

**Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association
Board Meeting Minutes**

Woodstock, Georgia

(Board members attended in person or virtually due to COVID-19)

October 30, 2021

Meeting brought to order: Saturday October 30, 2021 at 9:10 am EST

Attending Board Members:

All Chapters were represented by Board attendees except the following:
Chattahoochee Valley Area SORBA (CVA), Myrtle Beach Area Mountain Bike Association,
Ocmulgee Mountain Bike Association (OMBA), Southeast Gorgia SORBA, SORBA
Chattanooga, and West Alabama Mountain Bike Association

Attending Executive Committee Members:

Mark Arcelle (President, MS Rep.), Mary Anne Swanstrom (Vice President), Terry Palmeri
(Executive Director), Kyle Ragan (virtually) (TN Rep.), Angela Allen (Treasurer, GA Rep),
Tom Nelson (AL Rep.), Peter Davis (FL Rep). Jason Scott (virtually) (SC Rep.), and Jim
Grover (Secretary, NC Rep.)

Attending Staff Members: Philip Darden, Assistant Director

Guests:

Anthony Duncan, Director of IMBA Local Programs
Michelle Mitchell, Southern Director for Recreation, Wilderness, Heritage Trails and
Volunteer Partners

Action Items:

Motion to approve Minutes of prior meeting (May 22, 2021)

M Arcelle: Motion to Approve

RAMBO: Second

The Motion passed unanimously

Motion to approve Back To Dirt Conservancy (BTD Conservancy) as a new SORBA
Chapter

SORBA []: Motion to Approve

Misfits: Second

The Motion passed Unanimously

Motion to approve South Mississippi Trail Alliance as a new SORBA Chapter

Northwest Trail Alliance: Motion to Approve

CAMP: Second

The Motion passed Unanimously

Introductory Comments – Danny Hendrigues – Mayor of Woodstock, GA, Michael Caldwell - presumptive next Mayor of Woodstock, and Stacy Brown – Visit Woodstock

Call to Order - Mark Arcelle

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Introduction of and Vote for new SORBA Member Chapters

Charlie Storm introduced the Back To Dirt Conservancy from Sanford (Lee County), NC and Zach McRaney introduced the South Mississippi Trail Alliance from Natchez MS,. Separate Motions were made and unanimously passed to approve both organizations as new Chapters of SORBA. Terry stated this brings SORBA's total Chapters to 49.

2. SORBA Budget for 2022 – Terry Palmeri

Terry reported some high-level numbers for the SORBA proposed 2022 Budget, including a relatively flat projected income of \$464,400 as compared to 2021. She shared the budget basics on screen and in a handout. Kaycee Armstrong will be included as contract labor in the new budget, not as a payroll expense.

3. IMBA – SORBA Agreement – Terry Palmeri

Terry reported that per her update at the prior May Board meeting, we have basically concluded the renegotiation of the terms of our ongoing agreement with IMBA for shared revenue and services. She disclosed the new proposed draft agreement and asked for all members to review quickly so we can make any necessary adjustments and ultimately vote to approve the new agreement before the year-end.

Highlights of the agreement include: IMBA has agreed to pay SORBA's 2022 insurance premium (due early 2022) out of the new 60/20/20 SORBA income split; SORBA's budget for 2022 includes a monthly prospective insurance accumulation amount so that in 2023 and thereafter, SORBA will directly take on its insurance payment responsibility. In 2022 SORBA will begin paying most all of its own expenses; SORBA will still share IMBA's payroll services and pay IMBA for its payroll and the IMBA Local services provided by IMBA for SORBA Chapter members.

Two questions were raised from the floor suggesting amending the draft agreement to include mutually equivalent clauses for both parties as to the perpetual nature of the agreement and rights to discontinue the agreement.

The members agreed to make the suggested changes to the draft agreement, distribute same for review next week, and then hold a telephonic meeting on December 1, 2021 to vote on the final changes.

4. IMBA Local – Anthony Duncan

Availability of spot Insurance for events and for hospitalization cover.

Updates to Membership Platform.

Now you will be able to join several different IMBA/ SORBA organizations in the system;

Monthly memberships payments will no longer be available – annually only;

New Chapter dashboard;

2022 will see heavy education focus to get information to the Chapters along with in-person education.

5. Insurance Update/ Discussion. – Terry Palmeri and Philip Darden

Via the new IMBA agreement and 2022 budget, SORBA's insurance will be fully funded through 2023. Average cost per Chapter is approx. \$1,000 or \$5.50 per individual member. Our insurance broker suggests the premium will not rise due to the 2 suits settled this past year because they occurred over 5 years ago.

Key risks include death or other serious injury transporting materials/ equipment to the trail.

It is imperative for each Chapter to be sure any Chapter Sponsored activities on the trail are covered and that non-Chapter sponsored trail activity is CLEARLY IDENTIFIED AS NOT the responsibility of the Chapter. This should include minutes of Chapter meeting(s) where new MOUs and sponsored activity is acknowledged/ approved and any known non-sponsored activities are specifically not approved as Chapter sponsored activities. Any forum discussions or website notices of activities should also be clear as to sponsored or non-sponsored activities.

Discussion followed on use of waivers and types of waivers available for various activities. All Chapters should also have MOU's in place and SORBA's Operational Manual and practices should be followed to reduce our risks.

We continue to work towards new Recreational Use Statutes in the various States to reduce exposure and insurance costs long term.

Overall risk management is an ever-growing concern and need for all Chapters!

6. Annual Report – Philip Darden

Membership: Currently just over 9,300 individual members. This is flat growth but the heavy increases in the prior 2 years have been well maintained.

Submitting regular Chapter highlights is very important for the organization to get its story(s) out to the members, and our current and potential sponsors/ donors.

7. US Forest Service Update - Michelle Mitchel, USFS Southern Director for Recreation, Wilderness, Heritage Trails and Volunteer Partners

Michelle reported on new funding for educational resources, upcoming new workshops for trail user groups and volunteers to help assess trails in the National Forest and to as well as several related programs.

8. Future Meetings

SORBA Spring Summit - Tallahassee FL _March 17-20; Board Meeting Sat. 19th

Other items

- General discussion about “one-wheeled” boards on trails and their motorized and/ or ADA status. It was suggested if these are an issue on any trails, it should become a discussion with the land manager to make them aware and get their guidance. Deb added that for the FS, ADA accessibility is distinguished by something used daily (in the home) for mobility.

Adjourned. Mark Arcelle formally adjourned the meeting at 11:31