

Grand County Motorized Trails Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 12, 2025

APPROVED July 10, 2025

The meeting was held at the Grand Center and called to order by Clif Koontz at 12:37 pm

Members in attendance:

Payton Blasco, BLM

Dave Cozzens

Dave Hellman, 4x4 Rep

Clif Koontz, Chair

Maddie Logowitz, GCATT

Brian Martinez, Grand County Commission Liaison

Keltain Reece-Sullivan, GCATT

Jeff Stevens, Vice Chair

Zane Taylor, Motorcycle Rep

Kathy Tustanowski, Secretary

Guests in attendance:

Scott Solle, Grand County Search and Rescue

A. Approval of Minutes

Jeff Stevens made a motion to approve the May 12, 2025 minutes, Zane Taylor seconded, motion passed unanimously.

B. Citizens to be Heard

None

C. Commenting on GCATT Trail Ambassador application for State OHV Grant (including Trail Work)

Clif provided an overview and stated the OHVR grant review is more competitive now as there is less funding compared to the last couple years due to rollover funds being exhausted this year. Maddie provided a handout on the 2026 OHVR Grant and explained it is still in the brainstorming phase and not a final document. After much discussion and questions, the following suggestions were made:

- carry forward the GCATT proposal to add planning/coordination and community engagement components to the next grant application
- more needs to be done with social media

- utilizing volunteer ambassadors should be a goal which would require more time by the full-time Motorized Trail Ambassador being spent on recruitment and coordination
- a spatial database of needed trail work should be developed
- light trail maintenance should be added to position description for Motorized Trail Ambassadors
- include snacks, water, and other supportive items for volunteers in the budget if possible because it's a great value for the state compared to having the state pay wages for the same work

Next steps will be to flush out the scope of work, finalize budget worksheets and get a Letter of Support from the Motorized Trails Committee at the July meeting. Scott Solle shared he will also be looking for a Letter of Support for equipment needed to support Search and Rescue activities.

D. Discussing Improvements to Metal Masher 4WD Trail

Keri Nelson, Payton Blasco, Jeff Stevens, and Clif made a recent visit to the "dugway" climb below Widow Maker and indicated the problems cannot be resolved without spending a lot of money. The by-pass is in pretty good shape and it is recommended to be marked as an official Jeep Safari route and keep the original route open for those that want more of a challenge. As for Rock Chucker, Jeff and Clif suggest asking BLM to officially designate two well-established routes, the Rock Chucker exit and the route being used to get to the rim. Clif asked Brian if it needs to go to the County Commission and his answer was "yes." This area is located in the Travel Management Plan currently under legal challenge.

E. Scheduling Trail Projects

Clif asked for items to be considered for future projects. Dave Hellman had 3 items: 1) Top of the Moab Rim trail, people are going around the ledge on the far right, where work was done to block it previously; 2) Gold Bar, the rocks placed previously have been removed on the Waterfall, will need jack hammering. Payton will plan a field trip to take a look at it; 3) Hell's Revenge, before Green Mesa, people are driving over vegetation, suggest rock placement to help.

As for work to be done in the summer at higher elevations the following was decided:

June 13 - Dorey Canyon, Zane and Molly Taylor will be checking it out

June 23 - Lackey Basin for stump removal, meet at Upper 2 Mile parking area at 9 am

Miners Basin may need work but status not currently known.

F. Updates from MTC Stakeholder Representatives and Executive Committee

Scott Solle shared that all Grand County email addresses have been changed to end with @grandcountyutah.gov. The EMS program has been busy. It was a year ago that two people lost their lives on Steelbender. He thinks about signage that could be used to warn OHVers about water crossings and monsoons. Clif suggested Public Service Announcements that could be shared on the MTC's social media.

Zane Taylor reported that South Block (Upper Twomile) trails are open after he cleared a lot of trees.

Payton Blasco shared that the BLM e-bike draft environmental assessment will be open for public comment by the end of June and have a 30-day comment period. He will be working with Red Rock 4-Wheelers on September 27 for National Public Lands Day event at Lost World Butte. He asked if the MTC would like to host a NPLD event? It was decided to do fencing on Cliffhanger on September 20, meet at 9 am in the 2nd Amasa Back parking lot (0.7 miles past end of pavement).

Brian Martinez reported the Moab Tourism Advisory Board met this week. The Transient Room Tax application is being considered under new guidelines from the state. Recommendations will need to be made based on the outcome.

Maddie Logowitz shared the County Attorney has some concerns about the By-Laws for Trail Mix pertaining to membership. This may also apply to the MTC By-Laws. There is a meeting tomorrow that she invited Clif to attend. Mud Springs Phase 1 will be breaking ground in August, Phase 2 is still in design phase.

Keltain Reece-Sullivan reported that he will be staffing a booth at the RedRok Rally the next few days.

Jeff Stevens shared that Dee McNenny has donated some electric chainsaws, plastic rakes, and several canvas bags to Friends For Wheelin' that are available for others to use on motorized trail work. Dave suggested making a kit for the Ride with Respect's truck that the state funded for trail work.

G. Adjournment

Clif adjourned the meeting at 2:57 pm and thanked everyone for participating.