



Trail Tales



May 1, 2024

Official Newsletter
of the
New Mexico 4-Wheelers

www.nm4w.org



Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2024

By Shirley Godfrey

The meeting was held at North Domingo Baca Multi-Generational Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

President Jack Dickey called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Thanks to Cliff and Jeanne Meier for hosting tonight's meeting.

Award to a 1st time trail leader – Bill Zobel.

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Jeff Boggs, Rob Campbell, Guy Conway, Cathy Dickey, Jack Dickey, Lucille Ellis, Terry Ellis, Shirley Godfrey, Jeff Grenier, Kay Grenier, Brendan Hodgson, Ed Kausche, Lyn Kausche, Cliff Meier, Jeanne Meier, Myron Myers, John Nolen, Jack Nutter, Eric Olson, Chris Otto, Don Roy, Richard Steele, Mary Turpin, Glenn Vialpando, Rebagayle Vialpando, Frank Whiston, William Zobel

GUESTS ATTENDING: Cyvil Burks, Karl Byrd, Brian Hudson, Mark Maydew, Keith Miller, John Sanchez, Darren Sandow, Donald Tyler, Ian Watson, Tonia Watson, Marie Zamora

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Jeff Boggs - VP, sheriff, and membership.

Guests were introduced and asked to tell a little about themselves and what they drive.

Motion to vote Darren Sandow as a member. Seconded and passed.

Motion to vote Cyvil Burks as a member. Seconded and passed.

Motion to vote Eric Olson as an associate member moving to Mountainair from Virginia. Seconded and passed.

Motion to vote Rob Campbell as an associate member, sponsored by Frank Whiston. Seconded and passed.

Sheriff's collection of fines explained – You can self-report or rat someone out. This month - NO fines.

Jack Dickey explained the 5 points regarding becoming a club member.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Shirley Godfrey

Meeting minutes - motion to accept the minutes, seconded and passed. Minutes can be read on the Club's website.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Richard Steele

Checking account – \$,5287.03 Savings - \$8,673.35

Money (\$1,000) was sent as a donation to the Blue Ribbon Coalition to help keep the trails open.

There will be an increase in the bank accounts when dues are collected in July/August.

Cliff Meier explained “what is the Blue Ribbon Coalition” – Preserving natural resources FOR the public instead of FROM the public.

Treasurer’s report - motion, seconded and past.

A question was asked “since there are dues, what does the money go to?” Club social events, donations to a couple of organizations at Christmas, food pantry, Blue Ribbon Coalition, etc.

TRIP CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Cliff Meier

Please sign the waiver on the web site. Everyone going on a run needs to have a signed waiver on file.

Past Events:

March -

Frank Whiston – Big Rosa Canyon, good ride, beautiful day. Pictures on the website.

David Ham – West of Southern Trail Ride – no report.

Jeff Grenier – Exploratory The Array Loop – good ride.

Iftikhar Khan – Canyonlands, Needles district, Utah. Report given by Cyvil Burks – mainly rock crawling, not what he expected.

Upcoming rides/events explained on the website

CNM Automotive Technology – SkillsUSA State competition.

NMOHVA Annual Meeting

Gillman Tunnels to Espanola

Ranch Road Exploration

Annual Picnic – PLEASE SIGN UP

Annual Green River trip. Read the Article on the website – what you need on a trail run.

Be sure to check the web site. There are a lot more runs listed and new runs being added.

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPORT -

Bill Zobel. BLM wants to close Arch Canyon & Arch Canyon Rd in Utah. Send your comments to the BLM regarding this matter.

Santa Fe wants to close level 1 roads.

PROGRAM CHAIR’S REPORT – Cathy Dickey – Cathy turned in \$320.00 in swag sales and 50/50 raffle ticket sales. She has located a card reader to take credit cards. It is the PayPal reader for \$199.99, 2.29% per transaction plus 9 cents. The club does not take tax for the sale of its products because of being a non profit club. There was a motion and seconded to buy the card reader.

HISTORIAN’S REPORT – Frank Whiston – Add pictures to the album and write news articles!

WEBMASTER’S REPORT - Don Roy. Did some cleaning up of the website. Added new banners and colors.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR’S REPORT – Don Roy – Worked on the newsletter

OLD BUSINESS:

Our stewardship - Gordy’s Hill kiosk – Update/history of Gordy’s Hill. There is now a published trail map. The Gordy’s Hill project came about with Tread Lightly w/ Quadratec asking if

we had any projects we would like to work on with them. Gordy's!!! The three panels include a trail map, Tread Lightly sign, and an information sign all printed on polycarbonate. Plywood will be needed for mounting the signs.

Don Roy asked if we can get photos of the panels for the newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS:

The July meeting will include club elections. There will be some vacancies.

Frank Whiston – Grant money available to the general public for outdoor open space projects.

Mary Turpin would like to start quarterly outings. Mary will start planning for summer 2025. These would be overnight, out of state adventures.

50/50 raffle - \$30.00 / \$15.00 won by Donald & Crystal.

Jeff Grenier asked what does everyone use in case of an emergency. It was mentioned – Garmin in Reach.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:10 p.m.



President's Report

By Jack Dickey

Be Prepared (It's a boy scout thing!)

It's five days before leaving to go to Green River, Utah and a week of exploring the San Rafael Swell. I decided to do a pre-trip check on our Chevy Colorado ZR2. Starting under the hood: air filter clean enough; washer fluid and antifreeze topped off; and oil level, battery terminals, serpentine belt, hoses, brake fluid, all good. The truck has electric power steering and a sealed transmission so nothing to check there.

Moving outside, turn signals head, tail, parking and brake lights all checked out good. I continued to check the tires and adjust air pressures. On to the spare – oops, it only had 10½ pounds pressure. I inspected the tire and found an old plug that I had put in. After pressurizing the tire, using soapy water I checked the plug and valve stem for leaks – none found. I further checked the tire and didn't see anything obvious to cause a leak. The plug must be leaking really slowly as I can't remember when I last checked the pressure in the spare – another oops.

I decided to rotate the spare with the passenger front tire as the spare had better tread depth. I switched wheels/tires and began tightening the lug nuts. I noticed one of the lug nuts went on tighter than the others. So, I started backing it off then it quit turning! It didn't budge turning it either way 😞. After saying a few bad words, I grabbed the breaker bar and had a go at the stuck lug nut. Unable to withstand my determination with using the breaker bar, the wheel stud broke off and I said a whole lot more bad words. Now, in the morning, four days before leaving on the trip, the truck is scheduled to get repaired.

I am grateful that the wheel stud got stuck and broke off while working in my shop and not out in the remote San Rafael swell needing to put on the spare. Whatever your vehicle pre-trip check is, do it

sooner rather than later and do it every time. That way you're prepared to handle anything you find and still go out and have fun.

Happy Trails,

Jack Dickey



NMOHVA Meeting Report

By Jeff Boggs

Frank Whiston and I attended the NMOHVA Annual Meeting. Here is a summary of this meeting:

Officers Report:

NMOHVA received a \$5K grant for Trail Maintenance tools and equipment. NMOHVA has classes to certify training in the use of this equipment for trail projects. CPR training, also. These classes are recognized by the USFS to certify volunteers in tasks such as chainsaw operation.

NMOHVA got a \$60K grant to do cattleguard crossing installations in the west zone of the Carson Nat Forest, replacing gates. This helps keep cattle in place in this area and eliminates having to open and close gates for vehicle traffic.

NMOHVA was instrumental in getting Chloride Canyon, in the Black Range area of the Gila Nat Forest, reopened after flood damage.

Sierra County OHV Alliance is working to open a 212-acre multi-use OHV park in the Elephant Bute NM area.

NMOHVA offered NEPA Training (National Environmental Policy Act) for the officers. "How to write a substantive Comment". Mark Werkmeister does the training. Knowing how to make these comments effectively is important in keeping OHV trails and roads open for the public's use.

NMOHVA is active in developing SxS routes in NM Other states have developed loops and routes for Side x Side OHV's.

NMOHVA membership is \$20/yr. for individuals and \$100/yr. for clubs.

NM4W, LC4WDC, and NMTA are among the current member clubs right now.

Recreational Resource Director's Report:

NMD G&F received a \$500K capital outlay grant for state projects:

Gordy's Hill improvements:

Signage for NM BDR

These are examples of OHV related usages of this money.

Other ongoing public lands issues that NMOHVA engages in are:

Buffalo Tract BLM area, north of Placitas, NM

BLM Ohkay Owingeh Land Swap

Jemez Ranger District Collaborative, to open and reopen some closed off forest roads in the Jemez mts.

NMOHVA officer elections were held netting several renewals and a new Treasurer.



I hope you are enjoying the new 'desert look' of the web site. It's been active 6 weeks or so now. I had been meaning to tone down the harsher white for a couple years and finally got to it. The work included a number of changes to improve the visual consistency too.

I want to thank my test team, Rich Steele and Frank Whiston, for their help in assessing the changes as the project progressed.

I also want to thank Christine Robson for taking the perfect photo to use as the new banner photo, taken on the recent Big Rosa Canyon ride.





Keep PUBLIC lands open to the PUBLIC

NM4W Officers

<p>President Jack Dickey pres@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Vice-President Membership Chairman Jeff Boggs vpres@nm4w.org</p>	<p>Secretary Sherley Godfrey sec@nm4w.org</p>
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