

MISORVA
Board of Director Meeting (regular) – Wednesday, August 10,2022
Location: Electronic (Zoom) Meeting

- I. CALL TO ORDER/Welcome:** Meeting was called to order by President John Newman at 6:32 p.m.
- 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, Dave Karls, Sean O’Neill, Donna Cody, Rich Rottier, Ron Schroeder, Gary Blazer, Ted Truckey, Pete Finch, Nick Ferrante, Devin Gardner, David Low, and Todd Blanchard. Guests include: Dakota Hewlett (MDNR), Shane Kellum, and Karl Davenport.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** No changes presented.
Motion by Don Britton 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.)
Motion by John Houk to accept the minutes as presented. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
- V. RTP PRESENTATION:** Dakota Hewlett, the Nonmotorized Trail Grants Coordinator and Iron Belle Trail Coordinator from the Parks and Recreation division of MDNR, gave a presentation on the Federal Recreation Trails Program (RTP). He can be reach at HewlettD@michigan.gov or 517-331-0280.
- VI. TREASURER’S REPORT & PAYMENT OF BILLS:** **Mark Pankner.** Balance Sheet and Statements were reviewed. (Placed on file in office.)
Motion by Dan White to accept the Treasurer’s report. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
- VII. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- a. **Legislative: Paul Anderson.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
Motion by Paul Anderson to take agenda out of order. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
 - b. **Membership: Brad Beardsley.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
 - c. **Publication: Ron Schroeder.** No report. Ron has decided to step down as chairperson of this committee. If anyone is interested in filling the position for the remainder of the year, please notify Karen Middendorp or John Newman.
 - d. **Trails Region 1: Todd Blanchard.** No report.
 - e. **Trails Region 2: Ted Truckey.** No report. Paul Anderson mentioned that Grand Traverse County Snowmobile Club has a new president and they have already performed four brushings this year. Things are looking good for this year’s winter season!
 - f. **Trails Region 3: Jim Berens.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
- VIII. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- a. **ACSA: John Newman.** No report.
 - b. **Charity: Kaye Houk.** Only 15 clubs responded to the ACSA Survey Monkey. They contributed \$29,275 and 25,414 hours for charitable purposes. ACSA does not have accurate information for Michigan’s clubs. MISORVA will request a meeting with ACSA regarding this issue.
 - c. **By-Laws: Roy Hart.** No report.
 - d. **Public Relations: Jeff Mariucci.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
 - e. **Dirt Grooming/Grading: Jeramey Valley.** No report.
 - f. **ORV Initiatives: Joshua Driscoll.** Their recent first meeting was basically a meet and greet. Additional volunteers are needed. Meetings are currently scheduled to be held the fourth Monday of each month.
 - g. **Friends of the Forest:**
 - i. **Ottawa Forest: Ernie Reimann.** No report.
 - ii. **Hiawatha West: Keith Churill.** Alger SORVA trails are currently being groomed. The washout on Trail 7 South has a culvert in place and a ramp is scheduled to be installed in the next week or two. The Miner’s Castle trail reroute is still being investigated. It needs to be in place by next year.
 - iii. **Hiawatha East: Roy Hart.** Report was emailed and is available at this meeting. (Placed on file.)
 - iv. **Huron: Gary Blaser.** Per Gary’s email, his group has been shorted for 35 miles worth of payments for trail maintenance from MDNR. He suggests that grant sponsors review their maps and compare to their payment.
 - v. **Huron Manistee: Pete Finch.** No report.
 - h. **Snowmobile Advisory Workgroup: Don Britton.** There was a recent Equipment Sub-committee meeting. Paperwork has been finalized for the purchase of nine groomers. Quotes should be arriving soon. If a sponsor is in need of a drag they should request one as the sub-committee has not discussed those as of yet. The next meeting is scheduled for September 15th.
 - i. **ORV Advisory Workgroup: Keith Lynch.** The next meeting is scheduled for August 24th. There appears to be some missing items on the posted agenda. Keith will question those items.

IX. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **ORV Safety Rental Video: John Newman.** No report.
- b. **Camp Grayling Expansion: Karen Middendorp.** Paul Anderson began a lengthy discussion in regards to the expansion proposal of lands near Camp Grayling. Paul suggested that individuals do their own research as there are various opinions on this proposal. If it passes as currently requested, Michigan would have the largest military test grounds in the U.S. Karen Middendorp has a few individuals as well as Karoub that could help word a public statement for us. She also suggested that we investigate the reasons why an expansion failed several years ago.

Motion by Josh Driscoll that MISORVA should publish a statement saying that we are neutral but concerned with the Camp Grayling Expansion Proposal. Further discussion ensued.

Motion amended by Josh Driscoll that a statement should be published saying that we are neutral but concerned with the Camp Grayling Expansion Proposal in regards to MISORVA's mission of promoting motorized recreation in the State of Michigan. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

X. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **MTAC: John Newman.** A brief synopsis was given about appointments to the MTAC board. Currently, MTAC has many vacancies and lacks multi-directional information because of these vacancies. It was suggested that due to the upcoming governor's race that we table this discussion until after the election.
- b. **2022-23 Proposed Budget: Mark Pankner.** The Executive Board met for several hours and propose the presented budget.

Motion by Paul Anderson to accept the proposed 2022-23 budget as presented. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

- XI. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** After the Legislative Committee Report, Shane Kellum, coordinator of the Ride Allegan County, thanked MISORVA for their attendance at their recent SxS ride. There were approximately 70 ORVs (150 participants) that traveled 52 miles using a Great Race format. All involved were complimentary of the day's events. Dan White questioned why non-motorized sports received RTP funds. John Newman stated that the designated disbursement was created by the Federal government. Ken McCrum questioned the process for cyclists, etc. to create a permit-based funding source.

- XII. **DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING:** Electronic (Zoom) meeting on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Committee chairpersons are requested to have a written report turned into the office by Wednesday, September 14, 2022.

Reminder: Pursuant to Article III, Section 7 of our By-laws, Board members can miss two meetings during the calendar year. Please make every effort to attend all meetings for the year even if you are late or leave early within reason.

**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

- XIII. **ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Kim Kelts to adjourn. Adjournment of meeting approved by unanimous vote.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Committee Reports August 10, 2022

Standing Committees

- **Legislative** - Paul Anderson ~
 1. Update on 4535 – Draft 8 has been reviewed and the committee is happy with the current language. It's going to committee next.
 2. Bill 1003 has passed the Senate and has moved onto the House.
 3. Sunset Clause Removal has been sponsored by Rep Tim Besin out of Bay City. The draft has been reviewed but our committee and we approved it.
 4. Our first survey was sent out and we got 120 responses, not what we'd like to see but it's something. Once the information has been sorted we will provide an update of what story it tells.
 5. Free snowmobile weekend is still in the hands of the DNR.
 6. Camp Grayling is a growing concern among many Michigan outdoors people. We will discuss this in the meeting.

- **Membership** - Brad Beardsley ~ The Membership committee held our August committee meeting via zoom on 8/1/2022 and was well attended by all members. Our topics of discussion are below.

Key Card: Carly has sent the logos to the printers so they can create a proof of the new membership card with the key card businesses on them. We had a good amount of sponsors decide to participate in the key card for the first year.

Small Events: We had a discussion on small events and putting out tri-folds in locations that will help get our name and mission out to possible new members. Tri-folds are available to all board members so if you would like to get them to provide them to businesses in your area or to have on hand when talking with possible new members please contact Carly. If your club is having an event and you would like to set up a small information area please contact Carly and she can provide you with some hand out material. If you need some help with this please contact me directly.

The Membership renewal mailing will be going out in September and Carly is working to get that all ready to go.

- **Publication** - Ron Schroeder ~

- **Trails**
 - ❖ **Region 1** - Todd Blanchard ~
 - ❖ **Region 2** - Ted Truckey ~
 - ❖ **Region 3** - Jim Berens ~ 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.

Rough 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 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. I heard that portions were groomed this summer, I have not checked it out myself.

Silver Lake ORV area is busy as usual. There is a new "dune ready" access this year to help alleviate some lines on the weekends, it was nice to be able to drive right in. There was talk of maybe having a 3 way permit specifically for the dunes with both the ORV required decals and the REC passport on the same sticker. Not sure if that will happen...

Allegheny 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.

The Ride Allegheny club held an event last weekend that I attended. There were a few others from MISORVA on hand as we were invited to join them for a ride and some group games. I don't have the final count but there were 4 groups of about 12 machines in each group, (SXS, ATVs and me on my motorcycle)

The president of the Cycle Conservation Club rode to the event on his adventure bike and addressed the group with words of encouragement.

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**- John Newman ~ No meeting recently no updates.
- **Charity** - Kaye Houk ~ Finally received info from The Survey Monkey report. MI had only 17 clubs respond to the report!! So sad, members don't seem to want to take the time to respond. the process should be restructured.
- **Bylaws** - Roy Hart ~ No By-laws Committee activity during this reporting period
- **Public Relations** - Jeff Marriucci ~ The committee didn't have a meeting in June as we changed the day of the month that we meet. Unfortunately, with the change of meeting days we lost two members as a result of a conflict with their local club's meeting day.

Our July meeting was sparsely attended but we now have one article completed that is being circulated through the committee for critique. We hope the executive team will agree to have it published under the MISORVA banner as a way to promote MISORVA's involvement in ORVing. Initially it would appear in our magazine and then hopefully in other publications to further expand the reach of the MISORVA name.

Other committee members are putting together additional articles to further educate the riding public about our sport, highlighting MISORVA's involvement and scope of knowledge.

- **Friends of the Forest** -
 - **Ottawa** - Ernie Reimann ~
 - **Hiawatha West** - Keith Churill ~
 - **Hiawatha East** - Roy Hart ~ Phone and email attempts to contact USFS Trails personnel by Chippewa County SORVA have gone unanswered. The Club will continue to pursue contacts. The 3 new routes approved by the USFS (Trout Lake to Strongs, Strongs to Hulbert, and Bay Mills to Strongs) are in DNR channels. New forms by the DNR require CC-SORVA to resubmit data for total additional miles for the routes. May meet with P. J. Costa 1st week in August. Trail update: Sault to Brimley Trail C improvements east and west of 6 Mile Rd have been completed. Ditching, laying of some fabric, large aggregate, and slag for top dress make it a nice ride now. A little over 10,000' of trail was improved. Great leadership by Charlie Steffens, CC-SORVA Secretary, and other Club members to get this project completed.
 - **Huron** - Gary Blaser ~ I was checking how many miles of ORV trails that I have registered with the state in my county and come to find out I am about 35 miles shy of what I should be getting

paid. Since the state opened all these roads and trails (snowmobile trails) up to O RV's and side by sides they should review their maps and make any corrections with the trail tech . I thought this was done previous to me taking over

- **Huron Manistee** - Pete Finch ~

- **SAW ~ Snowmobile Advisory Council** - Don Britton ~ Oral report given at the meeting
- **Groomer Workshop**- No update
- **ORVAW ~ ORV advisory Workgroup** – Keith Lynch ~ Oral report given at the meeting

Board Member Updates

MISORVA Miracle Million -Karen Middendorp ~

The grant has been encumbered according to the clubs request. When we received the checks there was a printing error and the checks could not be used and had to be reprinted. The checks were reprinted and shipped at the end of July and should be in the mail to clubs by the meeting date.

Free Snowmobile Weekend - Karen Middendorp ~ Passed and will work with DNR for date announcement, SAW made a recommended date for February 11 & 12 2023. I have email sent to Jackie Blodgett for approval, no response.