

BMRA Operational Board of Directors

Minutes of the Meeting December 9, 2008

Meeting was held at Rick Hawkinberry's home complex in East Mountain

Tom Mitchell called the meeting to order 7:20pm.

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Board Members Absent</u>	<u>Others Present</u>
Tom Mitchell	Jimmy Jones	Lawton Watts
Rick Hawkinberry	Terry Poe	
David Carter		
Mike Green by phone		

There is a conflict on scheduled spring work weekend with Omega Run so work weekend is changed to the first weekend of April, which is April 4 & 5. It is understood that Harris and Mitchell would likely not be present; therefore Hawkinberry and Green will be in charge.

Bank account balance is \$39,417.57 and none of the bills have cleared. These usually total about \$1600.00. Thanksgiving weekend was a good weekend.

Old Business

Houston TORA wants to hold an event on April 24, 25, 26, 2009 to support Wheelers for Wounded. That is the weekend following the Land Rover Weekend and is an open park weekend. We will be glad to have them and support their efforts.

There is a down tree on the southwest corner of the property and the adjacent landowner will cooperate in its removal when weather permits. We also have one down over our fence with David Carter on the South of the property at the end of Cassity's Curve and at the 90 degree turn in the perimeter road.

Mitchell and Hawkinberry met with the communication tower people. There were a total of six representatives of the Tower group present. Hawkinberry spent most of the time with the helicopter pilots and Mitchell with the tower construction interests. The preferred location is North and West of the electric campground across the main access road from the power pole with the transformer on it. The main guy wires will be parallel to the main road. Contracts are being drawn up for approval of the location.

Mitchell is making contact with the County Judge to talk about the political links and how the Tower will benefit Upshur County. The County will have a vital interest in the road to the Tower for its patrol purposes.

Helicopter pilots liked our three places we had picked for emergency landing pads. We hope to be able to add these to regional emergency landing zone lists.

Sunday, November 30th we had to have our first guest arrested. On his way to leave the park with his wife driving he jumped from the passenger seat and ran into the woods. Terry Carter, Upshur County Deputy Sheriff, responded and had to call in the search dog to find the guest in the woods. It was reported to be guests' first visit to the Park. He was found to be intoxicated and spent the night in Upshur County Jail.

Terry Carter wants to work for us as an off duty officer present on the property, and we want him to work for us, but the County Judge, Sheriff and County DA must agree that it is OK. Mitchell hopes to get this approval easily done with the building of the Tower.

Mike Green is getting an inventory of sponsored trails and will post it to the forums. He plans to have this completed by the January meeting of this Board. Trail sponsor duties include cutting back the outgrowth, picking up trash on the trail and updating signs and signage.

On the Labor Day incident, Mitchell still needs Lawton Watts' statement. He still needs a few other statements also. Steve Tucker has not responded to Mitchell's attempts to contact him. Once these statements are recorded they will be combined on a CD for review by members of this Board. After review this Board will meet in executive session for discussion and recommendations for prevention of similar incidents in the future.

Our Campground is first come, first served and paid. The electric campsites are numbered, and a policy was agreed upon to create a campsite map for them. Now a person paying for a campsite can mark their site in the office when paying. This document will help prevent double booking of sites, minimize disagreements about who is paid for which site and leave a permanent record of camping for each weekend. This map record will be retained and filed with the reports for each weekend. No future campsite reservations can be made at this time because we don't have much demand and do not have a system to handle them.

New Business

There is a new trail cut on the top of the Mountain, just South of the East West trail split. Hawkinberry is to investigate and we will decide at a future meeting any action to take.

Metal signs are more durable than the coroplast ones we have recently purchased, especially in windy areas. They are also much more expensive, but should last much longer. As we determine where we need permanent signs and which ones are necessary, we will investigate metal replacements.

Can we get signs on Highway 271 directing guests up Highway 155 to Barnwell Mountain? Somebody is to contact the State Highway Department.

Hawkinberry needs and electronic copy of the September 2008 minutes to post to the web site. Harris said he would send to him.

Our Website is BarnwellMountainRA.com. Board Members are asked to visit and suggest what needs to be changed, added or removed. Specific attention needs to be paid to rules and spelling. Hawkinberry and Poe will run the site. The email address is BMRA@hughes.net. The google link does not work to locate Barnwell Mountain Park.

Hawkinberry suggests that we need locking gas caps on our equipment at the Mountain.

Mitchell is to talk with Burke Royalty who operates the pipeline and wells on our Park about helping us to keep guests off of the pipelines. Perhaps they would install posts and cable across the pipelines, and supply newer and better signage to help us warn guest of pipeline dangers.

This Board recommends that there be Board level discussions about the financial arrangements between the entities. TMTC needs to join this Board in defining a pass as a day pass. The Boards need to agree on a fee structure for the users of the Parks. The Boards also need to agree on the fee “splitting” between the Parks and TMTC. In short, there needs to be an agreement on what is yours, mine and ours.

We need guest access to wi-fi at Barnwell.

How do we advertise and promote the new website? How do we get it out to our public? Do we need a banner to advertise it at the Mountain?

Poe made a motion, seconded by Hawkinberry to adjourn at 9:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Harris, Secretary