

MISORVA
Board of Director Meeting (regular) – Wednesday, May 18, 2022
Location: Electronic (Zoom) Meeting

- I. CALL TO ORDER/Welcome:** Meeting was called to order by President John Newman at 6:33 p.m. John thanked Ron Schroeder, Jeff Mariucci, and Archie Cole for organizing a successful Membership Ride in Indian River this past weekend. There were 37 units on Friday and 52 units on Saturday that participated.
- II. ROLL CALL:** The roll call of the BOD was taken and recorded by Secretary, Stephanie Hubbarth-Bergen. The recording is available upon request. Absences include: Ernie Reimann, Joe Chavis, Sean O'Neill, Keith Lynch, Dave Satchell, Roy Hart, Grant Dewitt, John Houk, Kaye Houk, Andrea Eder, Emerson Corder, and Joshua Driscoll. Guests include: Carly Kraima and Karl Davenport.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** New Business additions include: d) ORV Initiatives, e) Swap Meet, f) ORV Safety Rental Video, g) Committee Reports, h) Committee Zoom Meetings, and i) June BOD Meeting.
Motion by Ron Schroeder to accept the agenda. Agenda approved as corrected by unanimous vote.
- IV. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes were emailed and are available at this meeting. (Placed on file.) Line item IX-a Board Member Updates should reflect Devin Gardner in District 7 instead of 8. Line item VI-f should state Delta Township instead of County.
Motion by Dan White to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
- V. TREASURER'S REPORT & PAYMENT OF BILLS:** **Mark Pankner.** Balance Sheet and Statements were reviewed. (Placed on file in office.)
Motion by Archie Cole to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
- VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- a. Legislative: Paul Anderson.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.) John Newman reminded everyone that the Legislative Luncheon is to be held at the Capital Building on May 24th. Please contact Karen Middendorp if you plan on attending.
- b. Membership: Brad Beardsley.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.) Carly Kraima explained the proposed addition of sponsor logos to our membership card. This is an additional benefit to our sponsors at no additional cost to them. Each sponsor would possibly provide a discount or free item of their choice to the card holder.
Motion by Brad Beardsley to allow the addition of sponsor logos on our membership card. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
- c. Publication: Ron Schroeder.** Committee just beginning to meet. Ron requested more Michigan articles in our magazine. The editor is willing to publish whatever we send to them. Please forward any suggested info or articles to the committee. Brad Beardsley will begin highlighting a club for each issue. Proofs were due May 15th. There may have been some confusion with appropriate contact info. Ron will reach out to the editor.
- d. Trails Region 1: Todd Blanchard.** Todd stated that he is just starting to reach out to the local groups as he is new to the committee. So far, there have been no responses. Many important stops on our trails are currently for sale or recently been sold – The Tanglewood, The Wolf's Inn, multiple hotels in Grand Marais, etc. John Newman stated the Keweenaw ATV Trails are asking everyone to temporarily stay off the trails due to erosion from the recent storms. Dave Karls stated that trail 116, south of the groomer barn, washed out last week and is barricaded. The DNR will be repairing.
- e. Trails Region 2: Ted Truckey.** No report. First meeting has been scheduled.
- f. Trails Region 3: Jim Berens.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.) The groomer tractor for the Allegan club needs to be refurbished. Jim will try and get there soon to work on it. John Newman stated that Macomb County (SE MI) constituents are beginning to push for ORV access.
- VII. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- a. ACSA: John Newman.** The next meeting will be May 24th and another during the ISC.
- b. Charity: Kaye Houk.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
- c. By-Laws: Roy Hart.** No activity since the last meeting.
- d. Public Relations: Jeff Mariucci.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
- e. Friends of the Forest:**
- i. Ottawa Forest: Ernie Reimann.** No report.
- ii. Hiawatha West: Keith Churill.** Trail 7 south of the Buckhorn has a major washout. DNR and USFS will be repairing it.
- iii. Hiawatha East: Roy Hart.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
- iv. Huron: Gary Blaser.** Gary was approached by several riders up from North Carolina. They were disappointed with our trails. Gary told them that we were actively working on improvements.

- v. **Huron Manistee: Pete Finch.** Newly opened forest roads are not well marked. Pete is to meet with the USFS regarding signage and maps. Gary Blazer was told that we were not to use trails if there was a guard rail in the Huron Forest. Dan White informed the group that the Dirt Dudes received \$10,000 fines as well as court dates for their previous infractions on and off the trails.
- f. **Snowmobile Advisory Workgroup: Don Britton.** The Equipment Sub-committee as well as Saw will be in June. They should have an equipment eligibility report soon.
- g. **ORV Advisory Workgroup: Keith Lynch.** Keith messaged that there is a new member of the committee that also happens to be a MISORVA member.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Law Enforcement: John Newman.** Senate Bill 1003 is being reviewed. This is the bill that will adjust the certification process for Law Enforcement Officers to include ORV enforcement similar to snow and boating enforcement.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Legislative Luncheon: Karen Middendorp.** The inability to schedule a legislative ride led to the opportunity to have an informational luncheon. ISMA will reissue our grant to cover the luncheon. The grant is to promote snowmobiling, but any questions regarding ORVs will not be refused. It will be held Tuesday, May 24th in the Capital building.
- b. **Dirt Grooming/Grading Committee: Jeremy Valley.** Interested parties can still volunteer for the committee. Meetings will begin soon. The hope is that this will eventually lead to a Dirt Groomer Workshop. Karen Middendorp stated that the workshop or a ride may qualify for a Polaris grant through a 501(c)3 club.
- c. **Borton Golf Outing: Karen Middendorp.** Representative Borton has invited all to attend his golf outing on June 13, 2022 at Treetops Resort in Gaylord. Gary Blazer has volunteered to sponsor a hole in MISORVA's name.
- d. **ORV Initiatives: Joshua Driscoll.** Tabled until June meeting due to Josh's absence.
- e. **Swap Meet: Karen Middendorp.** Karen questioned the opportunity to revive having a swap meet as a fundraiser. After discussion, it was decided to table the idea for future investigation.
- f. **ORV Safety rental Video: John Newman.** John had a dealership request a safety video to show ORV renters. If we could produce a 5-10 minute video for the rental industry it would promote our organization. John will work with Dave Titus to investigate this opportunity.
- g. **Committee Reports: John Newman.** Please submit an electronic report one week in advance of our scheduled meetings. It helps speed up that portion of the meeting as well as provide a report to be placed on our website for the public.
- h. **Committee Zoom Meeting: John Newman.** Please commit to your scheduled meetings as well as coordinate them with Karen Middendorp if changes need to be made. Our goal is to advance motorized recreation and that cannot happen if we do not work at it.
- i. **June BOD Meeting: John Newman.** Due to the recent increase in COVID infection rates it was decided, after discussion, that the June meeting would be changed to an electronic format and be moved to June 22 from June 25. There will not be a Gather and Ride for June as well for the same reason.

- X. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Ron Schroeder noted that the Spring Boom raffle tickets do not have prizes listed on them. The prizes are 1st - \$5000, 2nd - \$3000, and 3rd - \$2000. Devin Gardner asked about seeing the revision for House Bill 4535. It is not yet available for release per Karen Middendorp. Scott Beltman stated that the first ORV ride (approximately 40 miles) is to be held in Allegan County this Saturday, May 21st. Cheryl Ziola questioned the release of the Miracle Millions money. Karen Middendorp stated that there are 76 requests totaling \$5 million dollars! The first meeting for this board will be tomorrow, May 19th.

- XI. **DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING:** Electronic (Zoom) meeting on Wednesday June 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Committee chairpersons are requested to have a written report turned into the office by June 15, 2022.

**If you cannot attend, please contact the MISORVA Secretary via email, call, or text prior to the beginning of the meeting.
**

Stephanie Hubbarth-Bergen 586-524-5802 or shb16@sbcglobal.net

- XII. **ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Ron Schroeder to adjourn. Adjournment of meeting approved by unanimous vote.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Electronically signed by Stephanie Hubbarth-Bergen on June 22, 2022.

Committee Reports May 2022

Standing Committees

1. **Legislative – Paul Anderson ~ We’d like to thank Lyle Curry for his time and efforts who held this position prior to Paul taking over.**
This is what was discussed at the first meeting.
 1. Update on 4535 – Draft 7 has addressed many of the concerns that other groups have had with the bill. Currently our committee is happy with the current language but we’re expecting another draft here soon.
 2. Bill 1003 has been submitted by Curt VanderWall which would allow agencies to deputize a member of the public after training. This already exists in the snow and marine program and works very well. We don’t expect much resistance one this bill.
 3. HB4332 ORV Stickers on 2 wheeled vehicle placements has passed. You may now place your stickers on the forks of a motorcycle.
 4. Future projects include the ORV Sunset which expires in 2024. We are going to look for support to remove the Sunset Clause all together as well as looking to go back to a single sticker system.
 5. The committee will be putting a list of potential future projects so if anyone has any suggestions, please email them to me. We will discuss all suggestions in our monthly meetings.
 6. Lastly, the Legislative Luncheon will be held May 24th in Lansing. MISORVA was awarded a 3000.00 grant from International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association (ISMA) to help facilitate the event. We need as many to attend as possible so if you can make it, PLEASE let Karen know by email. She will need to know your Representative and Senators, this will allow our lobbyist to contact directly to be sure your legislator is in attendance.
2. **Membership –** The Membership committee held our May committee meeting via zoom on 5/9/2022 and was well attended. Our topics of discussion are below.
 1. Key Card: Carly has done some work to get card printing cost along with checking with Commercial members to see if they is enough interest in the program to provide this benefit to both our commercial sponsorship members and our regular members.
 2. Small Events: We discussed and the consensus is we need to start attending more grass roots small events like club rides, dealer open houses, ORV shows, Snowmobile shows, Etc. If anyone knows of any events we could set up a small booth and promote MISORVA please let me know. If anyone wants to help with any of these event booths also please let me know. Any time we have a local club member in the booth it will help generate more conversations at the booth. I plan to attending and will be setting up a booth at the Blessing of the ORVs in Irons on May 29. If anyone would like to help me please let me know.
3. **Publication -**
4. **Trails**
 - ❖ **Region 1 -**
 - ❖ **Region 2 –**
 - ❖ **Region 3 – Jim Berens** Trails report, region 3 , submitted by Jim Berens on behalf of the region 3 committee

With the spring season in full bloom (just went to the Tulip fest in Holland) the ORV trails are open and busy after the winter shut down. Region 3 has a few ORV parks, 50" trail systems and some motorcycle single track systems. I have included what info I could gather about the riding opportunities in southern Michigan.

Holly Oaks has announced another 65 acres will be open soon to add to their space. They have a few events scheduled including "Dirt disability days" where folks with disabilities get the chance to go along with volunteer drivers and experience what travelling off road is like.

Bundy Hill ORV area is open and has been busy. They have several events scheduled including hill climbs and a hare scramble. They have a toys for tots event in Dec.

Mounds is open and busy.

Rouch off road park and Mint City off road park are open. They cater mostly to Jeeps and trucks with the obstacles on their properties.

Cedar Creek 50" trail is open for the season. The parking lot there is closed in the winter and portions of the trail are snowmobile trails in the winter, which causes some confusion as to whether the trail is open or not to ORV use. There are very few two tracks and dirt roads close by that are open but I still see folks unloading SXS in the parking lot...not sure where they are going as the trail is barley wide enough for the larger ATVs.

The trail does get groomed about once a month but I have not found out who does it.

Holton/Horseshoe single track trails are open and busy. No grooming takes place here that I have ever seen. CCC supposedly maintains it.

Silver Lake ORV area opened on April 1- for the season. The DNR has been busy moving sand around by the exit ramp as it has been drifting over it the last few years. There is a new "dune ready" access this year to help alleviate some lines on the weekends. The voucher system went into effect this past weekend.

Allegan county and several surrounding counties continue to open more roads for ORV use as the trend for ORV access continues to move into the southern part of the state. There has been a desire by many to have a trail system in SW Michigan, but a lack of state land and open space away from populated areas will hinder that. Time will tell.

I am hoping to get more contacts from the ORV clubs that maintain the trails in region 3, but most are not associated with MISORVA and the information is hard to access.

Other Committee Reports:

- **ACSA-**
- **Charity – Kay Houk** ~There is nothing new to add. Reports were due by May 10th on Survey Monkey. I will share the results when the data becomes available.
- **Bylaws – Roy Hart** ~ No By-laws activity since the last report.
- **Public Relations – Jeff Marriucci** ~ I'm not sure if I should apologize for sending a late report or for not having much to report. The progress of the Public Relations Committee has been slow recently. Several of us are working on articles for future publication that will not only help educate the riding public on various aspects of the sport, but will also go to show MISORVA's involvement in the sport by making this information available.
- **Friends of the Forest -**
 - ❖ **Ottawa – Ernie Reimann**~
 - ❖ **Hiawatha West – Roy Hart** ~ No USFS activity this reporting period. On a related note... P. J. Costa, Newberry DNR Office, has been chosen to replace Paul Gaberdiel as trail specialist for EUP.
 - ❖ **Hiawatha East -**
 - ❖ **Huron -**
 - ❖ **Huron Manistee – Pete Finch** ~

- **SAW ~ Snowmobile Advisory Council – Keith Churill ~**

MISORVA – Miracle Million Requests were due April 30, 77 Requests were received. There is a meeting scheduled for May 19 and 20 to decide the fulfillment of the requests.

Free Snowmobile Weekend – Passed and signed by the Governor and will work with DNR for date announcement.

ORVAW ~ ORV advisory Workgroup –

Board Member Updates