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**Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
ATV Grant Subcommittee Meeting**

Thursday, August 15, 2024

**Salem HQ: 725 Summer St. NE Room 124a&b
and Zoom option**

ATV Grant Subcommittee Meeting Called to Order at 9:00 am.

Attendees:

- Virgle Osborne – Class II Rep, Chair
- Ron Price – Member at Large
- Dave Kimball – Class I Rep
- Sgt. Matt Smith – Coos County Sherrif's Office, Law enforcement
- Matt Miller (on-line) – Class IV Rep
- Ann Haak (on-line) – ADA Representative

- Matt Rippee – Deputy Director – Central Park Service Manager (oversees Grant Program) on executive team, based in La Grande
- Michele Scalise – Grants and Community Program Manager
- Ian Caldwell – ATV Program, Mountain Region Office
- Mike Law – Field Rep & Grant Agreements for ATV Program
- Jeff Trejo - ATV safety education coordinator
- Denise Frechin – OPRD Admin support (Notetaker)
- Nohemi Enciso – OPRD Zoom Support (Land and Water Grant Coordinator)

- Ellen Wayte – Tread Lightly! (on-line)

Welcome and Introductions, Logistics, Review Agenda

Public Comments

- None

Approval of January 2024 Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

ACTION

- Motion moved by Dave Kimball and seconded by Ron Price. All in Favor. Approved.

Review Budget

- There is \$1,815,443 to allocate with 8 applications today totaling \$441,791. If we fund all applications, there will be \$1,373,472 remaining.
- The budget increased for this program by 3 million dollars which won't all be spend in this cycle. Mike and Ian have been doing a lot of outreach and encouraging people to submit projects. There's been increases in budgets, general inflation, and salaries increasing. Next biennium we will likely hit this spending limitation. The spending is an allocation to spend, so it will stay in the ATV Fund Account until if not spent, no actual dollars will be lost.

- Our next grant cycle would be coming up for next January, probably looking at Operation & Maintenance and maybe Law Enforcement Programs. We're trying to do that in January before legislative session begins. For O&M there will be about 30 applications and about 15 law enforcement grants. We will start soliciting those projects this fall. Those applications are due in mid-November.

Recusals

- Virgle Osborne - Champagne Creek application.

Review Grant Applications

- **MGCOHV Skid Steer – Morrow County – O&M**
- **Lane County Equipment – Lane CO Sheriff's Office – LE**
- **WLAD EMS SxS – Western Lane Ambulance –**
- **Jefferson County OHV Patrols – Jefferson Co SO – LE**
- **Redmond Fire UTV – Redmond Fire and Rescue – EMS**
- **Douglas County Parks Truck – Douglas Co Parks – O&M**
- **Equipment Storage – Champagne Creek Ranch – Safety**
- **Knappa Fire PPE and Tracks – Knappa Fire – EMS –**

Committee Site Visit to Morrow County

- We tried to get a site visit for this August meeting, but only had two committee members available, so we made it just a grant meeting. Have looked at staff schedules and Oct 7-11 is the best. We know it doesn't work for everybody.
- October 7-11, 2024, staying in Boardman for 2 nights with a full day at OHV Park. There is potential to visit Hood River County Forestry on the way home. The Kingsley Reservoir has a newly developed campground with a County Opportunity Grant and a Day use Staging Area with an ATV Grant and they have lots of trails.
- Are committee members available to go to Morrow County?
 - Ann Haak, Matt Miller, and Matt Rippee – Going. Kirsti said she is available.
 - Matt Smith and Michele are not available.
 - Ron Price not sure yet, Barrett and Dave Kimball may be able to go.
- If this date doesn't work, we won't be able to do a site visit this year. If we have four committee members and with Matt coming it would be worth it.

Term Limits

- Ron Price and Dave Kimball's terms will end December 31, 2024. Chris Knauf and Kevin Rowell with BLM and Forest Service representatives are up for reappointment also. They are all eligible for reappointment.
- If you are interested, please send an official email stating you wish to be reappointed for another Four-year term. The park commission would have to approve these appointments in their December meeting.

2024 ATV Guide

- Mike Law has updated the ATV Handbook for the public, which is also in a Spanish version with the same information. Also have business cards in Spanish as well. These have been printed and distributed. Let Jeff know if you need any.

Trainings

- Great Trails Workshop – Last year at Shotgun Creek OHV area near Springfield. Planning on Bend in 2025. We are working with National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council

(NOHVCC) and I'm trying to make it an annual training. We're bringing people in from all over the state. NOHVCC is a nationwide advocacy non-profit group that works on OHV access throughout the US. Marc Hildesheim is the director. Marc came out and taught the Great Trails Workshop, along with Scott Johnson, a Forest Service employee, and Jason Wells, a trail contractor out of Hood River. We are trying to set one of those up for Bend this next spring (2025).

- In conjunction with this, we've been doing a forty-hour, week long equipment training class. Scott Johnson is a certified instructor and teaches those courses and can have up to twelve students. We also bring Jason Wells in, who focuses on building trails with excavators. Ian helps with logistics. The US Forest Service requires this class for employees to run equipment and get issued a certificate. Although other agencies don't require the training, it is good learning experience for anyone running equipment.
- 40-hour equipment training planned for – Cline Buttes in 2025
- Law Enforcement Training – Planning to go to Coos Bay area in 2026. People on the coast have been asking for the training so we are having it there with more focus on dunes. Had one at Eagle Crest in 2024.
- NOHVCC National Conference – Mike is going to Minnesota in October 2024 and Bend in the October 9-11, 2025.

Presentations (10 minute presentation and time for Q&A)

MGCOHV Skid Steer – Morrow County – O&M

- Lone Rock Fire 137,222 acres came very close to the west of the park. Monkey Creek Fire (Battle Mt Complex) was to the east. They had to cancel some reservations and close the park for a short time because of fires. Discussion on trail maintenance practices

Lane County Equipment – Lane CO Sheriff's Office – LE

- Matt Smith how do you ensure the proceeds of the sale of the previous machine doesn't just get back in the general fund? Their accounting system will make sure it goes into the correct funding pool.

WLAD EMS SxS – Western Lane Ambulance – EMS

- We spend a lot of time training our employees to be qualified to go out on the sand and understand the idiosyncrasies of these vehicles, especially on our Tahoe. We make sure they have off road vehicle training even though we are exempt.

Jefferson County OHV Patrols – Jefferson Co SO – LE

- Ron – do you get any funding from Forest Service or BLM? We get a small portion to monitor Haystack Reservoir. Do a lot of patrol work and are not getting anything for it. The federal funding is sparse. Had a plane crash east of Madras. Had damage to vehicles and firetruck got stuck trying to get to them.

Redmond Fire UTV – Redmond Fire and Rescue – EMS

- The OHV injuries we see orthopedic injuries such as broken bones. It's hard to transport them on a wheel liter easily. The ATVs are great to use because they have suspension and can go slower over bumpy areas.

Douglas County Parks Truck – Douglas Co Parks – O&M

- Mike –Looks like you are upgrading a lot of equipment. Are there other things you are looking at in the future? Had a lot of old equipment that's needed to be replaced. Want to replace them 1 or 2 a year.
- The UTV Takeover is coming up – Forest Service is not giving a permit to use their part of the dunes for an event. Can't have any ATV sponsored events on the Forest Service lands.

Equipment Storage – Champagne Creek Ranch – Safety

- Its great working with the with the kids to the get ATV Safety Card. We hear feedback from those who have taken the course.

Knappa Fire PPE and Tracks – Knappa Fire – EMS

- Mike - We have done several grants for tracks on vehicles, and they are straightforward. Includes PPE so the cost seems reasonable.

Grant Review and Discussion

- Scoring
 - Scores are ranged from 84-88. We have funding for all the projects.
 - Open for more discussion.

Grant Recommendations Motion

ACTION

- Motion Proposed by Dave Kimball, seconded by Matt Smith and voted all in favor. Passed.
 - Will be presented to the Parks Commission in December.

Other Business

- Discussion on ATVs on roads. 2 bills from recent Legislation failed. If there is an opportunity, Virgle is happy to readdress this. Cities and Counties can pass ordinance. State Highways have ATV Highway Access Committee to review.

Next Committee Meetings

- 2024 November 14, 2024 – Full ATV Committee Meeting at Best Western Mill Creek, Salem
- 2025 January Meeting – O&M and LE at Best Western Mill Creek, Salem
- 2025 March Meeting – Other categories at Best Western Mill Creek, Salem

Adjourned at 1:00 pm.