

BMRA Operations Committee

Minutes of the Meeting: February 12, 2008

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

Meeting was called to order by Chris Jester at 7:21pm as President Tom Mitchell was late arriving because of work commitments.

<u>Committee Members Present</u>	<u>Absent Members</u>	<u>Others Present</u>
Tom Mitchell	Jimmy Jones	Lawton Watts
George Caraway		
Shane Hill		
Chris Jester		
Rick Hawkinberry		
John Harris		

Hawkinberry made a motion with a second by Hill to approve January minutes.

The recent "forest" fire at the Mountain was discussed. Because of where it was located and when it started, it is highly likely that it was started by a discarded cigarette. When we have dry conditions smokers should know not to discard butts outside their vehicles. It was discussed that motorcycles should have spark arrestors and big vehicles should have no open headers – for noise and fire safety reasons. A guest at the Mountain saw the fire early and called it in, so we had damage to only about 2 acres. We would like to know who saw it and called it in to recognize them for their quick actions plus send them a free weekend pass as a reward. Several riders and drivers pitched in to help the forest service and the fire department fight the fire.

Umbrella of environmental impact and rules are to be tabled.

Rain today has put fire emergency behind us for now. We will be quick to say, **no fires**, if we see there is danger from drought.

The fire brought up the subject of campsites and fire rings. We agreed to study the concept of numbering the designated campsites for helping us in emergencies and to revisit this concept later in the year.

The old campsite close to Daffodil Road that has been repeatedly cordoned off has sometimes been used by the Black Sheep 4 x 4 group. This committee has discussed this campsite many times and it still fails to meet our main criteria for a designated campsite. Hawkinberry made a motion and Jester seconded a motion to **permanently close** this campsite for health and safety reasons. This motion was unanimously approved by the committee.

Christopher Pullen asked for permission to enter the property through the back Daffodil gate that is used by the gas production company, on April 17, 18, 18 and 20 when the

Texas Rovers Annual SCARRS Event has the Mountain reserved. The Committee agreed that this may be done with limits, responsibility, locks, security and management by Pullen.

It was noted that the Mega Run participants/leaders were protesting about the \$150 Thursday early entry fee that this Committee has repeatedly confirmed. They have said that they will come in early Friday morning.

Lawton and Karen Watts will need help for the Mega Run weekend. There will be additional help needed for the office and gate because of the crowd coming. George Caraway agreed to come to work at 10pm Friday through the night. Shane agreed to work office 6-10pm on Friday. Somebody needs to help in office all day Friday and also on Saturday morning.

Toyota Trail Riders were given: 2 TMTC Memberships, 10 Day Ride Passes, some Cozies, and 2 Barnwell T-Shirts for their recent event.

The Committee agreed to give as prizes for the Mega Run from Barnwell: 10 Day Ride Passes, 20 Cozies, and any Barnwell T-Shirts that are left. The Committee agrees that it cannot give memberships (or anything else) from TMTC.

The suggestion of a Memorial Trail for recently deceased Christi Poe was made. If it would be appreciated and appropriate with the family, we would place a small plaque on a trail in her memory. Chris Jester and Rick Hawkinberry will contact the family and give us feedback and suggestions.

The printed coroplast signage for pipeline right of ways and some trail signs and arrows are made. The Toyota Trail Riders Custom Camp Sign is installed.

There is a vintage CB base station in the Mountain office that was used when BMRA first opened. It has not been in use for a long time. A member wants to buy it and the Committee authorized Lawton Watts to sell it.

The Committee is still in agreement to donate the old Jeep truck to a high school shop project, but George Caraway has not made appropriate contact yet.

The server is down for the web site and thus the web site is not available.

Steve Thompson of TP&W wants the maps updated and needs terrain and trails in gpx. Thompson has earlier sent us maps showing the gaps he has on his mapping software. There are many related problems, but the maps are a rising priority. Shane Hill understands the mapping software the State is using and needs to head up our efforts. We are told that the best approach for mapping is to complete them by sector. We do have access to at least two GPS units, but most of the Committee does not know how to use them. Our lack of software, data, people who have the computer power with the software and understand how to use it have our mapping efforts hung up.

The meeting was adjourned at 10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Harris
Acting Secretary to the BMRA Operations Committee

After the meeting Chairman Mitchell emailed the Committee members that Toyota Trail Riders wanted to pay \$500 deposit to reserve the Park for their jamboree event: January 17,18 & 19, 2009. Members of the Committee email voted to accept the deposit, but asked Chairman Mitchell to record in next month's minutes the total lease rate.