyers so they know which trails have been cleared and can document volunteer hours. They also appreciate clearing singletrack corridors wide and tall enough for equestrian use.

Keltain Reece-Sullivan said his Trail Ambassador work has been busy. GCATT is losing Rusty as a motorized Trail Ambassador, so the position will be posted on Grand County's website until filled.

Jeff Stevens said that on March 22nd, he joined volunteers Zane Taylor and Jason James along with Payton from the BLM to repaint the slickrock blazes on Goldbar Rim and the rest of Golden Spike. This year more paint should be added to Where Eagles Dare, but it's probably not needed on Rusty Nail.

Bill Jackson said the road crew upgraded a culvert on Mineral Bottom Road along with similar improvements to Spring Canyon, Long Canyon, and Sand Flats roads. Grading will wrap up in mid-June. They added road base to the main Dolores Triangle road (#107). He said that Moab City engineer Mark Jollissaint is organizing a reroute of Hells Exit on SITLA property to avoid Phase 2 of the Lionsback development. When Bill receives more info about the reroute, he'll forward it to the MTC.

Clif said he received an invitation to the ribbon-cutting ceremony of Utahraptor State Park, which is open to the public, so he can RSVP for anyone else who is interested in attending.

F. Adjournment

Clif adjourned the meeting at 1:58 pm and thanked everyone for participating.