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MINUTES
of the
STATE RECREATIONAL TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(SRTAC)
of
THE ARIZONA STATE PARKS BOARD

Notice is hereby given pursuant to A.R.S. §41-511.22 to members of the Arizona State Committee on Trails (ASCOT), the Off Highway Vehicle Advisory Group (OHVAG) and the general public that the committees will hold a meeting open to the public on **Friday, April 6, 2012 beginning at 1pm at the BLM-Arizona State Office, One North Central Building, 8th Floor, Phoenix (NE corner of Central and Washington)**. Visitors may park on the first level of the Parking Garage by entering off of 1st Street (heading north) from Washington Street (ONE WAY heading west). Please use the Visitor Stalls (marked in Green). Have your parking ticker validated at the reception desk on the 8th Floor before going to the conference rooms. **This meeting meets the requirement of the Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) to convene at least annually a diverse group of motorized and non-motorized recreational trail users representing public interests.** Public comments will be taken. The Committee will discuss and may take action on the following matters:

AGENDA

(The Chair reserves the right to set the order of the agenda.)

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL 1:10 pm

ARIZONA STATE COMMITTEE ON TRAILS (ASCOT) MEMBERS:

Anna Pfender	AZ Trail Assoc	hiking
Linda Slay	citizen at large	equestrian
Bill Gibson	BLM	hiking, equestrian, biking
Laurel Arndt	IMBA	biking, hiking
Laddie Cox	citizen at large	hiking
Richard Kesselman	Vol. for Outdoors AZ	hiking
Jackie Keller	citizen at large	hiking, biking
Nick Lund	TRACKS	biking
Phyllis Ralley	citizen at large	equestrian

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ADVISORY GROUP (OHVAG) MEMBERS:

John Savino	citizen at large	UTV/ATV
Don French	Wht. Mtn. Open Trails Assn	UTV/ATV
Rebecca Antle	AZ State 4-Wheel Drive Assn	4-wheel drive
Thomas McArthur	Coconino Trail Riders	dirt bike (via phone)

B. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

Doris Pulsifer, Chief of Resources & Public Programs

Robert Baldwin, Recreational Trails Program Manager

Joy Hernbrode, Attorney General Office

CHAIR LUND: My name is Nick Lund and I'm the newly elected chair of the Arizona State Committee on Trails.

So the first thing on the agenda is the call to order and the roll call. You all seem pretty orderly so we'll go with the roll call. Why don't we start right over at this end of the table and we'll come around. Roll Call.

MR. SANDERS: I'm Michael Sanders with Arizona Department of Transportation Multi-Motor Planning Division.

CHAIR LUND: Okay, Michael Sanders.

MS. PULSIFER: Doris Pulsifer, Arizona State Parks.

MR. BALDWIN: Robert Baldwin, Arizona State Parks.

MS. HERNBRODE: Joy Hernbrode, Attorney General's Office representing State Parks.

MS. ARNDT: Laurel Arndt, ASCOT.

MS. ANTLE: Rebecca Antle, OHVAG.

MR. SAVINO: John Savino, Chairman of the Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Group; and from the Navaho County Area.

MR. FRENCH: Don French, OHVAG, Kingman.

MR. LUND: Nick Lund, ASCOT; and I'm also president of TRACKS.

MR. COX: Laddie Cox, ASCOT.

MS. KELLER: Jackie Keller, ASCOT.

MR. KESSELMAN: Rick Kesselman, ASCOT.

MS. SLAY: Linda Slay, ASCOT.

MS. PFENDER: Anna Pfender, ASCOT.

MR. GIBSON: Bill Gibson, ASCOT; and Bureau of Land Management.

MR. FITZGERALD: Tom Fitzgerald, Central Arizona Project.

CHAIR LUND: If you'd like to.

MS. MAY: I'm Tina May, I'm the new OHV media person for the AZ Game and Fish Department.

CHAIR LUND: Excellent! Glad to have you here.

MS. MAY: I've only been on the job three weeks. I thought this would be a good thing to come to, to kind of get the lay of the land, the players, etc.

CHAIR LUND: That's as long as I've been on the job. Is there anybody else – anybody on the telephone?

MS. RALLEY: This is Phyllis Ralley. I'm citizen at large but also with BLM.

CHAIR LUND: On ASCOT.

MS. RALLEY: On ASCOT, yes. Thanks.

CHAIR LUND: Is there anybody else on the telephone? Thomas are you there?

MR. McARTHUR: Yes, I am.

CHAIR LUND: Thanks, Thomas. Thank you very much.

Okay, the next item on the agenda is the call to the public.

C. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC** - during the public meeting, the Chair may afford any person the opportunity to present statements, with or without the opportunity to present them orally. Those wishing to address the Committee must register at the door and be recognized by the Chair. Each presentation will be allowed not more than five minutes. It is probable that each presentation will be limited to one person per organization. Action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study or re-schedule the matter for further consideration at a later time. Comments pertinent to agenda items may be discussed during the discussion for that item.

CHAIR LUND: Is there any person from the public who would like to address this meeting? On the phone or in person?

[No verbal response.]

CHAIR LUND: Okay. So then we'll move on to old business.

D. **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Approval of Minutes from the May 21, 2011 meeting.

Moved by John Savino, Seconded by Linda Slay – approved unanimous

CHAIR LUND: Go ahead, Phyllis.

MS. RALLEY: I would clarify my list from the roll call. I'm identified as a "hiker." While I do occasionally hike, my involvement with ASCOT is definitely as an "equestrian."

CHAIR LUND: Okay. Are there any other corrections to the minutes?

[No verbal response.]

CHAIR LUND: I guess as long as we're correcting that, I'm a mountain biker rather than a hiker.

Okay, all in favor of accepting the minutes, as corrected?

CHORUS OF VOICES: Aye.

CHAIR LUND: Anyone opposed?

[No verbal response.]

CHAIR LUND: Thank you very much. Okay, the first item of new business – and we're pleased to have our representative from the Attorney General's Office to talk about the Open Meeting Law orientation.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Open Meeting Law Orientation** – General Counsel for State Parks will present information on the requirements for conducting public meetings.

MS. HERNBRODE: And I know this is the part of the meeting that you're all most excited about. You woke up this morning and said, "Ohooo, more Open Meeting Law training! But I do appreciate the chance to do this. I think it's really helpful to do this – at least on a yearly basis; and I know that for the first – probably eight years that I did this – I learn something new every time. So I anticipate, you know, you think about one thing and the next time you think about something different.

Just by way of an introduction, the AG's Office is charged with enforcement of the Open Meeting Law. We have a team of lawyers who do Open Meeting Law enforcement. They're called OMLET. I am in charge of that committee. I lobbied for the title of "OMLET Queen;" but they wouldn't go for that, so I'm the coordinator, which is not nearly as cool.

OMLET investigates Open Meeting Law issues statewide. We handle several hundred complaints a year against various public bodies. In addition to that enforcement, I represent about nine boards and commissions. So, this is my bread and butter. I've been doing it for more than ten years at the AG's Office.

I hope that you – don't tell me if you haven't – I hope you've all been provided at least a link to the Open Meeting Law materials. They're available on the AG's website. The statute does require that you review them 24 hours before taking office, but they're

also really helpful to answer questions. If you haven't – if you've been on the Board for a while so you haven't gotten a new copy, we did update it in January. So, if your copy does not say, "Updated 2012," on the bottom of it; it's the old copy. Throw that away because those laws – it's about ten years old and those laws are all different. Look at the new copy that's available on the AG's website at www.azag.gov. Feel free to copy those materials and give them to anybody who's having trouble sleeping at night; or who has annoyed you particularly – and tell them to read them. I can say that because I had to re-draft the silly thing. But hopefully it will answer most of the questions you might have. Also feel free to funnel questions at me if you have Open Meeting Law questions because we do want to make sure that you are in compliance.

Now today I'm not going to talk about how you minimally comply with the law. Public officers, we expect that you will fully comply and avoid even the appearance of impropriety; and that is doubly so with the Open Meeting Law because it requires that you construe the Open Meeting Law in favor of open meetings. So, if there's a doubt, you need to try to do it in public. These three boards, the Joint, ASCOT and OHVAG are all subject to the Open Meeting Law because they are a subcommittee of a multi-member governing board of an agency of the State. You all are under the Parks Board, who is under the Open Meeting Law and thus you're under the Open Meeting Law. It used to be that meant that you had less requirements than the Parks Board does, that's no longer the case. You have to comply with all of the provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

So, how do you do that? In the meeting, you have to have notice of the meeting posted 24 hours in advance; and now on the website. You have to have an agenda also posted 24 hours in advance. You have to be taking minutes which are available to the public three days after the meeting. Now you notice we're taping, so those taped minutes can qualify if somebody comes in in three days and you don't have the written minutes yet, you can give them the tape. We have to have something available to tell people what happened three business days after that meeting. Remember when you approve minutes, you're agreeing that what was written was what happened at the meeting. It is quite important for you to read those minutes to make sure they're accurate. Now they may not be – sometimes people come in and they say, "Well, you know, I researched that issue and what we said at the meeting wasn't accurate." Well, that's not the accuracy we're talking about. We're talking about the minutes need to reflect what actually happened at the meeting, so at the next meeting you can put it back on the agenda and correct any issues with the facts.

You have to stick to the agenda; and your comments must be relevant to the matter on the agenda. My particular favorite – and I don't think it's anybody in this room; but I had several Board Members who had prefaced their comments with, "I'm not sure this is on the agenda, but. . ." Not a good plan. Stick to what's on the agenda. If you don't think it's on the agenda, don't say it. Ask to put something to cover that on the agenda for the next meeting. And – I want to make sure – but, you know, you can say, "I need this to be on the agenda for next time," and get matters discussed that way.

You can talk about some things that are secret. It's a very limited list. They're called "Executive Sessions." It has to be specially noticed on the agenda. And you have

to have a lot of detail in that. You can't make any decisions in Executive Session, so if you're hoping to do whatever thing is worrisome to you in the Executive Session, you can't make a decision so it doesn't really help. There are seven reasons. Most of them are not going to apply to you, but the ones that might apply are to get legal advice from me. So if you have a sticky issue that you want to hear what my legal advice is, but not share that with everybody else before you make a decision, we would have an Executive Session for legal advice. Really that's the only one that you guys would use. If you happen to come into the possession of a confidential record you could do an Executive Session for that. I can't imagine what that might be for these two groups.

All other discussions, all decisions have to be made at a public session like this one. This means, don't talk about Board business with other Board Members outside the meetings, it needs to happen here. Another thing to think about during the meeting is to avoid texting, passing notes – those kinds of things – because it makes the public think that what you're doing is making a decision without letting them hear the discussion. Often – I'll tell you – those notes are: "Please can we stop so I can have a bathroom break?" Or: "Where do you want to go to lunch?" I mean, they are innocuous things. Usually that's what people are doing. But to the members of the public, it looks like you're trying to do business without them hearing it. So, be really careful about that. Also be careful about tangents. I know that the way the Open Meeting Law forces us to function is not the way most of us discuss things. It's not the way – you know, when you sit down to have a meeting, you may get off on this tangent that really does good things. Unfortunately, if it's not on the agenda you can't do that under the Open Meeting Law. So be careful about those.

You have to have a quorum present. If you can't have a quorum, don't hold a meeting. If you can't stand to do that, just take reports. But avoid discussion and decision-making. Because here's what happens, say – I'm going to use OHVAG because I can do the math easier, because there are what five of you guys?

MALE SPEAKER: Seven.

MS. HERNBRODE: Seven. Okay. Four's a quorum. Math, it's not a problem. I went to law school to avoid math. So, seven members, four's a quorum. So say you only have three people show up. So you can't have a meeting because you don't have a quorum. But you want to take some reports. So you take some reports. You have a lovely discussion among those three members and then on the drive home one of the people who couldn't make it calls one of the members who was there and says, "Hey, what happened?" Whoops! Now when that discussion happens about what happened at that meeting, you now have an Open Meeting Law violation because you have four people who discussed something outside of a meeting. So, be really careful about doing that; and I recommend not to do that.

The law covers deliberation which includes the exchange of facts. So be careful about that. It's okay to have people on the phone for teleconferences; and I recommend that you put – that you have that language on every one of your agendas, because sometimes somebody, you know, there's a huge accident between Tucson and Phoenix and five of your members are stuck between the two, you need to get them on the phone. If you have the teleconference things, you can do that.

The public must be allowed to attend without identifying themselves. You don't have to let them speak, even if you have public comment on the agenda. But be careful if you do let one person speak, you let everybody speak because you don't want people to perceive that you're discriminating against some. If they do speak, you need their name. But if they say something like, "Minnie Mouse," then your response is, "Thank you for your comments, Ms. Mouse. We appreciate you being here."

Okay, so talking outside the meeting. So legal for a quorum to discuss the – or propose legal action on matters that might be subject to a decision by the Board. So, discussion and deliberation obviously involved people talking about something. If you have a quorum of your members talking and exchanging information, you've got a violation. Proposing legal action is different. Proposing legal action is necessarily done by one person. One person calls everybody or sends out an email to everybody or to a quorum and says, "Here's what we ought to do," they have now violated the Open Meeting Law. So you have to be really careful about doing that. So what we would recommend – if you have an article, an interesting item that you feel needs to go out to the entire Board, send it to staff, have them push it out so they can make sure that it doesn't say, "This is a great article and I think that we should do this." You know, you scrub it of all that and it's just, "This article is for our discussion at the next meeting," not coming from you it can't be a violation.

So we're – you know, the Open Meeting Law is designed to avoid secret meetings, "chain meetings," which is you call you, call you, call you, call you; so you end up accidentally with a chain. Each person has only spoken to two people, but gosh you've got a quorum of members going there; or what we call, "wheel-and-spoke" violations where one person calls a quorum of people themselves.

We are still seeing that email is a huge issue for boards and commissions. We issued an AG Opinion in 2005 saying, "Don't – be very careful with email. You can easily violate the Open Meeting Law." We're seeing that "smart" phones are a huge problem with Open Meeting Law violation. It's so easy to get into a chain violation, even if you don't intend to. You send something to two of your closest friends on the Board. They think it's brilliant. They don't think about whether or not you already sent it to three people so they send it to their closest friends, and so on; and you get a violation very easily that way. My advice is not really – not to use email among yourselves at all. Email Bob when you need stuff, but don't use it among yourselves; and never ever, ever, ever use the "reply all" button. I don't care if it's just setting up the meeting. Don't use the "reply all" button. So – but, like I said, you can go wrong with teleconferencing, chat rooms, social media, the grocery store – wherever you would run into a quorum of the members and talk about Board business. So, again, you know, if somebody's trying to talk to you about Board business, it's perfectly okay to say, "You know what, it's a really good discussion, it's an interesting issue, we need to have this discussion in the Board meeting. Let's do it then;" just make sure it's on the agenda and just cut it off there.

So, sanctions – my favorite part. It's a headache, it really is, to deal with even a minor violation of the Open Meeting Law. There are procedures we have to go through at your next meeting to make sure that everything is publicized and it's all out in the

open. All actions that you've taken as a result of that violation are null and void, so it does you no good to have voted on something. Our office – the County Attorneys' Office – or a private citizen can bring an enforcement action in which they can get attorney fees and \$500 per violation; and that does not come out of State Parks' budget, it comes out of your pocket. It does actually go to State Parks. It goes to the agency that the board or commission reports to; but I can think of better ways to making a State Parks' donation than Open Meeting Law violations. You can be removed from office; and because you all serve at the pleasure of the Board, that's a fairly easy process. It's not like you're appointed by the legislature.

So, that is the Open Meeting Law in – Bob told me I had to be fast – half an hour or less. Questions? Yes.

CHAIR LUND: As part of our definition of "work project," here we want a subcommittee to discuss – to pull together information. What's their latitude in terms of collecting the information, sending it to subcommittee members for consideration? It sounds like all of it needs to go back through Bob.

MS. HERNBRODE: All of it needs to be done – all a subcommittee's work needs to be done in an open meeting just as if all of ASCOT were doing it. So, yes, it's much better to send it all through Bob. These are the materials for our next meeting that will be discussed. Unless you have a subcommittee of one, you are now required to publicize the meetings of a subcommittee of one or any of that stuff; so, you can appoint one person to do it. It's okay. But if you appoint more than one, you've got a committee.

CHAIR LUND: What about finding out about a meeting and times?

MS. HERNBRODE: We have said specifically that trying to find a specific time on the agenda – or time that you're going to meet – is okay. So you can send to a quorum of the Board – you know, and as chair this may be something that you have to do. "You know, I'd like to meet in May; and these are the three dates I have available. Please let me know." Again, always better to do that, if you can, through somebody else rather than you; and people replying not do a reply all. Just in case somebody does – somebody says something like, "Yeah, I really am excited that we're going to make a decision to do this," you know. Which – it happens. People just do that.

So, the other thing, you can send out agenda items – you can send out what's going to be on the agenda; and ask people for agenda items. But you need to be very, very, very, very careful when you do that; because "I'd like to talk about the sales symposium," is okay. "I really think we should support the trail symposium. Let's put it on the agenda," not okay! Can you see the difference between the two? I'm advocating a position in one and I'm not in the other. So, very neutral, okay? Again, much better to the extent that you can do that through staff – sorry, Bob – the better off you are.

CHAIR LUND: Were there other questions that we had about subcommittees?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Everything has to be agendized?

MS. HERNBRODE: Yes. Just like a regular meeting. Posted on the website – minutes and all the rest of that stuff.

MALE SPEAKER: You have a subcommittee of five. Can any two people talk about work products and things that are going on or what's needed or back and forth?

MS. HERNBRODE: Well, two people – you know, a quorum, then, is three. So two people are not a quorum. I would caution you to be very, very careful with that, though; because if one of those two people gets excited and accidentally talks to a third person about that, all three of you have now got a problem. So – and that's another thing. We recognize that inadvertently things happen. You know – “Gosh, we've strayed off topic for a moment and did this,” or whatever. We can fix those things and it's much better to act proactively to say, “Hey, you know, a subcommittee of ASCOT was at a party and accidentally we started – we looked around and we had a quorum of us going on this one subject, so we had this little discussion.” Okay? Let Bob know; he can let me know; we'll take care of that. Much better to do that than to wait until a member of the public comes in and says, “Last year ASCOT did something that really ticked me off and I'm looking for anything they might have done that is going to be a possible violation and I heard this through the rumor mill,” and then you know, you've got an investigation; and that's a pain in the neck. That investigation would not be handled by your friendly neighborhood AG, but instead would go to the County Attorney's Office.

This end of the table should be quiet. You guys have heard it before.

FEMALE SPEAKER: So, Bob will be coordinating any subcommittee potential meeting times?

MR. BALDWIN: Yes, you will provide me with the agenda items and we will provide an agenda and post it for you. Again, you can decide on the date and time that's good with your committee.

MS. HERNBRODE: Just restrict it to that.

FEMALE SPEAKER: So when the chair emails the five subcommittee members, can that chair mail them all out at one time?

MS. HERNBRODE: Yes. But be sure the members are replying individually to say, you know, “I'd like to have a meeting on either this date or this date, at these times. Do either one of those work for you?” When you reply to me, don't include anything else in the email.

MR. SAVINO: Don't put your opinion on it or anything like that?

MS. HERNBRODE: Yeah.

CHAIR LUND: What about sharing materials with – let's say one person on the subcommittee is tasked to finding out about X, Y, Z; and they get that information. Send that to Bob and have Bob send it out to the rest of the subcommittee?

MS. HERNBRODE: Technically. If that information does not – is not a “here's what we ought to do,” then, you know, it's just gather up information on the trail

symposium. You can send that out. You just have to be exceedingly careful that it does not advocate a position of any type. Bob is going to kick me after this; but, it is a lot safer to go through Bob. It is a lot safer to send it to Bob and have him send it out. He's been torturing me lately; so, I'm getting him back.

MALE SPEAKER: I'm understanding that's a careful way; but in the next example, if there's just information that one party who's researching one area needs to share with another party; you indicating – without advocating a position on that information – you can say, "Here's the information I found."

MS. HERNBRODE: Right. Where people get into trouble is – I'm not feeling very creative today so I have to go with my generic example that I always use, which is like a school district. An article comes out in the newspaper that says, "The school district should really have a cross walk right in front of the school." A member sends that article out to everybody. Well – I mean, you could argue that member is now advocating that position, you know, that we should have a cross walk in front of the school because he sent the article out. So, you know, it's a very fine line. It's a very difficult thing. But, yes, if you – if it is just neutral information you can send it out.

This year we brought in a bunch of X – of new people on the Open Meeting Law Enforcement Team; and several of them said, "Oh, Open Meeting Law is going to be really – I'm really looking forward to it. It's very black and white. It should be pretty easy." And then, you know, they get through a couple of our meetings and they're like, "Oh, it's not that – it's very nuanced. It's very fact specific. You have to be very careful. But if you keep coming back to all decisions, all deliberations, all those proposals of actions need to be done in this kind of meeting. You know, does – would this – if I was a member of the public who was paranoid and thought government was out to get me, would I think that something bad was going on? You shouldn't do those things. You know, avoid those things.

The other advantage frankly on sending stuff through Bob is that everything you do is a public record. So if it goes through Bob it ends up in the State email system, and in the State record system rather than you having to keep track of it, necessarily.

MALE SPEAKER: Which are the samples of our subcommittee assignments and some work we're doing? That if I gather information on a certain subject and I wanted to share it with somebody else on the committee that might be relevant. Even though in that example – or let's say two other people, or three other people that might be relevant. Then that information to Bob is typically forwarded to these people?

MS. HERNBRODE: Yeah, you know, if you really wanted to do it yourself, I mean, three is not even close to a quorum on ASCOT. So I'm assuming we're not talking about a subcommittee, we're talking about something that all of ASCOT is doing. If you're sending to a group of less than a quorum, you can also say in your email, "Dear three members – I'm sending this to three members. Please don't forward this to anybody else because we don't want a violation; but I thought you needed to have it." Again, it's better to have it run through the State system. You've got the record. You know you're not advocating; and it protects you from those Open Meeting Law violations.

FEMALE VOICE: Are our emails to each other a part of the public record?

MS. HERNBRODE: They are. Everything you do for this – these committees – is public record. The notes you take during the meeting on your agenda, at home when you can't sleep that relates to the business of your committee, are a public record – and your emails. And we have had – I mean, frankly, for the most part; ASCOT and OHVAG are not that controversial subcommittees and you really don't tick people – well, *you* tick people!

[Laughter.]

CHAIR LUND: John Savino.

MS. HERNBRODE: You really don't tick people off to the point where – I mean, you can get very invested in getting investigations of public bodies that have done something to them that they don't like. If you have any questions about that feel free to get on YouTube and put in "Quartzite City Council."

But, you know, for the most part your groups don't do things that really tick people off; but it's still important to make sure that somebody who's interested or whose job it is to be interested shows – you know, has the opportunity to know what's going on and know how you make decisions to know – you know, how you're using the money, what you'd doing with it – all your planning stuff. So making sure all those records are available is very important.

MR. SAVINO: I figured that part of my job was to see how I could push her buttons; then she told me after we had a break that she's expecting now and I feel bad.

MS. HERNBRODE: The buttons are really close to the surface at this point.

MR. SAVINO: I know. I really feel bad I've been doing that.

MS. HERNBRODE: Yes, I had to develop a whole new set of signals for OHVAG.

[Laughter.]

CHAIR LUND: Are there any other questions about the Open Meeting Law? Anything at all?

[No verbal response.]

CHAIR LUND: Thank you very much.

MS. HERNBRODE: No problem.

CHAIR LUND: The next item on the agenda is to discuss the 2013 International Trails Symposium. A lot of us are calling it the ITS. Tom Fitzgerald, who just came off of ASCOT as a member, will update the committee on the symposiums. He was one of the key people who convinced – helped convince American Trails to host this in Arizona; and this will be the first International Trails Symposium held in the State of Arizona.

2. **Discuss the 2013 International Trails Symposium (ITS)** – Tom Fitzgerald will update the committee on the symposium. Discussion may include what types of help ASCOT and OHVAG may be asked to provide during the symposium.

MR. FITZGERALD: We're ranked as the international one?

CHAIR LUND: International. First international.

MR. FITZGERALD: I do appreciate it. My name is Tom Fitzgerald. I'm with the Central Arizona Project, but I am one of the co-chairs of the International Trails Symposium for Arizona. American Trails is a nonprofit group that holds this conference every two years. One of their main missions as an organization or 501(c)(3) is to help promote trails, whether it's non-motorized or motorized. Their goal is to try and preserve trails throughout the country, any way they can. Help communities build trails, they give webinars, they give talks and they have conferences – they want to be the clearinghouse of information where folks can find out anything and everything they can about both non-motorized and motorized.

So, we're excited. The last time we had a meeting with the joint committee we were in the process of trying to win the bid; and as you know, we did. We beat out folks like Salt Lake City and Upton Northwest – I think we're very fortunate to have the opportunity to showcase what Arizona has been able to do over the last several years. The symposium was held back in 1998 down in Tucson. It was very successful. There were over 700 participants at that particular symposium. But, like Nick said, this is the first international symposium. It's the first time it's ever been held on sovereign nation, because it will be held out at the Ft. McDowell Radisson Resort. It's a very nice place and it really gives a nice atmosphere – more of a retreat atmosphere as opposed to down in one of the downtown convention centers, things like that.

So, with the help of Ellen Bilbrey with State Parks and PIO, and Bill Gibson here at BLM, we were able to reign in the Radisson. We were able to put together a proposal within the three weeks time frame. With all the support letters that we got – we had over 20 letters of support which we really appreciated. I think that helped win us the opportunity to hold the symposium.

So what I gave you today is a packet of information, one of which is "save the date." We need as much help as we can. Okay the success of the symposium is going to be based upon how well we work as a community to try and get this done – both non-motorized and motorized together – with the state agencies, the federal agencies, the local agencies, and a lot of the vendors and retailers that are local here in the area. We've had a lot of success so far – and we'll get into that in just a little bit. Just recently – this second paper is – this is our logo. Since it is on native American land we wanted to try and represent something that had a little bit of a native American feel; so we have the pot. It's non-descript so we're not fending any specific tribal entity itself, it just kind of represents Arizona with the Saguaro and stuff like that – a native American theme to it, but again, it's not specific to any one tribe at all; and it does, you know, call out the time frame and our logo has a theme to it; and its trails lead everywhere. We felt that was pretty important since we are representing both the motorized and non-motorized aspect; and both the international aspects. Trails were the foundation of how we got

around. Trails continue to be a way that we get around, not just for recreation, but for other purposes as well. Depending on how you look at it, all of our roadways, you know, a lot of them were built following old trail systems and all. So, for some people, that's their trail. They get in their RV and they go, "For other people, they have to do it by foot, others by horse, others by bikes." So, "trails lead everywhere" we thought really encapsulated the entire essence of what we were trying to portray.

In your packet, too, we also have an exhibitor form and we've got the sponsor form. These are critical because I'd like you to try and help us out and spread the word. If you need more of these, I'll be happy to email them to you. I have them electronically, not a problem. But the more people that we can get informed about this, the more people that we have be a part of this experience, the better off we're going to be. So there are a lot of things that we're looking at doing as part of the symposium. I'll get into that a little bit; but there's a lot of that here, the types and amount of vendors that we get – the more that we get, the better off we're going to be in the long run; and will lower a lot of some of the costs. That's very important.

American Trails itself has a following. They've got a magazine that they put out. They put out a newsletter, electronic newsletter, monthly. For their magazine they've got over 22,000 people that currently subscribe to the American Trails Magazine. They get about a million hits a year on their website. So it's a pretty big organization. Now they don't have a lot of folks working for them – and again, it's a nonprofit – but they do do a lot of good work and they put a lot of good articles out there. What we also want to do is we have an opportunity, each edition of the magazine and each electronic newsletter that goes out, to put an article in there about Arizona. I know that Nick – TRACKS was in there in the last one. Scottsdale had something. We've done an article on the Radisson. I know we're talking about doing a native American article. We've got Arizona Trails is going to be featured in there. We're going to do something on the CAP Trails, specifically, as well; and we're looking for articles that will help get people familiar with Arizona, the Arizona towns and cities; and the types of activities that are available in those areas. So, talk to your tourism folks, talk to your CBBs, get the word out there, because this is a great, very economical way to market your location. So, take advantage of that.

Now, there are also with the international aspect – they've just recently gone to Australia, they've gone to North Korea to give talks at other conferences about what they're doing, and possible trails, and how well [inaudible]. Folks from those areas, New Zealand, Canada, North Korea and Australia are kind of going to be attending this symposium, so there's going to be no better time. We also, in your packet – we kind of ran out and I apologize for that – but there is basically a packet of information on how to outline all the different committees that are available. Okay, so we've got an auctions committee – which, each of these committees, there's an action plan that has been or is currently being developed – but we've got auctions committee, we've got audiovisual, communications, publications – in fact, there are 12 plus – entertainment, the exhibit coordination, hospitality, I know transportation's in there, mobile workshop, builder's material, transportation, by the way – program development, sponsorships and

finances, there's transportation and logistics and volunteer coordination; and we also have fundraising.

Arizona is essentially on the hook for about \$200,000, to try and raise – to help with the [inaudible]. It's not a whole lot, but you know, it does take quite a bit of coordination to work with both the vendors, to become sponsors or exhibitors – and that's what kind of helps bring in that money for us. With that, there's a lot of things that we can do. With this list, if there's anything that you know that you'd like to be a part of on; on there it says about the number of members that we would like to have per committee, just let us know. You can email me, give me a call. You can call Ellen Bilbrey at State Parks, you can talk to Bill – just let us know exactly where you'd like to work. Nick is on the programs committee. There are folks that are signed up already and we need more. The more eyes we have out there, the more bodies we have on the ground, the more experience that we have in committees the better we're going to be in the product we end up showing the rest of the world.

So, please take a look at that and read through it. If you have any questions, like I said, feel free to give me a call. But we are looking for more folks to sign up.

MR. SAVINO: I referred one of our members, Bill Nash and his group, to see if he could have input. Has he contacted you?

MR. FITZGERALD: Ride-Now is a sponsor. They have come in. So, he's probably talking directly with American Trails. Once we get a lot of this information – I put Candace Mitchell's card in there, from American Trails – what we've been doing is trying to capture and bring in as many folks, open that door, that opportunity; and then we pass them on to American Trails and they come and close the deal.

MR. SAVINO: So, you haven't had anybody on your committee – I know I was supposed to be on their first, but I was just so inundated with other stuff going on – you don't have anybody right now on your planning committee from the OHV community?

MR. FITZGERALD: Nobody that's, no, specifically representing, no.

MR. SAVINO: When we have out discussion we do need somebody on that, just to help it out.

MR. FITZGERALD: Now there is from the American Trails Board standpoint, there is a chair – and I forget her last name. She's with an Off-Highway Vehicle organization, and they've come in as a sponsor; but from a local standpoint, we really do need somebody.

MS. RALLEY: We also could use somebody from the kayaking community, too, that we could accommodate almost all trail users at this time.

MR. FITZGERALD: Right, and that's a good point, Phyllis. One of the committees that I did miss is the youth committee and Phyllis is on that along with Keith Bradley with National Parks Rivers Conservation.

The Youth Committee – what we're trying to do is find folks that can sponsor about 15 to 20 youth that are in that college age, that are potentially going to be the next

resource managers of the future; because there is such a large turn-over rate; and we want to encourage the youth on how to help us develop programs, have a – almost like a little “bi-conference” with them as well. I think this is a great opportunity to get them involved in issues about them, find out what’s going on and then have them be those future leaders.

We do have mobile workshops. We’ve already got a crew that’s working on that, mobile workshops. We’ve got four or five different hikes that are planned. We’ve got, you know, three or four different mountain biking activities that we’re looking at. We’ve got opportunities for equestrian rides. Out at Ft. McDowell Adventures they do have ATV opportunities, so we’re working with them on that.

CHAIR LUND: What about a mobile workshop on trail building and maintenance?

MR. FITZGERALD: That’s one of the things that they’re looking at as well. Now there is a trails pool expo where we’re trying to bring on a lot of the trail builders, a lot of vendors that have the equipment for trail building; and so either we wrap it into the trail building aspect and we have the opportunity to go out and actually build the trail, and learn how to do that; or we just stay on – and/or we stay on the site with the machinery and people get to drive ‘em around, you get to make holes, use the buckets, use the [unintelligible], learn how to use some of this equipment; and talk to some of the professionals that build the trails, so you can either work directly for them or get the equipment yourself and build your own trails. So, there are a lot of opportunities and those things are still be discussed.

CHAIR LUND: Rick represents a group that does that. If they wanted to be involved in this, who would they contact?

MR. FITZGERALD: [Inaudible], we’ll go from there.

So, I’ll go ahead and give you my contact number. The easiest way to get ahold of me is on my cell phone, and it’s 480-980-3552. Now you can email me as well. You can just email me at work; and that’s just tfitzgerald@tap-az.com.

CHAIR LUND: A couple things that we talked about in terms of ASCOT helping support. One is for all of us to try to help get volunteers. But in terms of either things like the mobile workshop. Another one we talked about is having ASCOT actually pull together a roundtable discussion or panel discussion or symposium on grants and funding. Would that be duplicative of something that you’re already doing? Or is that something we should pursue or what?

MR. FITZGERALD: And that’s a potential. Right now there is a program committee. They did a survey and they sent it out to the 22,000 folks. We’ve had over 600 folks respond and they’ve gone through and they’ve looked at all those responses and they’ve developed a recommendation to American Trails. In that recommendation, they’ve identified nine specific areas of potential interest they want to pursue. Come July when they do their call for papers, they’re going to ask for folks to submit ideas related to those nine specific items. Funding, those types of things, are all items that are

generally covered in there. I believe it is – I don't off the top of my head remember those nine items, but I can get that to you.

I think that whether it's wrapped up in the symposium or it's something that we build in to – as we talked about in the last ASCOT meeting – a kind of local or regional type of workshop that can be held the day before or a couple days before the symposium so that in these times where budgets are kind of tight and people are looking for ways to maximize their education that they're there, they can go to this, they can find out about that; and they can also go to the symposium and find out about whatever else, that we're really trying to make these things more educational type of track session – hands-on type of thing – extended so you're just not doing a half-hour talk, you want to tie the half-hour talk into something where you can actually do things. So those are some of the ideas they've been throwing out there.

A little off from what the Rec and Trails are used to doing in the past, but kind of fits more into the way some topics are now being run. So, we want to be a little bit more progressive, we want to be outside of the box that they're used to working in. Because we want to be able to maximize the number of folks that come; and if we just rely on the old styles, with the costs the way they are, we probably won't get the maximum benefit.

MS. RALLEY: Tom, I brought the nine items here in front of me if you want me to list them.

MR. FITZGERALD: Oh, please do. Thanks, Phyllis.

MS. RALLEY: Okay, number one, the application of technology from land management related issues. Topics mentioned, including GIS, websites and [inaudible], and smart phone interpretative [inaudible]. Number two, new products and techniques applicable to common land management issues like trail maintenance, signage, etc. Number three, fundraising of all sorts. Identifying alternative funding sources, grant writing, event planning and donor development. Number four, limiting land management staff resources using nonprofits and unaffiliated volunteer groups, like Scout corporations, HOAs, etc., those interested in how to recruit, organize, deploy and manage such groups; and how to identify and plan projects with them. Number five, managing nonprofit support organizations, [unintelligible], board development, working with agency and land manager owners, organizing for advocacy, developing volunteers, etc. Number six, policy development to guide on-the-ground work related topics mentioned, including identifying when policies are needed, getting public input, mobilizing public support, successful lobbying, negotiating and conflict resolution. Number seven, trail design and construction. Even though these topics have been part of every trail conference for decades, this is an area where hands-on experience has required essential [unintelligible]. Number eight, outdoor recreation planning with special emphasis on trail alternatives, like water trails, rail-to-trails, OHV trails, urban trails and multi-use trail safety. There was considerable interest in ADA trails. Number nine, resource management and land use planning gives an objective, quantitative technique to major, recent resource impacts of user experiences.

CHAIR LUND: Thanks.

MR. FITZGERALD: And, at this point, quite broad. So there's a lot of opportunities for assessments that fit into that. So, as you can see, the planning committee has really done a good job in solidifying all the information that they got from the survey; and just using the experience that they've garnered from past conferences and symposiums to develop this list. So, I wanted to make you a part of that and I appreciate that as well. I mean, it's really comprehensive. They've done a lot of good work, so we need to take advantage of that. Like I said, in July we should have the call for proposals ready to go out; and this list approved by American Trails – by their Board.

CHAIR LUND: I wanted to ask Phyllis, did you get that list from the American Trails site just now?

MS. RALLEY: I printed this off from the web the other day. I think I got this off of our [unintelligible] site, it's a management site that we're using on the committees.

MR. FITZGERALD: The planning committee has just recently prepared this document and it's being presented to the American Trails at this point for approval; and if we get that preliminarily from the executive director, we – it looks good; we just need to get the Board's approval; and from that point we'll be able to post it.

CHAIR LUND: Where would we post it? Would it be on the American Trails website?

MR. FITZGERALD: Probably not, I mean, we'll – just because that's more of a comprehensive paper for our – you know, kind of a working paper. It's not really, you know, put out there. Once we develop what are our – all [unintelligible] proposals will be. They will be incorporated into that. But if anybody's interested in it, just let me know. We'll make sure you get a copy. But it's definitely worth look at. They did a really good job.

So, right now, you know, as of last year we won the symposium. We've been working to try and build relationships with other communities, with other reps that are related to trails. Just to let you know we've got Fountain Hills, Scottsdale, Mesa DVDs on board. The Radisson is on board with the tribe. They've all put in as sponsors. The Central Arizona Project is a sponsor. We're working with SRP, APS, as agencies as well – as sponsorships. To date we've raised about \$40,000 out of the \$200,000 that we need. But it is April, somewhere a year away. It will be here before we know it. So, the importance behind this meeting is that we need to get out there as an organized unit to go out and kind of beat the bushes and spread the word and let people know, it's coming, it's 2013, it's around the corner; and we need to be able to incorporate as many sponsors and provide as many opportunity to folks to be a part of this as possible. So, you know, the four corners of the state – we need to go to. Because there are a lot of good things that are happening, whether it's down in Cochise County, up in Flag, Mohave County, you name it. There are a lot of good things that are happening and we need to be able to spread the word about it.

We want to use this, not only as an opportunity to have a learning opportunity about trails and showcase what Arizona's done in the past, but this is a tourism opportunity for the state as well; and to show – this is my personal opinion – the

legislators that tourism is important. It is a vital part of what we do; and trails is a force, whether it's motorized or non-motorized. I mean, they bring in the money. The users bring in the money. They support the state; and they need to be recognized. So, there are opportunities for them to do that; and this is the way to try and showcase the importance of that from a worldwide standpoint.

So, some important dates to just of kind of throw out there as we go through, calls for presentation are going to be emailed around July 1st. There's the Summer 2012 issue of the American Trails Magazine. The deadline for articles is July 15th. There is a 15 percent exhibitor discount that will expire on July 31st; so anybody who wants to come in prior to that as an exhibitor will get a 15 percent discount. So that's a plus. I wanted to be sure to point that out. Mobile workshops are due by September 20. All that will need to be solidified; and then we can get that posted on the website. The program committee – preliminary program list for proposals to tier one responses; and the selection team – program selection team meeting in Arizona will be in that mid-October time frame. So, we'll send out all proposals in July; and we're going to have things kind of gone through, at least the first blush, the end of September, first part of October. The fall issue of the magazine is due October 15. Online registration will be available October 20. That's around the corner. It's just not that far away. The ten percent exhibitor discount deadline will be October 31st. Concurrent sessions, [unintelligible] program, responses and feedback in that early, November time frame. The registration booklet will be mailed out November 20. So, that's coming up pretty quick.

Awards – trails awards nomination deadline is November 30. Trails assessment coordinators and presenters, they'll be notified by December 9. Exhibitor kits will be mailed out December 15. Program committee – all concurrent sessions committee workshop descriptions, speaker bios – all that's due by the mid – January 15th. We have a five percent exhibitor discount deadline as of January 31st. Scholarships deadline on January 31. The National Trails Award winners will be decided by the 31st of January 2012. Regular registration rates begin February 1, up and through the symposium. The conference program, [unintelligible] sessions where you work out descriptions of moderators, all that finalized basically by February 15th. The spring issue of the magazine is also due on February 15; and guides to sponsors, exhibitors, presenters and attendees will be sent out by March 15; and April 14 is showtime.

So, we've got a pretty good list of things that we need to accomplish; and deadlines that we need to meet, again, in order to make this a very successful conference. But we do need the help of everybody. One of the things that we're looking at doing – and one of the things you can tell your sponsors – is we're working with Fountain Hills. Fountain Hills would love to have [unintelligible]. We're going to have it that Saturday before the symposium starts, the Saturday that their team – they will close down the streets of Fountain Hills, and they will have the opportunity to hike by the streets and areas around Fountain Hills. So that's a big event. Flagstaff or Tucson just had one just here recently. So that's a new thing and it's a great way to get communities involved. That Sunday, the 14th, that the symposium starts; we want to have more or less like a family day. So the symposium officially doesn't start until the

afternoon – Sunday afternoon – but we want to have that family day; and we want to gear it very similar to the way that Game and Fish just did their outdoor expo. Where we want to invite the family, boy scouts, girl scouts, old groups, you name it – to come out – families to have fun, to learn about the outdoors. You know, invite the fire department to talk about trail safety, you know, water safety; and have something to climb, you know, one of the little climbing walls; or have some fishing or having – you name it – just have opportunities and activities for kids and parents and people just to learn how to do things. OHVing, you know, having some boulders out there and whatever else, just like they have at the expo, that type of thing.

Now, with us having it in mid-April, it doesn't conflict with what Game and Fish is going to do; and that's how they've been arranging the shooting range each year. So hopefully we can sweet talk 'em into having something similar now kind of on the eastside as opposed to the northwest valley. Maybe those folks can then get a chance out there and experience something very similar on the eastside of the valley. So, partnerships, very important.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Tom, can I just ask one thing about the Ft. McDowell community? This is a unique and probably the first I've ever heard of a chance the engage the native American community; and pull a native American element into this conference. I think it's going to be – could possibly be an amazing accomplishment. The tribe and the casino and Radisson have been so supportive of this idea. It's really pretty amazing to me.

MR. FITZGERALD: And that's another aspect that we're trying to really pull in is the whole native American aspect. Tourism on native American land, and having them realize that there's more than just casinos that they can promote on their community, just share their culture and the opportunities that are available; so, some tribes have already embraced that are doing very – they're very successful with it; and other tribes can be really kind of brought up.

But we are looking for pre-imposed tours, we're looking for pre-imposed conference opportunities. So, for example, state trails coordinators are coming in a day-and-a-half before the conference to have their own little special conference ahead of time. There are some other folks that are already planning on coming in before or after to have kind of their own meeting conference type of [unintelligible]. If there are any conference entities that you know of that are similar to that, from the OHV standpoint or any other aspect, let's work it out. Let's see if we can't get some cooperation and partnerships with some of the local hotels around here where we can take advantage of that; and have folks, again – just like ASCOT is looking to do from a regional standpoint, let's take advantage of the timing and the opportunity where everybody's already together so that when they go to their bosses and say, "Hey, I'm not going to three different conference. I'm going to one. It just happens to be this many days long. And these are all the different things on there to learn. This is the networking aspect that I can have, you know, at this particular event. So, it's kind of a one-time shot deal." Instead of saying, "Okay, well in October I'm going here; and in April I'm going here," because then you've got travel and everything else, per diem, tied into that.

If we can lump everything else together so that this is, you know, the core event; and everything else is around it, then I think that's going to be a win-win situation; and we will maximize the number of folks we can get. American Trails over the last four or five conferences is averaging around 450, 500 folks. I think we can easily do that. Again, cost is important and partnership is important, getting the word out. As long as we work together as a community, I think we can do that.

Any other questions? I think I have more flyers, save-the-date cards, things like that, if you want to take some of those home. I'll leave them here. You can pass them out. If you need more – if you need any additional information, just email me.

CHAIR LUND: The hands-on stuff is one of the most popular parts. At the Game and Fish Expo, the turkey calling group had, I think, the most kids around it all day long. It was amazing.

MR. FITZGERALD: Yeah, I went to that. You were busy talking to people so I didn't get a chance to say, hi; but anytime – any of those activities that they had, whether it was the fishing, the shooting of the bows, the ATVs, looking through binoculars, making books and stamps and whatever else, the kids had a ball. I took my two little girls there and they just – they didn't want to leave. You know, those are the types of things we're looking for, you know, get people out there. Scottsdale's doing great things right there, you know, at the [end of side A on tape.]

MR. FITZGERALD [continuing]: . . . and they're getting lead-certified trailheads being built. You know, those are the types of stories we want to show. Those are the types of things we want people to go out and see and to touch, and to see how it's done; and not be afraid to go down that road. So, we're going to work with Landscape Architects. They're having their conference in October, late September, October. There are several folks that are tied to that who are going to come over and help us out. One of the things we want to do with our expo tent, just to let you know, is to make it look like a trail. Make it look just not like it's a standard expo tent where you – you know, it's a maze and you're going up and down. We want to incorporate plants and walkways and signage, things like that, to make it look like you're in an outdoor experience; and then have those groups set up accordingly; so that people feel like they're out there in the elements.

So, there are going to be sponsors for the tent. We're talking to people like the Thunderbirds, Bashas and you know, SRP and APS. We're trying to get with the Phoenix Fire Department and other folks. There's the Arizona Republic – trying to get as much advertisement and things like that – on both the political side and again the outdoor community side. We're trying to work whatever angle we can to make this a successful experience.

CHAIR LUND: Do we have any other questions for Tom?

[No verbal response.]

CHAIR LUND: Good job! Really good job.

MR. FITZGERALD: Thank you. I do appreciate it. Again, any information, any questions, anything that you need, do not hesitate to give me a call or shoot me an email

and we'll get it over to you as quickly as we can. Because, again, we're less than a year away.

CHAIR LUND: Okay, the next item on the agenda is to discuss the federal recreational trails program, RTP. Our staff will present information on the status of federal apportionments to the recreational trails program and the balances available. They will also propose and explain changes to the 40-30-30 distribution of the fund; and they'll discuss the RTP and provide guidance to state parks staff.

3. Discuss the Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) – Staff will present information on the status of federal apportionments to the Recreational Trails Program and the balances available. Staff will also propose and explain changes to the 40-30-30 distribution of the fund. The Committees will discuss the RTP and provide guidance to State Parks Staff.

MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Chair and group, thank you for joining me today to facilitate this requirement in our recreational trails program obligation. Michael Sanders here is our contact with the Arizona Department of Transportation. This whole program is somewhat convoluted. It is federal highway money that comes down to the federal Highway Arizona Division, which then goes to the Arizona Department of Transportation who we have an agreement – interagency agreement – with to facilitate this program. Michael's my contact with ADOT.

Basically what he does is – when I need money for projects, I send him a description of the program and ask them to obligate – turn loose – the money for that project. He reviews those applications and then they initiate the letter to federal highways asking them to turn the money loose to ADOT, who tells me to turn it loose to the project sponsor and divvies it out to the projects, collects all the information and spends the money. Pretty much right?

MR. SANDERS: It's a reimbursement program.

MR. BALDWIN: It's a reimbursement program, right. And we don't ever get the money until the project sponsor has done some work and submits a request for reimbursement. Those go over to Mike and then the money comes back to us and it goes straight out to the project. So, State Parks doesn't see – doesn't hold any RTP money at all.

All right, so background for the program is that this portion of the federal transportation bill has been around since the early '90s in different forms. A transportation bill was last approved in 2005 and it was effective for just four years – five years, actually, through 2009. That bill expired and the legislature – the Congress has been working on a new one ever since. The only reason the program is still around is because it's part of the federal transportation bill; and they keep extending that bill. So every time they extend the federal transportation bill, it includes our RTP portion; so basically we've been receiving the same amount that was allocated – apportioned back in 2009. So, that's going on and it's still in that process. In fact, we just got another 79 – no, 89-day extension or whatever it was – from the end of March until the end of June. Hopefully they'll have a bill this summer some time before the next federal fiscal year starts. That's another point of discussion.

In that bill, there are several – well, there are not several versions – there's basically one major version that was initiated without any money for the recreational trails program. There've been some amendments added to that bill. There's been some lobbying for different types of things. There's been different – that bill, I think, contained a package of money that would go for non-highway projects; and then we would have to squabble with ADOT about whether they wanted to use it for their bicycle safety or safe routes to school, or their transportation enhancements, or those other little subcomponents of that big ole bill to try to get enough money to operate our program.

So, that hasn't happened yet. There is a bill that will identify a certain amount for recreational trails programs. We'll have to wait and see if that ever goes through. But as of right now, we're operating on extensions; and it's business as usual until we get a new bill. So that's where that's at. A lot of lobbying going on from American Trails and all the other trails advocate groups across the country to identify a portion of that new legislation so that there is a recreational trails program. So we'll see what happens to that.

On the handout there, attachment E-3-A, is the basic breakdown of the money under "safety move." We've been getting a little over \$1.6 million a year for the whole program. Of that, seven percent is allowed for State Parks to take in this program; and the rest goes to projects and education – on-the-ground projects and education projects. As you'll see on the side there, there's been some rescissions, there have been some reductions, there's been a federal correction. We just got notice earlier this year that they were computing the money wrong and Arizona was supposed to get a bigger share; and so they've come back and told us we have an additional \$300,000 for 2009, 2010 and 2011; and of course that computation is included in our 2012 apportionment, which has been about \$1.9 billion to the recreational trails program.

So, we definitely have some money to use. We've been using the money as you all know with the – on the non-motorized side we've been using – doing the trail maintenance program, which is where we've contracted with five different businesses to provide trail maintenance services. This program was developed to cut the tape and get the money out to the ground as easily as possible; and it has worked very well. It's very convenient, as I mentioned in your meeting – in the ASCOT meeting – because the federal entities can use the money under – with much less effort as far as providing NEPA certifications and all that. So, the lion share has gone to forest service and BLM for trail maintenance projects. Obviously, the lion share of trails are on those lands as they encompass about 75 percent of all lands in Arizona. We have had projects with cities of Glendale, Scottsdale and Phoenix in Maricopa County, so they've all been able to take advantage of that money also, under the trail maintenance program.

We've been using the motorized portion to fund grants for off-highway vehicle projects. Again, the lion share of that recreation is done on federal land. They're the ones, again, who can provide the NEPA documentation. When a project comes in, the first thing we have to do is get the NEPA documents together, send it over to federal highways and have them review and say that is – well, describe the project and provide the NEPA documents. They tell us if that's sufficient to meet the requirements of the

program. Once they do that, the project then goes over to ADOT to get the money. So, federal highways do play a direct hand in reviewing those projects and signing off on NEPA. Being a federal agency they're a lot more comfortable signing off on a project when it has a federal representative's signature at the bottom saying, "this is our decision notice;" or "this is our category exclusion," or whatever it might be, signed by a supervisor, district ranger, BLM Field Manage Officer, Field Manager – Field Office Manager – those people know their responsibility to the department's National Environmental Protection Act; and when they put their name on that line, federal highways is pretty much off the hook. If you need to look at it, that's the person who's going to take the responsibility.

When it comes down to cities and counties, again, it's a little different. Because they don't have the federal requirement until they start using federal money. So, it makes it a little more difficult to get that documentation together and get it approved through the federal entity because the federal signature then is at federal highways, not at the city of Phoenix or Maricopa County.

So that's one of the drawbacks on the whole program and makes it really difficult for smaller units to use the money. Funding those type of surveys can be fairly costly. And they don't – they're not in the habit of doing it. So, it's not like every time a federal entity wants to do anything on their land, they have to go through the process. So they're continually using that process.

So, the purpose for us coming together today is just to review what's been going on with the program, see if we like the way it's working, get your support for whatever has been going on; and to consider any changes that may be appropriate to the program. Over the last couple years on the non-motorized side we've been having – like I said, we've been doing the trail maintenance program. It's basically set up on a two-year cycle where we offer the money; they apply and then they have two years to spend it. When that's up then we do another cycle, et cetera, et cetera.

We allocated roughly \$1 million each time we've done that – to projects. Now not all those projects get completed, so we don't always spend that amount of money. And, it's not keeping up -- \$1 million every two years is about \$200, \$300 short of what we have to spend. So we've been building up a little backlog and we need to get more money out on the ground. That's why I talk to you folks in ASCOT today about expanding the program to where we offer other grants for new project work in addition to the trail maintenance program. So that's going to come about. That's going to help us obligate more of that money. Obligating the money is the key. We have a certain amount available every year; and if we don't obligate that money then it appears we don't need that money. So, we obviously want to obligate everything we get so that we can say, we need it. We're spending it. Here's where it's going, dah, dah, dee dah.

So, as part of that process – okay, now let me just go to the other side then. On the other side with the motorized trail projects, it's the same thing. We had a formal grant process. Then we kind of incorporated that into a simplified application process – project selection. Again, it was mostly just federal entities that were applying for that because they had to meet NEPA; and also because we have over-arching agreements with both the Forest Service and BLM to work together on mutual projects. Since we

are a funding agency with interest under the state statute to provide for motorized recreation to assist all partners in the non-motorized trails through their state trails system, through the state trails advisory committees – all those things – so that’s all part of our obligation to why State Parks is the focus of trails across the states. You know, there have been points made in the past, “Yeah, well you don’t have any motorized parks, you don’t have any motorized trails in your parks. Why do you guys have the money?”

We have the money because it comes through the state and it’s apportioned to us; and we are the identified entity that works with the other governmental agencies. We do a lot of survey work, the state trails plan, we’ve done economic impact studies for OHV use; we’ve done all kinds of things that benefit the whole state. So we are a state partner in promoting all sorts of trails and trail opportunities. All right?

So under that – under those agreements, then, we were able just to identify projects and then under those agreements write a sub-agreement, a task order, get the NEPA approved and get the motorized work done. That’s been real effective. So long as we can get people to submit projects that’s going to spend the money. If they don’t want the money, you know, we can’t throw it at them. But the motorized that’s been done is doing a pretty good job of keeping up with this obligational authority. We’re not backed up quite as bad. We’re working on expanding that this year. In fact, today we’re reviewing projects where we’ve gone back to more of a structured grant process and we’re allowing other than just the Forest Service and federal entities to take advantage of the motorized money. We’ve opened it up to non-entities – the organizations like we talked about 501(c)(3)s, private companies – other people who can apply for those kind of funds. So that’s part of that process, too. Bigger pool, hopefully more projects.

Now, the way that affects us is that under the RTP guidance we have to spend 30 percent of our project money for non-motorized projects, and 30 percent for motorized projects. In the middle that leaves 40 percent, which are the diverse reparation projects, which can be either kind or incorporating both. In the past we’ve always said, “Okay, we’re going to take that 40 percent and split it down the middle and use 50 percent for motorized and 50 percent for non-motorized. One thing that’s done is, as the appropriations come along and expenditures go out, we start spending all the motorized money and the non-motorized money doesn’t quite catch up. Maybe one year we have projects that we need to split funds between this year’s and next year’s funding, et cetera. If we can float that 40 percent one way or the other within each appropriation year, then we can keep up with the obligation authority and make sure we’re getting all the money available that year obligated – whether it’s motorized or non-motorized.

So one year we may have – let’s say we have an available balance of about \$1.4 million. Okay? So, \$700 would be available for motorized and \$700 for non-motorized. Depending on the demand for the money, if we had \$900,000 worth of motorized projects come in that year; and \$500 worth of non-motorized projects, we could float the money over to the motorized side so that whole year is all obligated. All right. So the next year we say, “Okay, well, we borrowed from the non-motorized site so you non-

motorized people, you know you have an additional \$200,000 available this year if you can come up with a project to spend it. All right? So, with that in mind, we solicit new projects. We open up our grant process. Hopefully we spend the \$900,000 next year on non-motorized and the \$500,000 on motorized. And we've obligated all the money for that year.

MR. SAVINO: Bob, do you think this is fair? It's not – so, it's a matter of – if we come in and we're a little bit more pro-active than you guys and we have a lot of other grants coming in there, you're out of luck. I don't think that's fair. I think that the money on the federal level was appropriated half and half – half to go to ASCOT, which is non-motorized; and half to motorized. It's not our right to take some of their money. They were entitled to that. You should be able to come back to them and say, "You have \$300,000 left in your pot. It would behoove you guys to go out there and find some projects to get this money out in your area." I don't feel it's right for me to take your money; and the same – vice-versa.

MR. FRENCH: It would be nice to have the flexibility to move it back and forth, though.

MALE SPEAKER: Because I think what Bob's getting at makes sense. The flexibility of it makes sense. You look down here and \$117,000 was lost, completely lost, because no projects were available. So, fair or not fair, I'd rather – the guys that went after the money – the money be spent rather than lost.

MALE SPEAKER: I really agree with that. I think if we do a real good job of getting the word out there that people can apply for this. If they don't apply, then we ought to have the latitude of shifting the funds.

MR. FRENCH: To shift it.

MALE SPEAKER: But it's after that process. If we really do a good job soliciting – and I think we do – I think we get the word out to the community, "Here's the opportunity to apply." If they don't take the opportunity, I don't think we ought to lose the funds.

MR. SAVINO: I agree we shouldn't lose the funds.

MR. BALDWIN: That was another part of the proposal in here that under the original setup of the project money, we could spend up to five percent of that money for educational projects. So we took and set that money aside and said each year we'll put aside our five percent and do this education stuff; and give the rest to the motorized and non-motorized. Well, what happened was we were getting \$60,000 a year for education projects and we didn't have a mechanism to give it out and it caught up with us and so that money was not applied for. What we're proposing now is that we don't separate that five percent out that we keep that five percent into motorized, non-motorized project portion that we can still identify and award money to education projects and it can't exceed five percent of the yearly allocation. That 30-40-40 doesn't necessarily apply to the education projects, so depending on what type of projects we have – and again, under the process that we propose to offer grants for non-motorized project grants, entities can come in and request money for non-motorized projects and

they'll just be judged along with both on the motorized side and the non-motorized side – they'll be judged under the basic criteria of the trails plan, you know, as to what priorities they're going to meet.

So if they want \$30,000 to develop a trail maintenance video process – BOAZ – basically did that over the last few years. They got \$30,000. They developed a series of videos that are very good. We talked about those earlier today. On the motorized side, we've been able to give a chunk of \$50,000 to our Ambassador Program, which is a safety and environmental protection program that they can print materials, they can do safety trainings, things like that – so those monies have gone in those directions and those types of applications can continue to come in and be evaluated to nonprofits as well as agencies or whoever else might be interested in providing those types of things.

So that was one of the proposals, that we not set aside that five percent anymore. It's in the project money. We don't have any education project money or education project requests, then that money goes toward on-the-ground projects. Yes.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I understand what you're doing and I can get my around it and support it. But let me play a little of devil's advocate. Let's say that all of a sudden we do such a great job of educating people about this money and we get a lot of submitted proposals, including education. I can think of in particular some projects I've worked on where education is a huge component and we don't know that there's a pot of money that we can go after. But let's say we all do such a good job that all of a sudden we get all these people starting to look at this pot of money and education has to compete with everything else. All of a sudden you're dealing with a lot of projects that want to actually do on – boots-on-the-ground trail work – and you'll begin to weigh that against kiosk and education; and when push comes to shove sometimes that education component – as much as we all as trail users know how critical that is – when it comes to getting jobs done the people want to see trails, they want to see maintenance; and the cities, municipalities and counties want to see that activity.

They say "Oh leave the education to those other entities," like the OHV community or ATA. Competing for that money when it's not designated sometimes give people a sense that we don't have a chance. The one thing I can say about keeping it – and maybe five percent is too much – maybe we just do keep some money over there just to let people know that money is there, that they don't compete for it, it is accessible for them; it's a great way to go out and make amends with the communities to say, "We are really in to education." We're so far into that that we want to dedicate money.

I'm just telling you from a perception point of view, to do away with education – I understand for practicality why we're doing it. I really get that; but from a philosophical point of view and from what the intent is, it takes us back a step and I just want to urge us to be cautious about removing it completely and instead maybe thinking about lowering that funding amount, but keeping that category alive so we can continue to promote that in a very transparent way.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I assume there's been an issue with leftover money in the past that hasn't been used. But if both motorized and non-motorized came up with

grants would those be considered first, however many there were? And then what is left over could be the split?

MR. BALDWIN: Well, what I proposed was to do the same type of project evaluation for the non-motorized projects that we had done for your projects which incorporate the priorities in the state trails system. Certainly, educational components are some of the priorities in those systems. So, there may be a project that comes in for strictly education components of the criteria; or those components could also be combined with some kind of on-the-ground development in a total package; but that education component would be identified as coming out of this by percent. The rule is that you can't spend more than that five percent for those types of things. So, we're not eliminating that from the – I mean, it's still in the offering; and we do need to make it apparent when we put out the offering that education projects – stand-alone education projects are welcome and they can be funded; and that they will compete with the on-the-ground projects.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I wasn't going to the education part I was going to the actual grant funding. I mean, I'd hate to see us lose any money. Is there anyway – if all the grants are funded and there's a certain amount of money left over, as a group we could say, "Okay, you guys get the money." Or, "we get the money," and not really put it on paper that it's to be divided up that way. I mean, we want to see the money used, but I'd hate to see it get lost.

MR. BALDWIN: It's really basically to help us facilitate management of the money so that we get the maximum money out the door every year, whether it's motorized or non-motorized; and that year's done and gone, then we look forward to the next year. We haven't had an over solicitation for any of the money we have. That's why we're in this situation. If an when we get there, we can certainly address that and look at what's happening. But I think that for right now the important thing is that we're able to get as much money out the door every year from that year's appropriation; and that if, you know, as projects ebb and flow that we keep it as equal as possible to the 50-50. That's not a requirement under the RTP, it just says that 40 percent of those projects need to fall in the diverse recreation category – not strictly motorized, not strictly non-motorized. So, you know, that can move from side-to-side.

We keep track and certainly from year-to-year we can tell you where it went; and we can also put caps on our RTP programs. In other words, if last year we got \$900,000, so this year technically we should only get \$500,000; we can award up to the \$500,000. And then basically say if we don't get applications for non-motorized projects, we'll go ahead and fund you guys for this year until we spend all that money. Then the next year, again, the motorized projects tend to run higher dollar; and we haven't solicited for non-motorized projects for quite a while. So it will be interesting to see what comes in. Now if you're suggesting a cap of \$100,000, you know, that's going to severely limit how much of that you can give out; but again, you're looking at projects that are going to get accomplished in a shorter period of time.

One thing about the RTP money is, you know, like I say; we don't hold any of it. So if we appropriate – if we give money for a grant to a project and they don't spend it all, okay, then that money doesn't just go back in the pot. It's a big long process to re-

allocate that money to some other project; and if you don't have projects that are eligible to reallocate it; then that money is gone. We just don't have it. In other words, you obligate it to this project, this project didn't use it all; so, we'll take it back. With the competition for highway funds that's going on over there, they've got lots of roads that need fixing; and they can use that money. Again, if we were not using it, then we need to be careful when we approve projects that they're not over bid, so that they are using all the money.

So those are just some considerations that we need to look at, that we would appreciate your consideration and support so we can better manage the money and keep the money out the door; keep showing that we need every dime we're getting every year and go from there. So those were the two proposals in this packet. There are suggested motions concerning both of those. So if anyone would like to consider that, if there's any more discussion.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Could I just ask one question. Where did the original guideline come from? Where did that mandate come from?

MR. BALDWIN: In the program guidance for the recreational trails program that was created back in 1998. It's still in there, the 30-30-40 distribution, all that kind of stuff hasn't changed over the years.

CHAIR LUND: You have a question over here.

MR. FRENCH: On the 40 – real quick – on that 40 percent, is this the first year you want to do this? Is this something new? It hasn't been like that in the past?

MR. BALDWIN: When we set up our books at State Parks, we've taken the amounts and split them evenly – and we'll probably continue to do that. But what this is saying is that we don't want to have to come to this group and say, "We need to borrow \$100,000 from your non-motorized funds so that we can fund all of our motorized projects within this one year without having to split them over the two or three years or whatever.

MR. FRENCH: Has that been a problem in the past? Why is this an issue now? Have you needed money?

MR. BALDWIN: It's only been an issue because the agreement was that the money would be split evenly. If we didn't do that there would be a discussion and this is the discussion.

MR. FRENCH: Has that been a problem in the past?

MR. BALDWIN: Well, as part of the split funding, yes. Projects come up at the end of the year and we need another \$20,000 to keep them all in the one funding year, which is a bookkeeping issue that we have between our people and ADOT people.

MR. FRENCH: As far as I know, you've always told us how much we had to spend and we've never gone over it. Have they?

MR. BALDWIN: Well, no, they haven't had a – again, that's part of the issue. They've fallen behind in spending the non-motorized portion where we've gone way

ahead in our motorized; and now we have 2009 money sitting here and the motorized portion is spending – getting ready to spend 2011 money and things like that. So, as far as appropriations that were allotted each year, we need to spend that much every year. Whether it's 50-50; 60-40, whatever it might be, we need to make sure we get \$1.4 million out the door.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Bob, I'm wondering, have you been able to identify why the non-motorized has not been able to meet the –

MR. BALDWIN: Well, again, the only way we've been giving it out is through the trail maintenance program. They're allotted \$40,000 per project. Not every project requests that much. We announce that once every other year. And the response hasn't been that great. Partially because staff in these places turn over, one guy knows about the program, he's been in it for three years. The next guy comes along, he doesn't know anything. So they don't apply that year – I mean, it's incredible the turnover in these positions where the people that I deal with, who submit these projects, they don't learn from year-to-year, person-to-person.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I'm sorry because I'm new on this, but does that mean that the non-motorized, if they have new trails, it's not available – to do new trails with that money?

MR. BALDWIN: Correct!

FEMALE SPEAKER: It will be now? But it will be now.

MR. BALDWIN: Well, yes. What I proposed to you in the other room was to expand the program and solicit more projects, including other uses than just trail maintenance.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Is there more opportunity to use that money?

MR. BALDWIN: Correct, as we still have to have people who know about the program.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Who can meet the qualifications?

MR. COX: I think that part of the – you're probably more aware of it than I am, but part of the situation in the non-motorized trails community is the, so to speak, last cycles of the trail. The majority of the trails will stay, et cetera. As we know, the most expensive part of non-motorized trails is in the trail construction. How many new trails – and I asked that earlier today – are being built in this state? Not as many as there were five years ago. So the focus switches back to maintenance.

How many natural devastating situations have we had on the non-motorized trails in the state in the last 15 years? That influences the maintenance requirements and the cost of maintenance of the non-motorized trail beyond the LEAP. When you have dead-fall from major fire, when you have washouts and landslides from the rain that follows the major fire and the trees, shrubs and things are not there, that's when your costs go up to clear and to maintain the trail, or to get rid of the – so, they're facing a fluctuational situation. When you build a trail, and if you finished the expensive part of building it, I see here Bob – and you have in the third tier of your priority, the

education part, including signage and kiosk – I know the Arizona Trail right now, has basically finished its construction except there's always maintenance and that trail – I just used an example and I'll shut up in about three minutes – is piggybacked on some trails – portions of it – that are 100 years old, and they have small segments that were laid out on the fault line to start with that need to be re-routed. But beyond that, there are major needs now, our signage, kiosk, trailhead development – and your priorities here – it's the stage and the life cycle of the trail system that goes a long ways to driving the needs of the money, the budget.

You're right. About the time somebody learns that, they're gone and you have to start all over. I think that's part of the problem that the non-motorized trail community in the state has, realizing its status in its life cycle; and budgeting correctly, and it's the unforecastable impact of the nature of wildfires, floods, et cetera.

MR. BALDWIN: And it's come out in the trails plan over the last three plans – 2000, 2005 and 2010. There really isn't a need – a great need for new trails. There are a whole lot of trails out there. They all need maintenance. Every once in a while they come up some place where it would be nice to have a connector so that you can do a loop out of those things; and then that's like you say – that's kind of the evolution of the trail system we can get up here. That's a nice five-mile hike; but we'd like to hike 12 miles. If we can get over there and come back without having to go out the back, that's what we want.

FEMALE SPEAKER: So, maybe the conversation is, do we have our priorities straight. I agree with Laddie. What's important right now in our communities is making sure people know where the trails start, how to get on them, whether they're safe or not. We're long in the life cycle of our trails. We're still putting them in, yes, I'm not going to disagree with that. But I see people who come on to trails now who've decided for whatever reasons – economic or social – they don't know where the trail heads are. They need direction. They need mapping. They need signage. I'm wondering if maybe part of it – so, that's the great recognition that Laddie made, that maybe where we are in our life cycle, we don't have those priorities really quite right with what – how they equalize with maintenance in putting these trails into.

MR. COX: A large problem is people who run the non-motorized – some of them don't recognize that yet.

MR. BALDWIN: And the priorities of the trail managers, they're incorporated in these plans, but they change a lot faster than the general public requires.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I think the other shocking thing is, I do NEPA planning for a living and I did not know – I did not even think about – that the money that goes from here falls underneath a requirement; and it's absolutely criminal that cities won't spend \$30,000, \$40,000 to do an EA, even if it's just on a ten-mile section. They won't do it. They don't know that it's daunting, if the process – that they don't even want to engage it. So right there's the reason why we don't have money going out the door. If they start looking into it and they find out they've got this federal money, "Oops, that's it!" They know what federal monies mean. They know what the ties are.

So, I'm just beginning to wonder, you know, myself – now there's a business opportunity – but, you know, I'm trying to think myself through – how we can help these projects we've thrown now on the motorized side. Because this is a big pinching point. Because even the BLM and the Forest Service can't turn out an EA or CA – CE fast enough to get the money spent. So, that's a problem and I'm wondering what the motorized communities are going through and how they're spending their money. Granted it's a larger amount. Where they're getting their funding – how they're passing through this bottleneck faster than normal – maybe I'm missing it completely.

MR. BALDWIN: Well, it's a big issue on both sides. Fortunately, in addition to the federal money, we have a state fund for motorized trails that we're using. And the state money can be used – well, actually, the federal money can be used for NEPA costs, too; but it's incredibly difficult. First of all, it's a reimbursement program. So they've got to go out and spend the money first, to get the NEPA done; and then they have to apply to do the trail; then they can get reimbursed through the NEPA. It's just something we haven't encouraged. We can't encourage that. If it turns a one-year trail project into a three-year deal.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Depends on what it is.

MR. BALDWIN: Depends on what it is. But I mean, to get that.

Like I say, on the motorized side, we're trying to identify those needs so that we can use the non-motorized money much easier. I mean, the state money much – more easily, because we hold the state money. It's in our accounts. It's eligible for NEPA. We can advance it to them if we need to. You know, there's a whole lot – it makes it a lot easier to get things done on that side. So, we don't have the state, non-motorized trail funds like we used to. So basically, what we're asking for here is a discussion on the float – the 40 percent – just saying that if the process that we need to use to keep our yearly obligations up and running and not lose money – you know, we'll be accountable for as far as how much went out this year. You know, we can cap one side or the other if they get out of control. It's not like we're out to take all the non-motorized money and use it for motorized trails. We've got more money on the motorized side than we can spend right now.

FEMALE SPEAKER: On this proposal that we're looking at, one of the priorities on the third level, but a priority none the less, to provide an educational program; why can't you be just totally flexible, and in the event that educational is not applied for, it would then go into which ever – non-motorized or motorized -- to identify a priority of leaving that five percent in the education.

MR. BALDWIN: Well it's already there. I mean, it's there because we can use that out of the project's budget we can use up to five percent for motorized projects – and that's total, motorized or non-motorized – I mean, education projects. We can use the total up to the five percent. So we're just saying that we're not going to send it out here and make it exclusive – you have to apply exclusive criteria in order to get that education money. If you want to build a good project that's going to score well, you're going to incorporate some of these other things. Maybe you're going to do some trail

maintenance. Maybe you're going to put a support facility at a trail, and you're going to develop this education program along with those other things.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I think that what you've come up here with, the whole prioritization of how you would be able to give the money – obligate the funds is good, and I think you're also building in the flexibility, you know, with the five percent education or the 40 percent to be able to help you obligate it. I think the second pronged approach here, though, is that we really need to work on getting people to know the money's there for non-motorized or the motorized and use it. So maybe there's more of a PR or whatever that needs to start happening more of to ensure that we do spend all the money.

MR. BALDWIN: And that's been an issue with all of our grant programs over the years that the agencies aren't looking for things to do. The only way they're going to do something is if they get a lot of requests from user groups, that they have people who are coming to them saying, "Boy your trails are terrible out there;" and maybe volunteering to do the matching volunteer work necessary to match those funds and do that kind of stuff. And, yes, once we get this process out and announce this process and the fact that you know about it now, you know, you can go to those agencies or you can call those trail people and say – or if you're a member of a group like you're a horsemen's group, or mountain bike group or whatever it is, you can go to that group and say, you know, "what do we want the Tonto National Forest to do? What do we want BLM to do to help support our trails or the trails we like to use?" Let's give them some – nudge them a little bit. Let them know this stuff's out there. Help and support them in any way that you can.

MALE SPEAKER: It's not only nudging them – I'm going to use our Apache [unintelligible] as a prime example. We just went through the Walla fire and their focus, their highest priority right now is, what are we going to do about this area in terms of restoring it, in terms of maybe building the trails back, et cetera, et cetera.

So, if we came in and said, "Oh, here's a new trail we want to do." That would be pretty low on their totem pole. So you've got to take into account mitigating factors.

MR. SAVINO: We've dealt with that. They're in the – they've been mandated to take all the people off. They came to me – the White Mountain Open Trails Association – and asked me to write the grant. So we wrote a grant. You could possibly do that, working with –

MALE SPEAKER: That's exactly my point. The group that's coming in there has got to be ready to step up and help that agency, because they are in dire need in many respects.

MR. BALDWIN: And that's another thing we're trying to accomplish in this application process. That the Arizona Horse Council, as an entity – I mean, as an organization – could go to the Black Canyon – Field Office and say, "We want to apply for a grant and we'll do all the work. We'll either contract it or we'll volunteer – whatever we'll do – but we want to fix this section of trail. We want to build this next new section of trail. We need you to give us the NEPA clearance. We need an agreement with you so that you will allow us to go out and do that, recognize that that's

getting done. Other than that, we'll need some direction from your staff from time-to-time, you know, go out to identify exactly what needs to be done, what you want us to do and how to go about it. Once that's all done, you know, we'll make the application, we'll do the work. We'll pay the bills, you know, you don't do anything. The projects – it doesn't take – it's always going to take some resources, but it's not like they have a project person; then that project person has to work with a finance person – they don't have to do all that stuff, so; those types of things is what we're putting in place on our motorized side; and it's the same thing we can do for our non-motorized side.

Because that is the issue out there. They do not have the staff to do these things; and they're not looking to take on new projects.

MALE SPEAKER: Even getting the EA – if you walked into our segment of the forest right now and said “we want to do this. We've got this money. You do the EA.”

FEMALE SPEAKER: It doesn't happen that way.

MALE SPEAKER: It's not going to happen.

FEMALE SPEAKER: It doesn't happen that way, yeah.

MR. BALDWIN: You're only going to move along if it's a completed trail and you're just maintaining it, because that's – but I understand there's been an injunction against the signage category.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Depends on – who, the Forest Service? No, it depends on what it is.

FEMALE SPEAKER: It kind of bothers me still to sweep everything out of education. Is there a way that a certain minimal amount – like it never goes under so much that's available for strictly educational projects? And the rest of it could just go where it needed to go?

MR. BALDWIN: Well, I mean, if you're actually getting requests for the education money that exceeds what's available that year, we could always say, “You know, we'll fund you up to X dollars and then out of next year's apportioned money you can have another X dollars.”

FEMALE SPEAKER: If you cut out people who strictly want to do an educational project. You know, most of the things I've been involved in, you know, we're doing some trail thing and there's an educational component that we want.

MR. BALDWIN: Right. But they're still going to be limited to, what, \$60,000, \$70,000, which is a pretty big education project.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Yeah, but you hope when you have two or three. You know, I would say, like, two months before the fiscal year is over if you've got – you can use \$60,000 from there and our \$60,000 in education is not spent, I would be more than willing to give it to you, because you know in two months time there is nothing that's going to come through.

So for me it's kind of like, “I don't want to commit that money at the beginning of a cycle – or every other year – but I'm willing to be flexible.”

MR. BALDWIN: When we sit down and evaluate the projects we say, "Okay, we have X dollars available to give out, here's the amount that you can give out for education components; and as you select the projects, you identify, this is better than that one, so let's make sure this gets funded; and then people who don't get the money come back next year.

MALE SPEAKER: There's one idea that probably profitably use education funds on a recurring, yearly basis; and that is if this state develops a true trails related academy for various – trail rider subjects will talk on a certain cyclic basis, one week of the year, or two weeks of the year, scattered in different seasons – a state-sponsored -- I say state, ASCOT or the state – whoever – sponsors an academy where you – true leadership is taught, trail design is taught, trail maintenance, how to conduct a two-day work event with 200 people, or a hundred people or 50 people. There are many of them being conducted by people I know who include 25 to 100 people. The people who run those learned the hard way.

My point is, I don't know how much it would cost on a recurring, annual basis, but you could spend education funds on an academy, a statewide trails community academy to train trail related subjects.

MR. BALDWIN: That type of thing, you know, Arizona Trails Association or even BOAZ could request money. You know, is it a full-time job for somebody?

FEMALE SPEAKER: I think that somebody else is trying to use it.

CHAIR LUND: Do you think we could move this along if we could get a motion?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Could I ask one more question?

CHAIR LUND: Yes ma'am.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Now, when Heritage Funds were available for non-motorized trails – because I think there's been such a switch, because that was always our new trail construction in bigger projects. Now that's gone, but were the Heritage Funds usually awarded when they were available?

MR. BALDWIN: No, not really. I mean, there were years where we didn't give it all out and it would build up, again. We held that money so it wasn't going to go anywhere. We kept track from year-to-year. Phyllis, are you there?

MS. RALLEY: I am, I think.

MR. BALDWIN: Thomas are you there?

MR. McARTHUR: Yes, I am.

MR. BALDWIN: We may need to hang up here in a minute and re-do this call. So, if you get clicked off. Phyllis, you're probably about done. Thomas, we have another while to go here; so we do need you to keep a quorum.

MR. McARTHUR: You want me to hang up and call in again?

MR. BALDWIN: Yeah, call in in about ten minutes.

MS. RALLEY: Use the same code.

MR. BALDWIN: You can hang on, Phyllis. I think we'll finish up here before you – and you won't need to call back, all right?

Yes, we had the same problem with our Heritage Fund money and not requesting the whole amounts; and the next year it would build up and we'd give out more and more, this and that; and I think even when it went away we had a balance in there of money that hadn't been applied for; but again, it was all part of the whole economic thing that was happening; and trails were not a priority and staffs were being cut, you know –

FEMALE SPEAKER: In reality, this might help if RTP funds – if non-motorized can use the RTP funds for different projects than maintenance, if needed. So there's a grant process besides the regular RTP maintenance.

MR. BALDWIN: The issue is, we need to make sure we obligate as much of our available obligation every year as possible.

FEMALE SPEAKER: The only thing I would hate to see all the non-motorized money going for –

MR. BALDWIN: And if it comes down to having to do more motorized projects than non-motorized, we need to obligate the money, period. All I'm asking for here is just your agreement that instead of cutting the lines at 50-50, if from time-to-time we can go back and forth and keep it as even as possible –

FEMALE SPEAKER: Right, now would it always go back to 50-50 at the start of the year; but then as things needed to go –

MR. BALDWIN: Like I said, if we give out a little more one year then we'll say this much more is available the next year for the other side.

MR. FRENCH: But, again, Bob, I don't understand why we need to do this if it's never been an issue in the past? Why are we hedging now?

MR. BALDWIN: Because it is an issue now. Because of our dealings with ADOT and the Federal Highway Administration –

MR. FRENCH: Who's going to be short? Us?

MR. BALDWIN: No one's going to be short. We need to manage our funds better.

MR. COX: I make a motion – a motion is called for – that the State Parks staff, the person or individuals detailed to do that function – I move that State Parks be allowed to float the 40 percent appropriation for diverse recreational trail users between motorized and non-motorized recreation uses with the intent of maintaining an equal distribution of that appropriation from year-to-year; provide the flexibility needed for efficient management of the funds.

CHAIR LUND: Okay, Laddie made the motion and Rick seconded. Now, anymore discussion?

[No verbal response.]

CHAIR LUND: All in favor?

MR. BALDWIN: Could I see raised hands?

CHAIR LUND: There were none?

FEMALE SPEAKER: I actually still do oppose.

CHAIR LUND: I'm sorry, I didn't –

MR. SAVINO: You asked for any opposition and I raised my hand there.

FEMALE SPEAKER: For you guys, this is new. We've been doing this long enough where we know what the grants are. We have the agencies coming to us getting the grants. Maybe what might even be a better way would be to wait until next year and see how you guys do with the grants. You may use all of your money without a problem. You know, I hate to see the – you've lost part of your funding already with the Heritage Fund; and you know, we don't want to lose the RTP, believe me.

This is the only pot of money –

MR. SAVINO: That's your only pot of money. If we're sitting there and we're pro-active and we're getting benefits, you're going to end up with nothing. Do you want to be in that situation? I don't want you to be in that situation.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I don't think there's any reason why we couldn't come together as a group, you know, before we lose the money and say, "Okay, this is how much money is left. What can we do to spend it; and maybe as a group we could spend that money and not lose it.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Yeah, I would see that as a better solution. As I said, I'm afraid, okay, the money's going to go to motorized and then the next year, just 40 percent, boom!

FEMALE SPEAKER: There could even be a way where what would really be nice is if we came up with a motorized, non-motorized project together which would really look good.

FEMALE SPEAKER: And there really are projects like that in the forest. It could be a win-win. It could be done.

FEMALE SPEAKER: You know, anything that's multi-use makes the it look really, really good.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I have a question for Bob. When –

MR. SAVINO: We have a motion.

CHAIR LUND: We have a motion and a second on the table; but we're in the discussion phase of it.

FEMALE SPEAKER: You went to the vote without –

CHAIR LUND: Did we get it recorded? Did you get the ayes and the nays recorded?

MR. BALDWIN: I had three nays and the rest of you ayes. Phyllis, what were you?

I just want to emphasize that we don't just open the door and let projects come in. I mean, it's got to be an established process where an announcement is made, criteria is identified, applications submitted, applications reviewed, funding approved. It doesn't happen overnight. I don't have time to do it five times a year. You know? I'll do it as often as I can; and I'll do it as often as I need to get the money out the door. But I can't do it on a whim.

So, all we're saying is that we'll do the best we can to solicit projects, both motorized and non-motorized. When it comes down to the end of the year and we've got some money that still needs to be obligated, the first project that comes in the door is going to get that money; and we will always start the year with the intention of, "Here's what's available for your projects, here's what's available for your projects, let's go get 'em."

MR. SAVINO: Mr. Chairman, like it or not we had a vote. We had a motion, a second.

CHAIR LUND: It's been approved.

MR. SAVINO: It's been recorded, it's been approved, so we can go on.

CHAIR LUND: One of the – I'll throw in one other comment. If you – anybody in the room – has a suggestion to Bob about better dissemination of the information in terms of soliciting the proposal in the first place, he's always open to that. He wants that. He wants to be able to get these out. I think we're really doing a fine job of getting it out, but there's always somebody who doesn't hear about it, that sort of thing.

One other comment.

MALE SPEAKER: Let the record reflect I think we've discussed this for about an hour and a half, so it's not like this was not properly vetted.

MALE SPEAKER: We've got 50,000 people descending on the downtown area so you may want to wrap it up.

MR. SAVINO: Yeah, we have two hours of meeting to span in 45 minutes, our OHVAG meeting.

MR. BALDWIN: All right, the other part of the recommendation's like I said, to not to leave the education money hanging out there. The incorporated end of the pool of money available for both projects is to solicit projects for education purposes, whether they are a part of a larger project for other things, or whether or not they are strictly an educational component.

So, again, it allows us to manage the money in a prudent manner so that it all gets spent.

CHAIR LUND: Okay, I'll take the chair's prerogative. We've got reports here. The OHVAG Chair's supposed to [end of tape.]

F. REPORTS

1. The 2011 OHVAG Chair and/or designees will report on the Statewide OHV Program projects and accomplishments from 2011.
2. The 2011 ASCOT Chair and/or designees will report on the non-motorized trails projects and accomplishments from 2011.

G. ADJOURNMENT about 4:15pm