

Montana Back Roads 4x4 Club, Inc.
Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2009

Members present: Chris and Curtis Evelo, Steve, Ellen, Derek and Zak Emerson, Willie and Jeanne Worthy, Rachel Maxwell, Larry Garrison, Mark Pickles, Max Hillberry, Joe Lorenzo, Bruce Erickson, Jeff MacGill, Jim Younkin, Paul Schaller, and Steve Schardt, and guests Steve Knudson and Brittany, Dan Simens, Pete and Karen Elmer, Mike Shaylor, Bill and Char Boldt, Eric Englebert, and Tom Taylor.

Jeff reported that the web host change and re-registration of domain name was in progress and the cost will be minimal. He's awaiting confirmation email.

Jeff also brought club decals and business cards to hand out.

Curtis spoke again on the various organizations we could join. Joe made motion, with Max second, that the club join the state based Montana 4x4 Association. No discussion, all ayes, and motion carried.

Joe made motion, Jeff second, that dues remain at \$20 per family with \$25 additional fee per family to join M4x4A. No discussion, all ayes, and motion carried.

Meeting places: Derek had checked at University and they want \$65 for big room. Max had checked at Jakers, which has nice room and good food. Willie checked again at library, which does have three meeting rooms (small, medium and large), and they keep them pretty well filled up. If we signed up for medium room and needed more space, more than likely the large room would already be filled. Parking is a major problem at 6 pm. Willie also checked at Press Box, which has long, narrow room that is maxed out at 20 people. Ate lunch there, and food was just okay. Jeff did not check with Inn on Broadway. Willie checked with new manager at Montana Club and he said as long as we had at least ten people for a meeting, they would be happy, and that we could eventually get the same day and week for our meeting (maybe not for May tho). Discussion on which day was best for most members, decision was the third Wednesday of each month, and that we would stay at the Montana Club.

The board recently rejected advertising on our web site after concerns on what it might do to our nonprofit status, that this particular company wasn't 4x4 oriented, and that if we should accept any advertising it should reflect well on the club.

Consensus was that the club did not need a trip chairperson, just that members need to step up. Mark volunteered to lead a trip to Carruthers and Mountain Ben Lakes late June, tho Willie mentioned that with this year's snow pack, it would probably be mid July before we could get into area. Mountain Ben is one of the

hardest trails in Montana, you have to have a locker; you can walk it as fast as you can drive it. Others could hang out at Carruthers and fish. Since there are lots of trails in area, this might be a multi day trip. There is much camping in area, and Super 8 Motel in Deer Lodge.

Derek is researching a trip in the Perma area on the Flathead Indian Reservation, which should be mostly dirt roads. He and Willie spent a couple of hours looking at Google Earth and topo maps. Participants would have to buy tribal permit, available at sporting goods stores.

Jeff suggested we put a calendar of events on the web site. Bruce will check to see if webmaster Lori is willing to keep it updated. Meetings would also be listed on it. Send info to Willie first. Consensus was that for quick, spur of the moment trips, emails would be sent.

Bruce reported on St. Regis area trip April 11. We had seven rigs participate. These are roads that proposed for closure, mainly due to ruts in Glacial Lake Missoula sediment and people taking rock from quarry without FS permit. Bruce will check into the possibility of having some of the roads interconnect, as at present they are all short roads that don't go anywhere, tho Curtis had to do a 32 point turnaround in the Limo.

Bruce mentioned that if club member hasn't led a trip by December 1, that they owe \$20 to fund pizza/Christmas party.

Jeff and Diana are going to Cooke City, near Yellowstone National Park, late August. Approximately 6 ½ hours from Missoula with trailer. Gas and food are expensive in Cooke City, so bring your own.

Curtis and family are going to Rapid City, SD, in June, 2010 for week and a half (they have family reunion for two days, but otherwise want to run some of the Black Hills trails).

BBQ and Ramp Travel day Sunday, April 26, at Jeff's Offroad, noon to ? Be sure to notify Chris Evelo if you'll be there, as club is buying the food. Curtis has a pop up canopy he can bring, and we'll display club banner out front as well.

Wheel covers with club logo have not yet been ordered, Willie is working on it.

New Business:

Joe is working on a club dogs on trails policy. We used to have a no dogs on trail policy but it disappeared from the website. Send Joe your comments at jlheepetr@live.com.

Missoula Food Bank letter carrier's food drive, Saturday, May 9, we need trucks and people to help.