



Emery County
Trail's Committee

September 2, 2025 8:00 AM



Attendance: Les Wilberg, Terri Bennett, Rod Player, Don Bennett, Steven Jeffery, Les Thompson, Jim Jennings, Camie Bell, Jordan Leonard, Tifnie Hansen, Wade Allinson, Josh Clark, Ed Geary, Chase Majors, TJ Grange, Nicole Nielsen, Keven Jensen, Brett Stewart, Ray Peterson

Excused: Brett White

Welcome Chairman: Les Wilberg

1. Approval of Minutes: August 2025 Motion to approve minutes made by Terri, seconded by Don. **Motion approved.**

2. Committee Members

• **Discussion of projects/events/concerns-**

Steven reported on the preparations underway for the Joe's Valley Fest. They are planning a cleanup day for the Sunday after the event, they pick a big project and haven't picked a project yet at this point. They will be meeting as a coalition with Nate and his trail building crew. They plan to use grant money from the county to work on building trail heads back after being washed out. The trail crew will rebuild stairs to get on and stay on trails.

Terri shared about their recent and upcoming moonlight bike rides that have been a hit this summer. The last weekend in September will be the BLM public lands day. They will have dinner Friday night, breakfast Saturday morning provided by MECCA, and then work projects with the BLM on the Goodwater Trail.

Discussion on the conditions of the Little's Creek Trail after recent rains. Discussion on an upcoming project with the Carbon County ATV club and the BLM to work on the Devil's Racetrack.

Don reported on the Backcountry Horsemen having done some work with the Forest Service on Horse Canyon as well as a few other projects.

Brett sent word via Les of a few areas that had washed out on single track, and also that on the trail project on Sept 22-23, he and a few other pilots would be there to help. Discussion on other people planning to attend that project.

3. Discuss Reports of the Following:

a. BLM- N/A

b. Forest Service- Josh shared some work done by Wade and the state crew putting in water bars at the top of pole canyon. He also met with the timber representatives to discuss turning Paradise back into a trail. Josh has been working on trail 29- replacing a pinch point and fixing a broken bridge. Discussion on some complaints for Tie Fork and possible mitigation options.

c. State Agencies- From Tifnie, they do not have a start date for trail grooming yet. They held a large moonlight kayaking and soundbath event recently that turned out really well. Tifnie introduced new staff

members, Chase Majors and TJ Grange. Water levels are staying decent for the time of year.

d. Commission- Jordan asked about the history of doing work on private property in the past in regards to Nica bike tracks. Discussion on needs and land requirements.

e. Travel Bureau and Public Lands- Discussion with Jim about a battery for the 303.

Brett Stewart came from Utah OHV. He's working on a number of trail systems including Robber's Roost, and does a lot of work through the legislation. He provided a couple updates including a bill from last year ensuring that counties of the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th can receive 100% of grant amount funding and use volunteer hours to match. Another that didn't require legislation, now determines that volunteer hours that take place up to one year prior to the date of the signed contract can be used on the project. This will greatly affect both volunteers and the Forest Service to be able to start working sooner. Brett greatly encouraged grant applications for the fall and the spring.

Discussion on signage with the Robber's Roost project.

Wade reported on the last OHV grant cycle having given out \$7mil, Emery County receiving \$12,000 for maps and another \$15,000 that will come into the country through the Colorado Trail Preservation Association that will spend 4 weeks in Emery County working on single track motorized trails throughout the county. They are also working on trail grooming. They have 16 groomers and 69 operators throughout the state including state park DNR employees. This is a \$350,000 program paid for by the OHV program. Wade pointed out that though the grants are OHV, they benefit the entire recreational community greatly.

Discussion on how the TMP has changed and opened trails in our area. Discussion on working with government agencies from the perspective of the state OHV.

Discussion on collaborating with various agencies, recreator groups, and event coordinators. Discussion on the parking project up Cottonwood Canyon, and future projects in other areas near Joe's and Straight Canyon.

4. Adjourn.

Council - Les Wilberg, Terri Bennett, Rod Player, Don Bennett, Robin Hunt, Steven Jeffery, Kasey Morris, Brett White, Les Thompson

Staff – Keven Jensen, Jim Jennings, AnnDee Mead, Camie Bell

Next Trails Meeting: October 7, 2024

