



California Off-Road Vehicle Association
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Pending Approval May 21, 2018

Minutes

California Off-Road Vehicle Association

Board of Directors Meeting Conference **April 23, 2018 7:00 PM**

Phone Number: (712) 775-8968 • Access Code: #104206

I. **Call to Order** - 7:00 PM

II. **Roll Call & Welcome Guests** Managing Director Amy Granat, Board members: Vinnie Barbarino, Bruce Brazil, Ken Clarke, Lori Lewis, Mike Moore, Ed Stovin, Bruce Whitcher, Jim Woods and Roberta Woods. Guests: Drew Ashley, Jerry Havelowick, Jon Kinley, Jared MacLoud, Butch Meyner, Ken Oyer, Beth Tyler and Ed Waldheim. Absent Board members: Chad Clopton, Bob Ham, Diana Mead, and Clayton Miller.

III. **Review Agenda, modify as necessary**

IV. **Minutes from previous BOD meeting** – Motion by Bruce Brazil and seconded by Lori Lewis to approve as submitted. Passed.

V. **President's Report – Ken Clarke** – *See attached report.* Ken reviewed his report. We will focus on Annual Meeting later in the agenda. He thanked Amy, Jim and Roberta and Lori for their efforts with the meeting. The El Dorado and Placer County Friends groups will be working together to keep trails open there. Counties and Forests can work together. The CORVA booth was at the hill climb in Carnegie. Ken was unable to attend the recent Lobby Day in Sacramento. The hearing for SB1316 in the afternoon was represented by Amy and Ken praised her efforts. Ken is working on getting his video program working so he can review both Amy's comments as well as (AMA Rep) Dave Picket. There was an event at Frank Raines and Ken expects some donation to come into CORVA from that. Ken remarked that clubs and volunteers have shrunk and there just aren't enough volunteers to work for CORVA. For example, Escarabajo Buggy club will merge with Friends of Frank Raines(FOFR) due to lack of members. After many years donating to CORVA, the remaining five members will now work with FOFR on our behalf. They are working to develop their group. Ken also remarked that a few years ago he received information from a retiring county employee that the only way groups get funding for expansions is to form a "Friends" group. This will be a new FOFR replacing the one from a few years ago. The new members will work on getting money to fix fencing and such. Ken attended the last Grants meeting in Stanislaus County and they now favor Frank Raines because they have a new Friends group taking responsibility for the park. In the La Grange area of Stanislaus County there is a group of young people that love to go there and play in the mud at the rock quarry. They are now looking to make a new group as well and Ken will try to bring them into CORVA. We should be talking with the overland groups and campers. We will have more at the Annual Meeting. **Lori Lewis** remarked that this makes sense. It patterns other groups like Rubicon Trail Foundation and Friends of Fordyce.

VI. **Legislative Reports**

Managing Director's Report – Amy Granat –The Lobby Day was very successful and included two of CORVA's past presidents. There will be another hearing for SB1316 on 04/24 but Amy will not be able to attend. There is only one other letter in opposition to the bill which is surprising to her. Terry Mchale may have sent in a letter for the groups he represents. Amy met with State Parks and the OHV Division and they are opposed to the Bill. But they can't make a public statement about it further. The lack of involvement in the OHV community could be disastrous for us. Amy will do significant outreach to get help. Amy submitted a letter in support of the Stewards of Sequoia and Chris Horgan with their addition of ten miles of dual trails (Cannel trail) and included AMA District 37 Dual Sport as requested by them. Amy had a meeting with opponents of the proposal, the Sierra Forest legacy and California Wilderness Coalition, and with our relationship with State Parks, they allowed Amy to meet with them in an office in Sacramento. **Ed Waldheim** asked for clarification

about the Bill SB1316. He wants to have CORVA send out a letter campaign quickly. Amy replied that there was not enough information or time currently. But Ed remarked that without the information, no one can participate. Currently Amy is handling all the immediate responses on advice of the CORVA lobbyist. It is early in the legislative session and the bill has a long way to go. There is one provision of the bill that is particularly problematic. It calls for the sale of the State Land (the Carnegie expansion parcel) at under-market price. This would set a serious precedent. State Parks is also concerned because they do not think the Carnegie land is "surplus land" that should be sold at all. They are worried about having legislation that makes them sell the land. Ken Clarke remarked that the bill states that if the Carnegie land is deemed unsuitable for OHV use, it would be sold at under-market price. They feel that everything they agreed to with SB249 helps them protect the OHV land, as well as other types of recreation land.

Amy will be meeting with the US Attorney and the environmental group that sued the Stanislaus forest over travel management many years ago. Bruce Witcher and Amy worked on the case as part of the intervener group along with the Modesto Houndsmen. The attorney during the settlement of the case, Paul Turk of Blue Ribbon Coalition would not allow CORVA to be involved in the settlement phase. However, now Paul has contacted Amy and asked her to meet with the two parties because the plaintiff is alleging that the Forest Service is not abiding by the settlement agreement. It is just interesting that now the BRC wants CORVA to assist.

Amy also has a link to the hearing at the Ninth district court of appeals for the suit by the Pacific Legal Foundation in San Francisco. This case has been in the works since 2005. The judges responded positively to the case presented by the PLF. If the case doesn't go forward correctly, the PLF will take it to the Supreme Court. There have been no cost to CORVA for this case which has been paid by the Sierra Access Coalition. There are other bills that our lobbyist Kathy Lynch is reviewing. One concerns the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and watershed improvement program. CORVA worked hard to make sure the plan does not include the closure of roads and trails.

Amy is hoping to hold a Lobby Day next year in Sacramento for the Off Road Vehicle Coalition and to make it bigger and better than this year's. She attended a reception at the Citizen Hotel as invited guest of the Sierra Fund for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and would like to have our Lobby Day at the same location. There were many environmental groups and speakers and many awards were given.

Water is a major problem. The Tahoe National Forest is now doing travel management. CORVA is still involved with the Lassen National Forest. To follow up on the Grants, we will have a meeting. Many of the federal agencies are finding it difficult to comply with the rules and regulations. If the State of California wants to have a strong and healthy program, they need to work with the federal agencies. As Beth Tyler mentioned, the Six Rivers Forest doesn't have a grant program. If it wasn't for Bruce Witcher's work in the Los Padres, they wouldn't have a program. Volunteer groups are doing okay, but not the federal agencies. So Amy is going to try to assist by having a meeting with both state and federal agencies to discuss the grants, after the current grant cycle.

There was a Forest Service Roundtable meeting this month that Amy attended. Bruce W and Amy have been invited to meet with Deputy Regional Forester Barney Gantz. Up until now, Barney hasn't taken CORVA seriously because of the perception that CORVA is about recreation only. It seems he finally understands that CORVA values the environment as well. We know that 70-80% of the volunteers in the forest are off-road users. With our meeting with Barney, we will need to be fully prepared. We need to know exactly what changes are needed. We need to change policy. We want to provide ideas about sustainability for more roads and trails in the forests.

We will discuss this more in the Annual Meeting, but recently we have been contacted by Overland Bound out of Dublin, CA and they want to work with CORVA in spreading the word about keeping public lands open. Amy has created a presentation for them. Other groups want to incorporate our message into theirs at no cost to CORVA. This will present our message to many others. Jon Kinley told Amy that overland people are what we used to call campers. Adventure bikes are similar to cross country bikes. So CORVA will just change our vernacular to adjust to the new type of off road user. One of our members, Joel Paez will be at the Annual Meeting and will sell CORVA glassware with the proceeds going to CORVA. Amy will present a new business plan for the next year at the Annual Meeting.

Drew Ashley asked about Carnegie. [His full question was not heard.] He wanted to know how much acreage was there. Amy reported the expansion acreage is 3,100 acres. The current area is 1,200-1,400 acres. The expansion area was purchased about twenty years ago, and the current plan calls for about 1,000 acres to be used as a buffer and for protection of resources. New photos will be taken of the area during a new tour of the park. The hillclimb at the park is what is most famous along with motorcycle use. Drew remarked that the park is not an ATV or SxS park as is. **Bruce W.** remarked that hopefully with some of the expansion property, State Parks was going to try to incorporate some new ATV/SxS areas. **Ken Clarke** remarked that the new plan for the park would eliminate the hillclimb, and there would be touring only, going only to specific marked areas. He feels that the plan presented by the opposition is false and that they are using their wealth and influence to take over the area. Drew asked for a size comparison between Carnegie and Hungry Valley [SVRA]. **Ed Stovin** says that Hungry Valley is about 20,000 acres.

VII. **Finance Report** (*Financial Reports to be sent via email*)

Treasurer's Report. Mike Moore – Mike did get a response from the insurance broker. Our policy is basically the same as last year. The officer's coverage is \$1,602.00 and the liability coverage will be \$5,772.00. This is about \$35.00 more than last year. We can pay all at once or make payments but that would cost us about \$300.00 more in interest. Roberta asked for Mike's recommendation. It was decided that he would make payment in full.

VIII. **Northern Report – Bruce Brazil** has no news on Clear Creek. He reported on the CARB meeting and will also be involved in the next ones. It looks like CARB will try to go with the same requirements as the European Union. More info next meeting.

IX. **Southern Report – Jim Woods** – (*Annual Report submitted via email*)

Jim will be bringing the five new banners to the Annual Meeting but Steve Gardiner told Jim that the coloring was wrong on the new banners he sent. He told Jim to bring them to the meeting, but Steve will remake them with the correct CORVA coloring. The banners are vertical, 2x4 and are for Board Members. **Ken Clarke** remarked that this is a new style of banner.

X. **Ongoing Business**

A. **CORVA Annual Meeting –Roberta Woods** – Logistic Information / Lunch / Camping / Potluck Roberta reviewed the coming meeting. Roberta and Jim went to Jawbone in preparation of the meeting and met with the Friends of Jawbone staff member Bob Newman. Bob told them he had 175 pre-registered volunteers for the Friends of Jawbone Moose Anderson Cleanup event that will be held the same day and location as our Annual meeting. [Although 50-60 won't show up]. Roberta and Jim will set up on Friday morning, at a turn-out across from the Jawbone Station to create a CORVA area. Parking can be done along the road. We will need a head-count of how many rigs will camp. Ed Waldheim's pancake breakfast starts at 7:00, followed by registration and then the volunteers head out to do their cleanup. Our CORVA meeting will start at 9:00 in the front section of the Jawbone Station. We will focus on our Annual Awards and any annual reports. Mike Moore will probably need to make a presentation. Around noon, the FOJ/Moose Anderson volunteers return for their BBQ lunch paid by CORVA. They need us as BOD or other volunteers to assist with the lunch. Please wear your orange CORVA shirts. CORVA needs to support them. During that event, Ed will give his raffle prizes and we will announce our CORVA award winners. We may also have some special guests. After this, around 2:00 to 2:30 the BOD will continue with our meeting and our annual elections. The Southern Board elections will follow this. The potluck will probably need to move inside. **Bruce Brazil** sent a prediction reflecting strong winds.

Ed Waldheim insists that we hold potluck in the garage at the station. Ed says we can use the kitchen in the garage along with tables and chairs. There is a refrigerator and oven there. We will plan on holding the potluck in the jawbone garage or at least in the meeting room.

The head count included 16 plus online registrations. Calculating approximately 23- 30 (40 max)

Roberta told everyone to bring whatever they wanted to bring. There is a Stator Brothers in Mojave. And people from FOJ may join the potluck too.

Amy Granat will need an HDMI and will be able to use the PA system.

Ed W also told us to have the large dumpster moved near the smaller trash containers. He will try to have the gravel moved so we will have more room for camping. He doesn't recommend parking along the road.

Vinnie Barbarino wants to cook inside, not in the wind.

Ed reported that his team has worked hard on restoring EB15.

Amy Granat agreed will the plan as reported. We will review what we have done, and then do some future planning. She has taken an online course about non-profit planning. We will review our funding, sponsorship and our future. With the strict legislative calendar it makes it hard to do all the smaller things that can't get done. Roberta will bring an easel and Amy will bring a standing pad.

B. CORVA Standing Banner and Additional Reorders Roberta reports that the banner that was approved was made and only cost \$107.00. She is bringing it along to the meeting with some trophies. She found another standing banner unit. After the Annual Meeting, we can decide on more banners. Ken Clarke spoke with Bob from Jeepers Jamboree who mentioned they just bought a new backdrop for their booth. They have their old backdrop that may be for sale. Ken will research it a see if it may benefit CORVA. We could have a new banner printed for it.

XI. **New Business**

A.State Secretary Annual Report – Roberta Woods (*Annual Report via email*)

Roberta wanted to draw attention to the award plaques. Instead of presenting the clubs, etc. with yet another plaque, we may want to give them something they might use. If we gave the Club of North or South a CORVA banner with "Club of the North 2017" they might like it. Price is similar to the current plaques. She will reach out to the winners of the awards and will present suggestions at our next regular BOD meeting.

B. Beth Tyler asked about information on the Six Rivers Forest. She hasn't found much information on line except for a club named the Lost Coast 4x4 out of the Eureka area which she doesn't believe is a CORVA club, and that some years ago the Blue Ribbon Coalition was involved but isn't now. She wants to know the status of the trail system in the area as that is where she works. Before she goes to the Forest Service about any trail to the Mad River area, she wanted to find out any information she can. **Amy G.** reported that there just isn't much information available. She knows of no active 4x4 community. **Ken Clarke** suggested Beth try to reach the Mendocino 4x4 club. **Bruce Brazil** suggested she look for the OHV use map for that district.

C. Drew Ashley asked **Ed Waldheim** about the San Bernardino Lead Forest leadership meeting on 04/24 at the Honda Training Center. Drew cannot get any information about this meeting. Ed reported that they cancelled the meeting because they already have the comments on the Grants which have to be submitted on 05/07. So they decided to cancel all the meetings. Drew was unhappy with this information.

D. Jon Kinley He will be meeting in Orange County with another overland group – OC Overland and they have adopted a trail in Big Bear. They have hundreds of members and they are active on Instagram. **Ed Waldheim** wants them to talk with Greg Hoffman who oversees all the trails in San Bernardino Forest area. The group has met and done everything to adopt the trail. Jon would like to see more clubs – like motorcycles and Jeep clubs – do this. Ed remarked that Big Bear Trail riders put on a lot of rides up there. Jon feels that the more we adopt trails the more it will improve our image. **Jared MacLoud** remarked that Pt Mugu 4x4 club likes the work that Jon has done on Instagram.

E. Drew Ashley – made remarks but could not be heard. Amy told him he was cutting out and to contact the person he wanted to reach personally off-line.

XII. **Adjournment**

Adjourn meeting by 8:48 PM. Motion to adjourn Jim Woods, second Bruce Brazil.

Next CORVA scheduled board meeting May 21, 2018 – [Meeting Change Reminder]

*Protecting public land for the people, not from the people
California's Off Road Voice for Access*

Ken Clarke
CORVA President
Email: Ken.Clarke@corva.org

Meeting Date: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

It's been a busy month, the first Saturday Amy, Bruce B. and I attended the Friends of the Rubicon Trail annual meeting. We heard plans for El Dorado and I think Placer County are going to collaborate on Rubicon Trail maintenance for the Tahoe forest to do so much needed repair. El Dorado County fully understand the economic impact the trail has and is about ten years ahead of the Placer/Tahoe is on trail maintenance. The next weekend it was off to Carnegie SRVA National hill climbs for Diana and I sold Pull Pork and chicken plus some yummy coleslaw the Bruce B. made. Last Saturday I attended the Friends of Frank Raines, Escarabajo Buggy club and the East Bay Hi-Tailers fund raiser. Attendance was good with about 35 vehicles registering, there was a rally course which gave the participants a tour of the park with games along the way.

This weekend we have our annual meeting and we need to hammer the final details tonight. I know the Roberta and Jim Woods have been preparing for the meeting. Amy has manage to squeeze in a couple of free hours to work on the details. If you have a question or suggestions for the annual meeting.

As for the next year we have many challenges ahead of us. Our BOD is shrinking, we ether will have to eliminate some positions or recruit Volunteers and volunteerism is dying. Maybe the way of the future is to contract positions such as marketing. We need to change the way we collect money although this has been our best year possible ever for donations. We are very quickly proving that we are the leaders in OHV legislation thanks to our Board Members. We are to a level way beyond any other organization. We should be able to ask our members to pay another five dollars a month

I missed Lobby Day due to a conflict with my day job. As I understand CORVA took the lead guiding our fellow OHV activates through the days event and hearing on SB1316. I have watched the recording several time, Amy did an amazing job of being the star witness for the opposition to the bill. I saw lots of orange in during the public comment Diana, Jim and Ed S. all spoke well in addition to sporting the power of orange.

More to come on plans for next year soon.

Happy Trails
Ken Clarke

CORVA President

Wandering Wheelers

April 23, 2018

CORVA TREASURER'S REPORT

REVIEW:

Reports sent via email.

Usual reports attached – nothing out of the ordinary.

Our website has been renewed for the year \$3,132.

I have not seen a renewal for our insurance policies so I have reached out to our broker since these are normally due the end of April / 1st part of May.

Mike Moore

Treasurer