

WOHVA Annual Membership Meeting Minutes  
October 5, 2008

**Opening Remarks - Rick Dahl, Board of Directors (BoD) Chair**, at 10:14 AM

- Welcomed everyone to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual WOHVA Membership meeting
- Described upcoming changes in Board members and the positive aspects of new leadership and ideas, as well as the potential for better membership representation
- Talked about a current legislative concern, the Dept of Natural Resources WAC revisions and the representation WOHVA has in the process and his concerns

**Minutes from the prior Annual Meeting**

The 2007 Annual Membership meeting minutes have been posted on the WOHVA website for the past year along with all BoD meeting summaries. *The minutes were moved and seconded for approval as posted and passed unanimously.*

**Treasurer's Report – Angie Marek, BoD**

- Angie reported that WOHVA financials are available to all members; she's happy to review them in detail with any members who is interested
- She reported we now have a credit card to make business payments simpler
- She distributed her treasurer's report as of 10/5/08 (incorrectly stated on it a 10/5/07):
  - o Carryover from 2007                    \$10,697.28
  - o Total Income                            \$3,650.00
  - o Total Expense                         -\$2,762.61
  - o Balance as of 10/3/08                \$11,584.67
- - Comprised of committed reserve funds                \$4,650.28
- - And available funds    \$6,934.39
- In responding to questions, Angie answered that WOHVA is a 501(c)(4) non-profit
- Also, reserves are kept in the same account but separated thru Quicken reporting
- *The treasurer's report was moved for approval, seconded and unanimously passed*

**Board of Director's Report – Rick Dahl, BoD Chair**

- Rick read from the report prepared by Richard Elkins, BoD welcoming members and summarizing the BoD structure and major 2007 activities

### **Nominating Committee – Byron Stuck, BoD Chair**

- Byron shared that there were 9 original Board of Directors members who have been on WOHVA from the beginning. Finally, after 3 years of service, 4 of those members were stepping down and the nominating committee had 2 proposed members and was seeking 2 other members from the membership at large
- Byron introduced the two nominated members, Kathy Heitmann and Gary Prewitt, and they each presented their background to the members
- Kevin McGrath and Megan Cieplik both then volunteered from the audience for the remaining two BoD positions as nominees. They also presented their background
- Byron noted that the election would occur after lunch

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Membership Committee – Byron Stuck, BoD and Kevin McGrath, Membership Chair**

- Byron stated the current WOHVA membership and comparison to last year:

|                      | <u>Year</u> | <u>Charter</u> | <u>Club</u> | <u>Org/Business</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Current 2008 (Oct 4) |             | 122            | 16          | 2                   | 140          |
| Last Yr 2007 (Oct 7) |             | 131            | 14          | 3                   | 148          |
- He then described part of the committee's work during the past year as maintaining the website process for joining, renewing memberships and generally solving problems
- He also noted that the first batch of stickers have been produced and all members present at the meeting were given two stickers; the stickers are very rugged/high quality items and there are also larger license plate-size and poster-size stickers for sale to place on haulers and trailers
- Vicki Gray, BoD, brought and displayed two new WOHVA banners designed by volunteers who received awards from the Washington Motorsport Dealers Association for their first-place designs
- Kevin told the group how the committee had also finalized and brought to the meeting the first printing of WOHVA Tri-fold brochures to both describe our mission and solicit support; They were also distributed to all attendees
- Byron talked about activities planned for the next year including a process to distribute \$500 in gas funding for attending Land Use meetings from a grant by the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America and the Motorcycle Industry Council. There will also be a project designed to distribute the WOHVA logo to member clubs for posting and display
- Rick Dahl closed by pointing out that individual membership is NOT the primary WOHVA goal. Being an alliance of all Washington OHV organizations is the goal.

#### **Communication's Committee – Rick Dahl, BoD Chair**

- Rick reported that Committee Liaison Tom Fite (BoD) is out of town on FEMA business but that this committee NEEDS VOLUNTEERS and needs to develop periodic communications to link in and inform volunteers of WOHVA activities

### **Expo Committee – Angie Marek, BoD**

- Angie announced that the date is set as **Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>** for the 2009 Expo again at Straddleline Park near Olympia. The Expo showcases for the public and members each of our three represented sports: 4x4, ATV and Off-Road Motorcycling
- This will be our second Expo and we learned a lot the first time. This will also be a shared event combined with the Dept of Natural Resources Safety Summit.
- Kathy Heitmann described some advance work she's already done with the DNR

### **Legislative Rally Committee – Ed Bushnell, BoD**

- Ed asked the group for volunteers to help prepare for the 2009 Rally
- The 2009 Rally is scheduled for **Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>, noon to 2 PM** on the Capitol steps
- Ed talked about the success in prior Rally's of helping re-open Straddleline Park as well as countering the poor sound legislation proposed by Senator Adam Kline. The park now has two motocross courses and a trail training system is well under way also.
- Rick noted that **only 1%** of the DNR's \$300 million budget goes toward funding recreational opportunities on DNR land

### **Land Use Committee – Dave Hiatt, BoD, Gary Johnson GPOHVA**

- Dave announced that Joe Jones, the Committee chair was unable to be here today so instead Gary Johnson was present with members from the Gifford Pinchot Off Highway Vehicle group to describe the success of their local planning in the GP National Forest
- Gary introduced Sherie Weisser, Mike Hayden and Barbara Vertz, all from GPOHVA
- The group then presented an excellent synopsis of how GPOHVA is working using local residents working with their local land managers
- The process is a model for community involvement and does not rely upon urban letter writers attempting to represent local community interests
- They have obtained detailed G.I.S. data for all OHV areas in Washington State and will provide that to any other group that would like it ... please contact Gary Johnson
- Gary also described how WOHVA had helped him obtain two copies of mapping software through a grant (\$900 per copy) which allows him to manipulate the large amount of data in the statewide maps
- They've worked with Tom Savage, a local landscape architect, to promote loop trails and reclaim old roads as trails
- They're also working actively with the media to present their case; especially that there are so few miles of ATV trails available in the GPNF
- Dave Hiatt commended Gary, Barb, Mike and Sherie for doing just what WOHVA was designed to do ... local people working with local land use staff and their processes!!
- The group was given a rousing ovation by the members present!

### **Political Action Committee – Dave Hiatt, BoD, Tod Petersen Chair**

- Tod reviewed the 2008 activities and results and distributed his Bill Tracking Sheet
- He noted that some old bad bills were reintroduced but that they still didn't move
- Unfortunately, the new good bills we supported also didn't move
- He noted that the Fuel Tax cap is illegal but the legislative leadership will not allow it to be addressed as it reduces funding for highway projects
- One very positive note is that the Governor DID veto with a line item budget per our request and many others the last minute trail funding block hidden in the budget bill
- Odessa, Wilbur and several other cities have been very progressive about OHV use on public roads and either already permit or are networking to permit OHV use on roads
- He added that a sound bill died due to being burdened with extremely excessive penalties by the anti-access crowd
- He also added that NDR proposed WAC language is due out next week
- Tod closed with a commitment to send out a "how to vote" message prior to the elections to help support those public officials who support our causes
- Rick thanked Tod and reinforced how valuable Tod's work ... and especially that he does this as a volunteer and not a paid lobbyist

### **CLOUT – Dave Hiatt, BoD**

- Dave gave a brief overview of CLOUT, and clarified that it is a tool & not an organization
- He stated it is available for clubs and other organizations to use
- It is an easy way to connect constituents with their legislators
- Dave cited several examples of where it has been used in the past

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS – Byron Stuck, BoD**

Byron asked **Rick Dahl**, outgoing President, **Dave Hiatt**, outgoing Secretary and **Vicki Grey**, outgoing dealer representative to all come to the front of the room. **John Eaton**, outgoing Vice President was unable to attend. Byron thanked each of these founding WOHVA Board members for their many and diverse contributions and presented each of them with a plaque noting their tenure and service to WOHVA. He emphasized that WOHVA would not be as successful as it is today without the hard work of all four of these outgoing Board members!

### **Nominations and Board member elections – Rick Dahl, BoD Chair**

- Rick asked if there were any additional nominations for the Board and hearing none, closed the nominations.
- Angie moved and Gary seconded that the slate of four new Board members:
  1. Kathy Heitmann
  2. Gary Prewitt
  3. Kevin McGrath
  4. Megan Cieplik

And the remaining five existing Board members:

1. Angie Marek
2. Tom Fite
3. Richard Elkins
4. Ed Bushnell
5. Byron Stuck

be approved on a unanimous ballot from the members present.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Bylaw Amendment – Rick Dahl, BoD Chair**

- Rick asked if there were any Bylaw amendments for review and Byron Stuck moved that the “Charter” member title be changed to “Individual” to remove confusion within our membership base. Angie Marek seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **2009 Goals – Rick Dahl, BoD**

- As a final agenda item for the meeting, Rick asked those present what goals they would like to see WOHVA working on during 2009. The following ideas were presented:
  - o Consider building legal staff resources to promote our goals
  - o Consider adding paid professional staff to help WOHVA conduct it’s work; This could include an Executive Director and an assistant or a grant writer; this is a move our Colorado counterpart (COHVCO) has already taken
  - o Focus WOHVA on Wa State OHV issues and standardization throughout the state
  - o Work at a state level so the impact crosses all areas
  - o Ratify a WOHVA position on Wilderness; and publish that position
- As his final act as Board chair, Rick thanked all those who came for their attendance and support of WOHVA, and adjourned the meeting at 2:10 PM

Respectfully submitted, Byron Stuck and Dave Hiatt