

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE RECREATION COMMISSION**

MEETING MINUTES

March 13, 2015
8:30 a.m. to 5:05 p.m.

Hilton Garden Inn
1309 West Rancho Vista Blvd.
Palmdale, CA 93551

OHMVR COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Ted Cabral, Chair
Diana Pérez, Vice Chair
Erin Hafkenschiel
Eric Lueder
Kevin Murphy
Edward Patrovsky
Paul Slavik
Teresa Villegas

OHMVR DIVISION STAFF PRESENT

Christopher Conlin, Deputy Director
Maria Mowrey, Administrative Chief
Kathryn Tobias, Legal Counsel

OTHER OHMVR DIVISION STAFF AND REGISTERED VISITORS

AGENDA ITEM I – CALL TO ORDER – 8:30 A.M.

- (A) Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair Cabral.
- (B) Roll Call – Eight Commissioners present at time of roll call. One Commission member appointment vacant.

Chair Cabral introduced OHMVR Division staff.

AGENDA ITEM II – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Commissioner Lueder and seconded by Commissioner Slavik. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote

Approved: Commissioners Hafkenschiel, Lueder, Murphy, Patrovsky, Slavik, Villegas, Pérez, and Cabral

No: None

Abstain: None

AGENDA ITEM III (A) – APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 12, 2014 MINUTES

Motion to approve the December 12, 2014, minutes was made by Commissioner Lueder and seconded by Commissioner Slavik. A roll call vote was taken; Commissioner Villegas abstained. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote

Approved: Commissioners Hafkenschiel, Lueder, Murphy, Patrovsky, Slavik, Pérez, and Cabral

No: None

Abstain: Commissioner Villegas

AGENDA ITEM IV (A) – COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

- Commissioner Patrovsky reported on the following:
 - He attended the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department volunteers award ceremony.
 - He attended the King of the Hammers event held in the Johnson Valley Off-Highway Vehicle Area.
 - Several members of the public expressed concerns about the collateral forfeiture schedule (federal fines for OHV offenses) and requested the Commission pass a resolution to increase fines and penalties. Commissioner Patrovsky concluded that based on his research the fines are high enough, and in fact may affect enforcement decisions.
- Vice Chair Pérez expressed concerns about Deputy Director Conlin's interim assignment as Acting Deputy Director of the Division of Boating and Waterways. She said the OHV laws require a full-time deputy director and asked if the Commission could write a letter to the Governor requesting the OHMVR Deputy Director position be returned to a full-time position. Deputy Director Conlin informed the Commission that he has voiced concerns to agency staff about finding a permanent solution.

A brief discussion ensued culminating in a motion by Commissioner Patrovsky and seconded by Vice Chair Pérez to send a letter to the Governor. Commissioner Lueder's questioned if the Commission could take action because it is not a business item on this agenda. Legal Counsel Tobias suggested Commissioners vote no on the motion if they want the item placed on the May agenda. A roll-call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote

Aye: Commissioners Patrovsky, Villegas, and Pérez

No: Commissioners Hafkenschiel, Lueder, Murphy, Slavik, and Cabral

Abstain: None

Motion failed with ayes, three and noes, five. Per Chair Cabral's request, the topic will be placed on the May agenda.

- Commissioner Hafkenschiel reported that she toured Hollister Hills SVRA in February and was very impressed with the facilities.
- Commissioner Lueder reported on the following:
 - He and Chair Cabral met with Coastal Commissioner Chair Steve Kinsey. They provided him with the 2010-2011 Economic Impact Analysis Report and an overview of Oceano Dunes SVRA.
 - On February 9, he and Chair Cabral toured the Marin County Motorcycle Association facility in West Marin County with Deputy Director Conlin. They also attended the Boating and Waterways Commission tour at Bodega Bay.
- Commission Murphy reported on the following:
 - Discussions with Santa Clara County Park staff are ongoing regarding ways to improve the Metcalf OHV Area. He also contacted Morgan Hill city staff to discuss options for the development of an urban OHV park.
 - He toured Hollister Hills SVRA.
 - He congratulated Chair Cabral for being featured on the cover of the current issue of the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) magazine.
- Chair Cabral reported on the following:
 - He was interviewed by AMA magazine.
 - He thanked the Commissioners for voting him in as the Commission Chair.
- Commissioner Slavik reported on the following:
 - Discussions continue with regard to hosting a joint commission meeting with the four State Parks Commissions.
 - He presented an overview of the 2015 National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) Conference scheduled for October 27- November 1, 2015 at Folsom. A tour of Prairie City SVRA will occur on Thursday, October 29.

A discussion ensued regarding the introduction of informational speakers during Commissioner reports. In order to add these speakers to the agenda, Legal Counsel Tobias suggested staff contact the Commissioners prior to finalizing the agenda to find out if they have invited speakers to the upcoming meeting.

AGENDA ITEM IV (B) – COMMITTEE REPORTS

BLM Liaison Ad Hoc Committee: Chair Cabral recently met with BLM staff to discuss the status of the closure of the Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA). BLM staff is reviewing a process that would allow public comment on the possibility of allowing OHV use in areas outside of the ACEC (Areas of Critical Environmental Concern).

Chair Cabral encouraged the public to contact their representatives and request proper funding for BLM so staff can continue work on habitat restoration and OHV trail maintenance, and provide law enforcement.

He continues to work with BLM on the development of a youth mentoring program.

CARB Liaison Ad Hoc Committee: Commissioner Cabral expressed the following concerns about the testing process:

- Lack of manufacturer and dealership participation;
- Used motorcycles tested are in poor operating condition and cause skewed baseline numbers;
- Vehicles are not tested in a real-world environment; and
- Vehicles are tested running at a low RPM range causing inaccurate exhaust emission results.

Events/NOHVCC Ad Hoc Committee: Commission Slavik requested the Director of State Parks give a keynote address at the NOHVCC Conference in October.

Law Enforcement/Private Property Interface Ad Hoc Committee: Commissioner Patrovsky stated that the King of the Hammers event would not be possible without law enforcement assistance from the OHMVR Division.

Vice Chair Pérez requested data on the number of tickets issued by law enforcement for illegal riding. She disagrees with the dollar amount of the fines and thinks they need to be in the thousands of dollars. Commissioner Patrovsky provided clarification about the fine schedules and how they work. He said it was important to give officers flexibility in setting penalties that are commensurate with the offense and provide a credible deterrent.

Fuel Tax Study/2018 Sunset Ad Hoc Committee: Chair Cabral reported that a contract was entered into with the State Energy Commission to provide data for the study.

USFS Liaison Ad Hoc Committee: Chair Cabral participated in a conference call with the Forest Service regarding the new planning process. The discussion included changes to the recreational aspects within the planning documents.

He also had a discussion with Kevin Elliott, Forest Supervisor from the Sequoia National Forest, regarding the Pacific Crest Trail. Because of the topography of national forests, Chair Cabral does not believe mileage based designated OHV crossings is a reasonable solution.

Based on discussions with the Pacific Crest Trail Association, U.S. Forest Service, private landowners, and the Kern County Sheriff's Department, Chair Cabral feels that communications between these agencies and the public need improvement. Chair Cabral created a Pacific Crest Trail Ad Hoc Committee. Committee members include Chair Cabral and Commissioner Patrovsky.

AGENDA ITEM V (A) – WEST MOJAVE (WEMO) DRAFT PLAN AMENDMENT AND DEIS

Dan Canfield, OHMVR Division Planning Manager, introduced Carl Symons, BLM Ridgecrest Field Officer Manager, who presented a brief overview of the WEMO Draft Plan Amendment and DEIS.

The West Mojave Route Network Project (WMRNP) is a travel management plan covering 9.24 million acres. Approximately 3.1 million acres are public lands managed by the BLM. The WMRNP supplements the 2006 WEMO Plan. This Plan Area is entirely within the boundaries of the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP). A court order in 2009 required BLM to review route designations and some grazing decisions. The WEMO Plan Amendment sets guidelines on how BLM will designate individual trails. Routes will not be designated in parks, military installations, private land, OHV open areas, and wilderness areas.

The Draft Plan Amendment was released on March 6, 2015, for a 90-day public comment period. All public comments are due June 4, 2015. Four public meetings have been scheduled—two in the Ridgecrest Field Office area and two in the Barstow Field Office vicinity. Questions should be directed to Edythe Seehafer, Project Manager, Barstow Field Office. The Assistant Project Manager is Craig Beck, Ridgecrest Field Office. Interactive PDF maps are available on the WEMO Route Network Project and Plan Amendment website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE WEST MOJAVE (WEMO) DRAFT PLAN AMENDMENT AND DEIS

Comments were heard from the following individuals:

- John Stewart, California Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs
- Nick Haris, American Motorcyclist Association
- Ed Waldheim, Friends of Jawbone, Friends of El Mirage and California Trail Users Coalition
- Tom Tammone
- Will Liebscher

In response to Vice Chair Pérez's inquiry, Mr. Symons stated that MLR funds are used for management planning and OHV funds are used for law enforcement, signage, and restoration projects. In response to Commissioner Hafkenschiel's question, Mr. Canfield stated that due to the checkerboard BLM lands within the State Park lands, the general plan process for the Kern County property would involve a coordinated effort with BLM land managers. Responding to Commissioner Murphy's inquiry, Mr. Canfield stated that the OHMVR Division could not make a determination on how the WEMO Plan Amendment would affect the Kern County property planning efforts until the WEMO decision has been published. Mr. Canfield also informed the Commission that Division staff would make every effort to attend the four advertised public meetings. Commissioner Slavik commented that BLM typically adopts user-

created or straight-line service (utility) routes, which may not be attractive to riders and thus keep them on the route, and hopes the WEMO Plan Amendment will not limit connectivity and route development on the Kern County property. Deputy Director Conlin assured the Commission that the Division has been actively involved throughout the process and would make every effort to create sustainable trails consistent with environmental protection. Chair Cabral stated that communication, coordination, and partnerships with all agencies and groups would be key factors in developing future management policies for all forms of recreation.

Commissioner Murphy made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lueder, that Chair Cabral and Commissioner Patrovsky draft a comment letter to the BLM regarding the WEMO Draft Plan Amendment. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote

Aye: Commissioners Hafkenschiel, Lueder, Murphy, Patrovsky, Slavik, Villegas, Pérez, and Cabral

No: None

Abstain: None

AGENDA ITEM VI (D) (1) – PROGRAM REPORTS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORTS, PARKS TRANSFORMATION TEAM

Steve Szalay, Team Leader, Parks Transformation Team, presented an overview of the State Parks transformation process. Based on the Parks Forward Commission recommendations, a team comprised of qualified, experienced, and dedicated personnel from State Parks staff has been formed to implement a number of initiatives that will lead to positive change for State Parks. The team identified 31 initiatives based on the Transformation Team Strategic Goals. Initiative examples include service-based budgeting, partnerships, and technology innovations. Additional information is available on the Transformation Team website at www.parks.ca.gov.

Rebuilding the credibility of the department is an important first step in the process. The next step would be the establishment of stable funding sources.

A discussion ensued regarding the Parks Transformation Team report. Chair Cabral and Commissioners Villegas and Slavik suggested the process consider the role of the OHMVR Trust Fund in supporting recreation. Commissioner Lueder suggested including recreation on the strategic goals list and adding the OHMVR Division along with Boating and Waterways to Jared Zucker’s title because he is representing both divisions.

Deputy Director Conlin thanked Mr. Szalay for his presentation and for offering to provide additional reports to the Commission over the next two years.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE PARKS TRANSFORMATION TEAM REPORT

Comments were heard from the following individuals:

- Dave Pickett, District 36 Motorcycle Sports Committee
- John Stewart, California Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs
- Nick Haris, American Motorcyclist Association
- Ed Waldheim, Friends of Jawbone, Friends of El Mirage and California Trail Users Coalition
- Tom Tammone
- Will Liebscher

AGENDA ITEM VI (A) – PROGRAM REPORTS, SAN ANDREAS DISTRICT

Kathy Weatherman, District Superintendent, San Andreas District, presented a brief update on the San Andreas District. The District was formed in July 2014, and merged Hollister Hills and Hungry Valley SVRAs into one district. The Eastern Kern County Property was added to the District in December 2014. The San Andreas District covers four counties comprising 51,000 acres and hundreds of miles of OHV recreation trails.

Ms. Weatherman provided an update on two campground improvement projects—the Hollister Hills Infrastructure Project and the Hungry Valley Group Camp Facility.

Peter Jones, San Andreas District staff member, presented an overview of the Eastern Kern County (EKC) property. The EKC property, comprising 25,000 acres, is the first all-new OHMVR Division acquisition since 1978. This purchase meets the Division's 2009 Strategic Plan Goal No. 2 that states that the OHMVR Division will add new opportunities where appropriate and needed to replace the loss of existing opportunity and to respond to changing and future demand.

Since the acquisition, staff has begun implementing management measures pursuant to the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan as specified in the Acquisition Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

- Four new information kiosks have been installed in strategic locations throughout the park.
- State Parks boundary markers have been placed throughout the area where the existing designated routes cross the state-acquired land.
- State Parks Rangers have been assigned to patrol the area.
- A cultural resource management plan is being developed that will include cultural resource inventories and Native American consultation.
- Staff is developing a soils conservation plan and assessing erosion conditions.
- Staff is developing a grazing management plan.
- A wildlife habitat protection program and habitat monitoring system will be developed.
- The barbed wire fence at Butterbredt Springs has been replaced with pewter pole fencing.

Existing recreation occurring in the area will continue on state property. All land uses, future development, and the overall long-term vision of the park, will be addressed during the General Plan process. The State may; however, take measures to protect the resources or add simple infrastructures such as vault-style toilets prior to the approval of a general plan as specified in the EIR.

In response to Vice Chair Pérez's inquiry about naming the park, Deputy Director Conlin stated that it was a bit premature at this time because the Division is still working on some last-minute details regarding the acquisition. Because OHV Trust Fund monies were used to purchase the property, the park is automatically designated as an SVRA.

In response to Commissioner Slavik's question about whether or not it was possible to consolidate ownership of the property, Chair Cabral said the BLM Ad Hoc Committee could open that discussion with the BLM staff.

In response to Commissioner Lueder's inquiry about a timeline for future planning, Mr. Jones stated they are currently drafting a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with BLM to cooperatively manage the area.

In response to Commissioner Hafkenschiel's inquiry, Deputy Director Conlin stated that the general plan process could not begin before a budget change proposal (BCP) was submitted requesting funding for the general plan.

STATE ASSEMBLY MEMBER TOM LACKEY

State Assembly Member Tom Lackey welcomed everyone to the area and offered his assistance with any issues being discussed, especially relating to Jawbone Canyon.

AGENDA ITEM VI (B) – PROGRAM REPORTS, BLM REPORT

Jane Arteaga, OHV Travel Management Lead, BLM, read an update from the State Director regarding the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) project. During the five-month public comment period that ended on February 23, 2015, the agency received approximately 12,000 comments. Although comments are still in the review process, several key factors emerged prompting the decision to move forward with the project in a phased-in approach. The primary factors influencing this decision were requests from counties within the planning area asking for additional time to create their energy plans. In the meantime, BLM will continue with its planning process including the designation of the Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs).

BLM submitted operations grant applications to the 2014/15 OHV Grants program in the amount of \$1.2 million. This year, the BLM received approximately \$1.5 million in law enforcement grant funds.

In response to Chair Cabral's inquiry, Ms. Arteaga stated that the final report regarding the 2015 King of the Hammers event has not been prepared, but she heard it was a

great event. BLM plans to permit the event on the same route next year. BLM plans to review all SRPs (Special Recreation Permits) for compliance and Ms. Arteaga will provide a report when the review is complete.

A brief discussion ensued regarding Johnson Valley OHV Area.

AGENDA ITEM VI (C) – PROGRAM REPORTS, U.S. FOREST SERVICE REPORT

Garrett Villanueva, U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region, presented the U.S. Forest Service report.

Mr. Villanueva was excited to report that there is a possibility of using an existing trail recently found in the Bright Star Wilderness Area to provide connectivity in that area between BLM and national forest lands.

A conflict exists between the Piute OHV area and Pacific Crest Trail corridor in the Sequoia National Forest Plan Revision. The proposed action is currently out for public comment.

A Q enduro event held on national forest lands was the topic of discussion when Mr. Villanueva and Kathy Mick met with Nick Haris, Dave Pickett, Don Amador, and AMA representatives.

A collaborative interactive mapping tool is available for the public to submit comments on the Over-Snow Vehicle Subpart (c) Travel Management Plan. Stanislaus National Forest will release its Notice of Intent and Proposed Action the first week of April and the Plumas National Forest is scheduled for release in early May. The Lassen National Forest is planning to release its first Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Working collaboratively with TreadLightly!®, the U.S. Forest Service recently launched a Ride-On Campaign pilot project at Lake Tahoe. Chair Cabral suggested producing a Spanish version of the Ride-On Campaign materials because of the increase in OHV recreation within the Hispanic community. In response to discussion about the need to work together to address conflicting demands on public lands, Mr. Villanueva committed to a share-the-trail component in the Ride-On Campaign.

Commissioner Slavik encouraged BLM and U.S. Forest Service staff attendance at the NOHVCC Conference in October.

A brief discussion ensued regarding pedal-assisted and electric-assisted bicycles. Commissioner Lueder encouraged the Forest Service, BLM, and other agencies to engage with user communities while they work through the challenges of this new technology.

Commissioner Lueder encouraged Forest Service staff continue to work with the user groups regarding the Q enduros.

Commissioner Hafkenschiel said it would be helpful if speakers provided maps of areas that are being discussed. She also asked presenters to explain acronyms and provide definitions of unique terms such as “Q enduro.”

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Comments were heard from the following individuals:

- Doug Varner
- Will Liebscher
- Randy Jordan, Sunbuggie Rentals
- Dave Pickett, District 36 Motorcycle Sports Committee
- Ed Waldheim, Friends of Jawbone, Friends of El Mirage and California Trail Users Coalition
- John Stewart, California Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs
- Linda Wucherpennig, California Off-Road Vehicle Association
- Tom Tammone
- Bruce Miller
- Randy Banis
- Steve Hunter
- Jan Rintamaki, Polaris Industries

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS VI (A) – (C)

- Bruce Miller
- John Stewart, California Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs
- Nick Haris, American Motorcyclist Association
- Ed Waldheim, Friends of Jawbone, Friends of El Mirage and California Trail Users Coalition
- Tom Tammone
- Randy Banis, Chairman, Public Lands Roundtable of Ridgecrest
- Doug Varner

AGENDA ITEM VI (D) – PROGRAM REPORTS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Deputy Director Conlin asked for a moment of silence in memory of State Park Ranger Ray Jenkins, father of Division Chief Phil Jenkins. Mr. Jenkins was the first Deputy Director of the OHMVR Division.

Deputy Director Conlin stressed the importance of cooperation and collaboration among all interested parties with regard to recreation on public lands.

AGENDA ITEM VI (D) (2) – PROGRAM REPORTS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT, BUDGET UPDATE

Maria Mowrey, Administrative Chief, OHMVR Division, provided a report on the 2015/16 Governor’s proposed budget. The Governor proposed expenditures of

\$92 million plus—a slight decrease from the 2014/15 budget. The decrease is due to restrictions on new capital outlay projects.

The Governor also proposed a \$10 million repayment of the 2010, \$21 million loan from the OHV Trust Fund.

A brief discussion ensued regarding funding for general plans, BCPs, grants, and the \$1.4 million capital outlay expenditure listed in the proposed 2015/16 budget. The proposed capital outlay budget item provides funding for existing projects—the Carnegie Road Construction and a project at Oceano Dunes SVRA.

AGENDA ITEM VI (D) (3) – PROGRAM REPORTS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT, SVRA 2014 ATTENDANCE STUDY

Tom Bernardo, OHMVR Division staff, introduced Dr. David Rolloff, co-author of the 2014 Attendance Study.

Dr. Rolloff presented an overview of the 2014 Attendance Study. The objectives of the study focused primarily on how the SVRAs measure attendance. The study yielded two reports—current attendance and projected attendance.

Methods of collecting data from visitors varied from site to site. Controlled access sites used researchers to count the number and types of vehicles, conduct visitor surveys, and collect cash register data. Open access sites with one entry/exit point used vehicle counters and surveys. Open access sites with multiple entry/exits points (such as Ocotillo Wells) conducted surveys and counted vehicles in photographs taken during flyovers. The collected data was used to determine conversion factors.

The forecasting report prepared by Dr. Amy Mickel used a time series analysis.

In response to Commissioner Hafkenschiel’s inquiry, Dr. Rolloff stated that high temperatures would have an influence on seasonal conversion factor changes.

AGENDA ITEM VI (D) (4) – PROGRAM REPORTS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT, GRANTS PROGRAM

Maria Mowrey, Administrative Chief, presented the Grants Program report. The program kicked off on January 12, 2015, with two workshops—one in Ontario and one in Sacramento. Approximately 224 preliminary applications totaling \$39,517,140 were submitted. Available funding for the 2014/15 grant cycle totals \$26 million. All categories were oversubscribed except acquisitions. That category received no applications. The restoration category, historically under-scribed, was oversubscribed in the amount of \$4.5 million. The first Native American tribe, the Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians, submitted a planning project application to develop an OHV recreation area on tribal land adjacent to the Sierra National Forest.

The public and Division comment period ends April 6, final applications are due May 6, and awards posted on June 4. The final awards will be posted at the end of the 30-day appeal period on July 5, 2015.

In response to Vice Chair Pérez's inquiry, Ms. Mowrey stated that Grant Administrators make site visits to review projects. Grant recipients also submit receipts and photos with payment requests. Deputy Director Conlin said 20 percent of all grants are audited in any given year.

Chair Cabral stated that law enforcement funds should be used for personnel rather than expensive equipment.

AGENDA ITEM VI (D) (5) – PROGRAM REPORTS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT, SVRA GENERAL PLANS

Dan Canfield, OHMVR Division Planning Manager, presented a report on the status of the SVRA general plans. A general plan is the primary planning document for an SVRA and provides a framework of goals and guidelines that direct future recreation, resource management, and facility development.

The Carnegie SVRA draft preliminary general plan and environmental impact report will be published the very near future.

Twin City's District staff is currently reviewing the Prairie City SVRA draft general plan. The associated environmental impact analysis is under way.

The Ocotillo Wells SVRA Preferred Planning Alternative was published the first week of March and posted on the project website: PlanOcotilloWells.org. The Preferred Planning Alternative describes the work completed to date and summarizes the preferred planning alternative developed by the planning team with input from the public. The document also describes the coordination efforts with the BLM El Centro Field Office. Approximately 20,000 acres of land managed as Ocotillo Wells SVRA are BLM lands.

Public meetings held on March 18 and 21, 2015, presented the preferred alternative and provided an opportunity for public input. Mr. Canfield encouraged the public to submit comments on the preferred alternative through the project website or by letter, mail, fax, or phone call.

Chair Cabral complimented the planning team on the great job preparing the general plan documents. He also suggested an update of the Oceano Dunes SVRA general plan because it was last amended in 1991.

In response to Commissioner Hafkenschiel's inquiry, Mr. Canfield stated that the Carnegie and Prairie City SVRAs' General Plans are the furthest along and could possibly come before the Commission this year. The law requires general plan adoptions occur within a certain geographic proximity to the facility.

AGENDA ITEM VI (D) (6) – PROGRAM REPORTS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Donna McGuire, OHMVR Division State Park Interpreter, presented the Education and Outreach report. The Outreach Program experienced incredible growth during 2014 resulting in approximately 300,000 public contacts due to the combined efforts of Division and SVRA staff. The Outreach Program supports all six goals of the Strategic Plan and addresses Goal 4 specifically—to develop an educated and informed community. A few highlights from 2014 include the following.

Hollister Hills SVRA partnered with a county gang task force to offer the GEARS (Gaining Experience, Awareness, Responsibility and Science) program. The program provides an opportunity for troubled teens to learn about safety and resource management, experience real world work, gain credit towards high school education, and realize possible employment opportunities.

A two-page article is published monthly in SportStars—a magazine marketed to youth and their parents with a readership of 450,000 residents in Northern and Central California.

The Division also expanded its outreach approach to include venues like the California Native Plant Society Conference. Staff utilized mini posters with photos to explain resource management practices and projects that allow native plants to flourish.

The strength of the Outreach Program is that it will continue to evolve as dedicated and talented staff throughout the state continues to develop new educational programs to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the use of public service announcements to provide information about OHV safety.

AGENDA ITEM VI (D) (7) – PROGRAM REPORTS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT, OHV TRAINING COMMITTEE

Greg Schumaker, OHV Training Safety Coordinator, presented the OHV Training Committee report. The OHV Training Committee is comprised of representatives from the OHMVR Division and the SVRAs. It was formed to review training issues and the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA) three-year contract that expired April 30, 2015.

The Committee extended the SVIA contract for one year to allow time to review options to provide additional training opportunities to the public. Currently, the contract only covers youth ATV safety training. The youth ATV safety training program continues to grow with six additional Los Angeles Sheriff’s deputies recently trained as ATV instructors.

The Committee also discussed ways to improve and update the current ATV safety certificate program. They met with a representative from SVIA to discuss the possibility

of implementing a combined online course with a challenge course. The challenge course would be based on the current ATV Safety Institute curriculum.

A brief discussion ensued about the current and proposed ATV safety certificate program. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding vendors training children prior to renting equipment.

AGENDA ITEM VI (D) (8) – PROGRAM REPORTS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT, LEGISLATION

Tom Bernardo, OHMVR Division staff, presented the following Legislation update:

- SB 2752 – Registration of Off-Highway Vehicles. This bill became effective January 1, 2015. It removed the word “transport” from CVC Section 38020.
- SB 142 – Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. This bill would define knowing entry upon the land of another also include operation of an unmanned aerial vehicle below the navigable airspace overlaying the property.
- Senate Concurrent Resolution 2 – Eugene “Gene” Chappie Memorial Highway. This resolution would designate a specified portion of State Highway 193 in El Dorado County as the Eugene “Gene” Chappie Memorial Highway.
- SB 206 – On-board Diagnostic Systems. This bill would prevent the state Air Resources Board, and any other state agency, from obtaining information from a motor vehicle’s on-board diagnostic system unless the registered owner provided written consent for the collection of that information.
- California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015. The text of the bill is an attempt to achieve consensus on various uses of desert land. Key provisions of the bill are:
 - Create two new national monuments—the Mojave Trails National Monument and the Sand to Snow National Monument
 - Designate five existing BLM OHV areas, covering approximately 142,000 acres, as permanent OHV Recreation areas. The areas include Dumont Dunes, El Mirage, Razor, Spangler Hills, and Stoddard Valley.
- U.S. HR 999 – This bill directs the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Academy of Sciences to study the vehicle handling requirements proposed by the Commission for Recreation Off-Highway Vehicles and prohibits the adoption of any such requirements until the completion of the study.

A discussion ensued regarding SB 2752.

Chair Cabral requested the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015 as a business item on the May 2015 meeting agenda.

In response to Commissioner Lueder’s inquiry about HR 792, Mr. Bernardo stated that the bill would provide no net increase in total acreage of certain federal land under the jurisdiction of the BLM, National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Forest Service.

AGENDA ITEM VI (D) (9) – PROGRAM REPORTS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT, LAW ENFORCEMENT/SAFETY

Mark Hada, OHMVR Division Visitor Services Manager, presented the Law Enforcement/Safety report. Four educational kiosks were installed on public and private land at key locations in the southern Mojave area around the Pacific Crest Trail.

Law enforcement staff participated in the 2015 King of the Hammers event to provide law enforcement assistance and public education as well as monitor the event boundaries. Approximately 35,000 visitors attended the event.

In response to Commissioner Lueder’s inquiry about staff cost reimbursement from the event promoter, Mr. Hada stated that it is the Division’s responsibility to participate in key events throughout the state because the OHMVR Division is the primary leader in OHV recreation in California.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS VI (D) 1 THROUGH 9

- Bruce Miller
- Dave Pickett, District 36 Motorcycle Sports Committee
- John Stewart, California Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs
- Ed Waldheim, Friends of Jawbone, Friends of El Mirage and California Trail Users Coalition
- Randy Jordan, Sunbuggie Fun Rentals
- Tom Tammone
- Randy Banis

A brief discussion was held regarding possible locations for the May Commission meeting. Deputy Director Conlin reminded everyone about the date change for the October meeting. The meeting will be held on October 28 and the tour on October 29, 2015.

Commissioner Lueder made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Commissioner Slavik; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.