



Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Advisory Committee

January 29, 2020

MINUTES

Committee Members: Debbie Burgos- Chair – **PRESENT** Sue Baker- **EXCUSED**
 Michael Frye- Vice Chair- **PRESENT** Dave DeMarais- **PRESENT**
 Steve Paxton- **PRESENT** Kenny Thatcher- **PRESENT**
 Ross Williams- **PRESENT** Donald Jackson- **ABSENT**
 Ken Freeman- **PRESENT**

Secretary: Amelia Smith, 702-397-6475, CCOHV@ClarkCountyNV.gov

Legal Counsel: Catherine Jorgenson, Deputy District Attorney

- I. Call to Order – Roll call
 The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.
 Commissioner Kirkpatrick & Commissioner Gibson were present

- II. Public Comment
 None

- III. Approval of November 6, 2019 Minutes

Moved by: Kenny Thatcher
Action: Approved as recommended
Vote: 7-0/Unanimous

- IV. Approval of Agenda for January 29, 2020

Moved by: Ross Williams
Action: Approved as written
Vote: 7-0/Unanimous

V. Informational Items (for discussion only)

1. Identify emerging issues to be addressed by the committee during future meetings

Mike Frye – was recently informed that a discussion draft of the Southern Nevada Economic Development and Conservation Act (SNEDCA) had been released by Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto’s office, and that there had been significant changes to the previous draft which had been delivered to the Nevada delegation in 2019 and earmarked 89,000 acres of wilderness area. The revised draft had a significant increase in Wilderness area with 300,000 acres reserved. There were also changes made to the 4 areas that the Clark County Advisory Committee had requested be federally designated “OHV Recreation Areas” in two different resolutions delivered to the Clark County Commissioners and subsequently approved and forwarded to the Nevada delegation. None of the committee members in attendance had been contacted by Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto’s office for input, comment or suggestions prior to our meeting this evening.

It was also brought to the committee’s attention that Congressman Horsford’s office had a meeting regarding the newly revised SNEDCA which community stakeholders attended; this was alarming to the OHV Committee members since none their members had been invited to represent the OHV community. Moving forward, the OHV Committee has been reassured that we will be invited to future meetings involving community stakeholders.

Kenny Thatcher- does public comment make a difference in the outcome? Debbie -people may call their Nevada delegation and provide public comments expressing how this bill directly impacts their use of the land.

Marilyn expressed that the OHV Committee was formed to draft language for OHV designations. The OHV Committee submitted their recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. The Board of County Commissioners then passed a resolution in support of the OHV Committee’s recommendations.

The committee would like to individually submit comments expressing their opposition to the changes made in the draft lands bill submitted to the congressional delegation. The committee would also like to draft a letter expressing that their submission to the Board of County Commissioners is not being represented in the bill which was submitted. The beneficial economic impact of the OHV community should be considered in the draft lands bill.

2. Announcements of general information that may be of interest to committee members or the general public

SNORE 250 is coming up on February 15th in Jean Nevada. The Mint 400 will be March 3-8
Kenny Thatcher - brought a poster which promotes the Arizona Peace Trail and believes something similar would be useful to incorporate for the Las Vegas Valley Loop. Amelia will scan the poster and share with interested parties. Speed UTV is looking for areas to test their vehicles. Marilyn - Moapa may be a good place for that since the community is supportive of outdoor recreation.

VI. Business Items

1. Tracking Issue # 12- The Off Highway Advisory Committee to finalize the wording for their letter of support for the Las Vegas Valley Loop Trail as a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners (for possible action)

Moved by: Dave DeMarais

Action: Approve Debbie Burgos to finalize letter and submit to the Board of County Commissioners

Vote: 6-0/Unanimous

Voting Aye: Debbie Burgos, Michael Frye, Steve Paxton, Ken Freeman, Dave DeMarais and Kenny Thatcher

Abstaining: Ross Williams

Motion to authorize Debbie Burgos to finalize the letter: Debbie will add information such as economic value and the support they received from the OHV Commission. Debbie will submit the finalized letter to the Board of County Commissioners.

The committee requested that all members individually submit comments to Senator Cortez- Masto's office as well as all members of the Nevada Delegation expressing their opposition to the changes made to the proposed Land Bill now titled "Southern Nevada Economic Development and Conservation Act". They will include why OHV use is important to them and their community. Debbie- encouraged the committee members and community to share the "discussion draft" with other OHV community partners and asked them to contact the Nevada Delegation.

Ross's update: Ross has completed the feasibility study. He is now working on the Environmental Assessment for the BLM portion of the loop and will also work to get the forest service on board. If all goes well, he believes the BLM portion of the loop will be completed within 1 year.

VII. Public Comment

Mike Frye - would like the next agenda to include Issue Tracking List 21

Marilyn- suggested people hand write a letter asking the Nevada Delegation to include their comment. Explain that you're an avid OHV user, your love for your state, and how much you enjoy the outdoors. Ask if they would be willing to consider your ideas. It's good to include pictures so they can have a visual of the area, who is using the land and what it's used for. Be respectful, informational and personal.

Mike Frye- noticed that the Ivanpah ACEC was revoked in the draft lands bill.

Kevin Bailey – VV4W’s thanked Marilyn for helping him with the Hump n Bump when they ran into a snag with their event at the Logandale Trails. They had 225 registered rigs, 325 people registered at their dinner and raised \$17,000 which will be distributed on March 11th during the Moapa Valley Town Advisory Board. The 2020 Hump N Bump will take place November 12-15. They will be adding new trails to this year’s event.

Samantha Bivens – from Congressman Steven Horsford’s Office. Samantha was just assigned to work on items related to public lands. They recently held a round table which included many groups to discuss the draft lands bill. She echoed Marilyn’s advice about handwritten letters which include photos.

VIII. Next Meeting Date

The next regular meeting will be March 25, 2020

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.