

Montana Back Roads 4x4 club meeting
January 20, 2016 Minutes
Perkins Restaurant, Missoula, MT

Members present: Willie and Jeanne Worthy, Lorna and Jim Younkin, Jeremy Hitchcock, Dave and Tianna McCord, Jason Summerfield, Dick Riebe, Bruce Erickson, Bill and Char Boldt, Derek Emerson, Ed Jones and friend Susan, Justin Kirkbride, Maurice Austin, and guests Wade and Joann Emerson, and Ken Chambers.

Discussion of past trips and events and lack of participation: Justin had a snow trip planned before Christmas, ended up cancelling it last minute. Derek did lead a trip to Carruthers Lake, while Jason led a trip that was attended by only one person. The club did go up to Blacktail/Wild Bill. The club only had a few participants at the Blue Mountain/Graves Creek Adopt-A-Trail workday. Thanks much to those that did show up. It seems there are some last minute trips that aren't well publicized. Jim Younkin and Jeanne Worthy were the only volunteers for the Food Bank's turkey distribution before Thanksgiving. Willie and Jeanne were amidst moving in May for the Food Bank's postal food drive, but no one else stepped in to help either.

We need more motivation for the club and how to get more people involved. Willie doesn't really want to remain president, but no one else wants to take it on either. Many people volunteered to help him more. If you come up with an idea and want to help, give him a call a 825 4126.

New face book group for the club set up by Jeremy, so this should help with the above.

Dues will remain at \$5 a year, you can either mail them to our treasurer Jason Summerfield at 3360 Big Flat Road, #63, Missoula, MT 59804 or drop them off with Jeremy at J & K. We currently have \$830 in the treasury.

We do need to discuss whether we want to re-join the Montana 4x4 Association as a club. You can join as individuals, as certain members already do.

We need to change the bylaws to allow the board to make decisions rather than having to put it out to a general member vote. We don't get much response from the general membership on anything we vote on. This was passed by all members in attendance.

There can be as many board members as want to, it's currently Willie, Jason, Dick, Jeff Dobie, Jeremy, and Bruce. If you're interested, let another board member know.

Our members need to help each other, either with vehicle questions, repairs, and such. Hopefully the new face book group page will encourage this as well. Need more people leading trips, possibly a trip per month. Comments that members plan a trip, get confirmations from people saying they'll go, then they don't show up. We do have a diverse age group in club, so that could be part of the problem.

Justin said we should plan an "epic" trip each year, overnight or two, possibly do Maxville area or maybe out of Georgetown Lake. Lots of response from various people on this.

Dick made motion that we re-elect current officers by voice acclamation, and add a second vice president as well: President Willie Worthy, Vice President Dick Riebe, Second Vice President Jeremy Hitchcock, and Treasurer Jason Summerfield (Jeanne acts as secretary without being on the board as such). With no further nominations or comments, these officers were re-elected for 2016.

Jeremy mentioned Big Sky 4 Wheelers Snow Bash coming up January 30, Saturday, we'll do a club trip for this: meet at Muralts, 5 AM, and car pool up, or meet at Fat Boys Parking Lot, 8 am.

Dave at Speed's Towing rented the front (south) part of his property and had to remove the first three obstacles from the trials course. We can do more work and add some more obstacles and/or change it. It's definitely challenging and is a good testing ground, especially for suspension changes.