

BMRA Operations Committee

Minutes of the Meeting: May 13, 2008

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

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Mitchell at 7:20pm

Weather was thunderstorm and heavy rains

<u>Committee Members Present</u>	<u>Committee Members Absent</u>	<u>Others Present</u>
Tom Mitchell	Jimmy Jones	None
Rick Hawkinberry	Chris Jester	
John Harris	George Caraway	
	Shane Hill	

The minutes of the April 2008 meeting taken by Chris Jester were not presented.

There was an incident last weekend (May 3-4) of drunken rule breaking. We insist on a program of discipline for rule breakers. It was suggested that TMTC issue a letter of reprimand first, then a 6 month ban for the second offence and then a total ban for a third offense. It was agreed that our Park Rules need minor updates to include staying off the pipelines. It was unanimously recommended that the TMTC Board take disciplinary actions against the member that misbehaved last weekend.

It was agreed that we need 5 each of four large signs. One of each sign is to be posted in the office and the others at appropriate locations throughout the park. The four signs are: No Night Riding—Trails Close at 10pm, Helmets Required for All ATV & Motorcycle Riders, No TWO UP atv riding unless vehicle made for it and Quiet Hours from 10pm to 6am. It was unanimously agreed to order the signs and posts to display the signs around the Park.

Rick Hawkinberry gave a Treasurer's report that we have \$23,031.80 in the bank. He is trying to get all the bills sent to a Gilmer PO Box as we transition over to paying our own bills. He reported that there are a few outstanding bills and that the check book needs balancing for the past few months.

There is a big question over the split of fees/incomes between TMTC and BMRA. We agree that memberships go to TMTC, and that Riding/Day Fees go to BMRA, but how much "free" riding goes with a membership?

We understand that there is to be an "Affiliate Relationship" between National Forest riding areas plus private parks with the TMTC Parks.

With the reorganization of TMTC at the July meeting, we will need a TMTC Board member to be a member of the Barnwell Board. The present TMTC Board members on the Barnwell Committee are Rick Hawkinberry and Chris Jester (both motorcyclists) that

will be unable to continue to serve. It was suggested that perhaps Mike Green would be a good selection.

This Committee is waiting on TMTC Board to confirm that there will be no Night Riding at Barnwell.

We have made an arrangement for an Upshur County Deputy Sheriff to have a Deputy on our site 4 times per month for 4 hours each. The fee will be \$25.00 per hour or \$100 per evening. This fee will be paid in cash from the gate.

Our night gate attendant was substituted without our knowledge. This needs to be covered in the Property Manager's Handbook. Tom Mitchell has been working on this Handbook (along with many other things), and it may be ready to be adopted at next month's meeting.

Jeeps of East Texas recently cleaned the 155 Highway and wanted free day passes for that work. It was confirmed unanimously by the Committee that our Policy is free entry to work on any project (even private campgrounds) within the Park. No free passes will be given for any outside the Park work i.e.: Highway cleaning or for work/cleaning on private campsites. Passes will only be given for work within the Park that benefits the Park in general.

Tony Eeds, President of TMTC, is sending in the grant requests for new bathrooms and a maintenance building.

David Culpepper's ATVCCS Event is definitely on for the first weekend in September and needs to be confirmed on the Calendar and website. In the same category the Superlift event previously discussed for October apparently has no backing.

The Volunteer and Professional Firefighters from all of Upshur County will be invited back to the Mountain on an open weekend. We will feed and honor them plus other activities for them and their families. In addition, they have been invited to use our facilities, at no cost, for training by proper reservation.

United 4 Wheel Drive (UFWDA) is coming in November and has asked President Mitchell many questions about the Park and the area. Marti Pugh and Melissa Read of UFWDA are coming June 14 for a preliminary tour of the Park and area. We hope a local affiliate of the organization, maybe Southern High Rollers, that is familiar with the Park, Trails and the local area will be available to help orient this team.

The Committee authorized the rental of a PO Box in Gilmer, Texas as a permanent mailing address for the Mountain. Rick Hawkinberry said that he had us on the waiting list for one, when available. We will have business cards for Barnwell Mountain printed with the mailing address, physical address, logo, web site and other information included when the PO Box is named.

The memorial plaque, "Christi's Curves," in memory of Christi Poe was shown to the Committee. The plaque will be mounted on a post, on a trail in the southwest area of the Park. A resting bench will be located near the marker. This Marker and Trail is to be dedicated over the Memorial Day weekend. Those that attend the Memorial/Dedication Ceremony and do not ride their motorcycles will be admitted to the Park for free. Those that ride their motorcycles will be charged the usual \$15.00 day charge.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John T. Harris
Acting Secretary
BMRA Operations Committee