

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

**Knoxville, TN
November 4, 2022**

Meeting brought to order: Friday November 4, 2022 at 9:09 am EST

Attending Board Members:

All Chapters were represented by Board attendees during the roll call except the following: Back to Dirt Conservancy, Florida Mudcutters, Myrtle Beach Area Mountain Bike Association, Northeast Georgia SORBA, Pensacola Off-Road Cyclists (PORC), Shoals MTB, South Alabama Mountain Biking Association (SAMBA), Southeast Georgia SORBA (SEGA), and West Alabama Mountain Biking Association (WAMBA).

Attending Executive Committee Members:

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

Attending Staff Members: Philip Darden, Assistant Director; Kaycee Armstrong, Operations Manager

Guests:

Anthony Duncan, IMBA Local Director;
Jali Fernando, IMBA Local Communications and Advocacy Specialist;
Michelle Mitchel, Southern Region Director of Recreation, Wilderness, Heritage and Volunteer Services;
Willie Jacobsz, Trail Forks Content Specialist and Outreach;
Randy Connor, Contour Trail Design;
Indya Kincannon, Mayor of Knoxville.

Action Items:

Motion to approve Minutes of prior meeting (March 19, 2022)
Huntsville Area Mountain Bike Riders: Motion to Approve
Upstate SORBA: Second
The Motion passed unanimously

Motion to Appoint Philip Darden as SORBA Executive Director
Southwest North Carolina: Motion to Approve
RAMBO: Second
The Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Elect Nominated Slate of Executive Committee Officers:

- a. Mary Anne Swanstrom (Vice President)
 - b. Chris Doane, Vice President
 - c. Dan Thraikill, Treasurer
 - d. Jim Grover, Secretary & North Carolina Rep
 - e. Tom Nelson, Alabama Rep
 - f. Stuart Thiel, Georgia Rep
 - g. Peter Davis, Florida Rep
 - h. Mark Arcelle, Mississippi Rep
 - i. Heather Fletcher, South Carolina Rep
 - j. Kyle Ragan, Tennessee Rep
- Mountain Bike Atlanta: Motion to Approve
Florida Assn. of Singletrack Riders FASTR: Second
The Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Approve change in SORBA's Bylaws to allow multiple Chapter Memberships
Piedmont Fat Tire Society: Motion to Approve
SORBA Orlando: Second
The Motion passed unanimously.

Call to Order - Mark Arcelle

Roll Call - Jim Grover – Quorum Confirmed

AGENDA ITEMS

1. 2023 Budget – Terry Palmeri and Kaycee Armstrong

At 2022 year-end, SORBA will have an approximately \$95,000 - \$100,000 surplus. The meeting handout package includes the 2023 Budget plan.

Now working on 2023 insurance coverage and speaking to at least 2 potential carriers. One is an event specialist. There were no known new claims arising in 2022.

Sponsorship donations are increasing as more emphasis is given to them.

The Executive Committee will undertake a Strategic Planning session in December. The survey conducted amongst the Board members earlier this year will be a guide to our goals and aspirations for the Strategic Plan.

Terry suggests that more educational programs are needed for riders and land managers. The first US Forst Service Trail Assessment Training program is a case in point reflecting high demand for the training. (70 applicants vied for the 25 available slots.)

2. Comments from Angella Allen

Angella is stepping down as SORBA's Treasurer of almost 20 years. She expressed her amazement of the growth of the organization over that time – now at 10,000 members - and the strength and opportunity that SORBA now has to continue its important support for its Chapter members due to its strong continuity over these years.

3. IMBA Local Updates – Anthony Duncan, IMBA Local Director

- Anthony introduced Jali Fernando, IMBA Local's new Communications and Advocacy Specialist.
- The Chapter Leader Dashboard continues to be revised with new tools to help manage membership for all Local Chapters. The New Membership renovation will need some additional fixes. Hopefully this work will be completed this year
- Dig-In campaign – applications can now be made
- New Trail Counter grant will again be available with use of trail counters, software and related training for 6 months.
- 2023 Trail Accelerator grants will have a June 2023 application date.
- IMBA will also have a 50% discount program for trail design services by Trail Solutions.

4. Future Meetings

2023's Spring Summit and Board meeting location will be in **Old Fort, NC on April 12 through the 16th**. Encourage your Chapter leaders and members as well as your land managers to take advantage of the training and informational programs at the Summit and to visit some of the newest professionally designed and built trails in the Pisgah National Forest.

Adjourned. Mark Arcelle formally adjourned the meeting at 11:25