

**TOWN OF RED RIVER
SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 9, 2016**

1. CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting held May 9, 2016 at the Red River Conference Center. Mayor Calhoun called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Linda Calhoun	Present
Councilor Ben Richey	Present
Councilor Steve Cherry	Present
Councilor George Woerndle	Present
Councilor Dan Foley	Absent

3. PUBLIC INPUT OHV LAW (SB270)

Mayor Calhoun thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Mayor Calhoun explained the meeting is a public input for Senate Bill 270 that was adopted by the legislature in this session. It gives municipalities and the transportation commission the authority to allow permission to have an ordinance or resolution to allow operation of OHVS within the municipality. The Town is very supportive of this bill because this will be beneficial to tourism, which is our major economic driver in our community. We recognize some are opposed to it and we have been working diligently on trying to craft a map and regulations which will help everyone to adopt in this process. We want to make sure everyone is comfortable in doing so. We do not want to put our locals or tourist in a unsafe positions. We will look at all angles and want to hear what our community members have to say. Mayor Calhoun would like to give the opportunity of five people speak that are for and against. We will keep a list of the pros and cons. We will give each one three minutes to speak and other who may want to speak will be given an opportunity. Marshal Smith attended the Transportation Commission meeting and will answer questions.

Marshal Smith spoke that he attended the Transportation Commission meeting in Las Cruces. He had an opportunity to let the Commission know that Red River was interested in the process and to get this ordinance passed. Based on the public input from our website and e-mails and social media at the time it was overwhelming in favor. What has to happen to get this process passed is to have public input from the community. Have a safety traffic study which was just completed with an engineering group. Based on what is done tonight we need to craft a Town Ordinance that we can present to the Commission in June. We need to decide if we are going forward with this measure. If so, how do we create an ordinance that maintains the specialness of Red River for the tourist that have been coming to Red River for ages and grow it as having a safe ordinance that the community stands behind. The Commission wants us to provide them with an ordinance that says as a community that this is what the Town of Red River has to propose.

- Beau McDowell is in favor of the OHV. Having the Road Runner it gave him some insight of just how many people bring their ATVs to Red River. It has shown the

people that stay at the campground they have to trailer them in and out every time to the trailheads. With the right rules and ordinances it will be beneficial. Beau has been to other towns where ATVS are allowed and it seems the towns are benefiting from allowing ATVS in their town. People like coming to our Town and being able to use their machines on the trails. The Forest Service needs to maintain the trails for the tourism that comes to our community.

- Debbie Yates is in favor of the OHV laws. Debbie owner of the Tree Bears Lodge on Main Street and has a lot of guest who bring their OHVS to town and some people may have issues. Our main income is tourism and this is how we make a living. We have to work our butts off and this is not a get rich thing by allowing OHVS or for the Town. It is our survival. There are a lot of businesses that have gone out of business and are a lot of empty buildings. This worries her because she owns a home her in-town and a lodge. We have to move forward if not we will end up as a ghost town and she would not like her business or her home to devalue because of not enough income to Town. Debbie feels that if we have the right rules and regulations into place it will benefit the Town. Debbie knows there a lot of people in the Upper Valley that have homes whom live here part time and if they want to come to Town or have guest come to the grocery store or shop local, Debbie wants to be in business to be in business because your home is worth nothing if there is no Town to support it.
- Nina Elmshaeuser manages the Deer Lodge in Town. Nina sees that the majority of people do bring their ATVS to Town and trailing them to the trailheads. Nina likes the map and the ordinance. Nina thinks the surrounding areas like Albuquerque will be more inclined to come because of being so close. Her worries are where are they going to park their trailers? Nina is more concerned about the Upper Valley and Fourth of July Canon and the shoulder is so narrow. Will that be County or our police force? Will people who come to Town will they get a packet to inform them of the rules and regulations? Will this increase our margin income?
- Marshal Smith spoke about the packaging information with the lodges. David hasn't spoken to every lodge but the ones he's talked to, are more than willing to hand out information to them. We will have public information blitz with social media, the press our website and it will take a community effort. Working with Megan we will be coming up with a pamphlet that has a map on one side and rules on the other. There will be room for advertising if anyone would like to do that, and just asking the business and lodge owners in helping to get the information out to our guest. You will know when they come to your lodge that they are here for that reason.
- Unfortunately there is a misconception of traffic enforcement on the roads in the Upper Valley. There are only two roads that we of police officers and through the sheriff's office can conduct police matters which are Valley of the Pines Road and 578. The other roads are private roads. The speed limit signs and the other signs about OHVS are good suggestions because that is the only thing they are good for

because it's not legally binding to a police officer. We are looking at some options in that area for policing with the county and the sheriff's office which is more than happy to help us with that situation in the Upper Valley and the entire highway of 578.

Parking- David has spoken to other communities and their one regret is parking issue. Making the only parking will be allowed in the Municipal Parking Lot off of River Street. This is not set in stone but this is the plan so far. There is no ATVS allowed to be parked on Main Street. Then they are only five blocks away from the main ATV route.

- Linton Judycki from the Red River Ski Area is in favor of the OHVS all the way. Linton has grown up in Red River and OHVS have always been apart of the community and this will only enhancing guests experience and hopefully will bring more guest to Red River. Secretary Latham did a feasibility study on OHVS of users who came to the State and it brought in 2 million so I think there is proof that will bring more people to Town and having a better time. Were in support all the way to the end.
- Brian Waltz with the Rio Colorado Cabins ever since we received the e-mails we are in support. Regardless of whether or not we move forward we have the right to decide for ourselves is always a big thing. I know we have heard a lot from the lodge people and we see the trailers coming in and they should be allowed to use the trails and they want to use the trails. We have 5 acres of property and some have more and less. We have parking for trailers and we attract those crowds. We will always have a minority of people who break the law but were not going to let them ruin it for everyone else. We are going to have guest that are excited about it and some that are not excited. We are going to have to make those decisions about it as well with our businesses when the time comes. All the proposals and rules with the traffic maps I think this is going to be positive for our guest and our businesses moving forward. The parking at the trailheads is an issue and it is dangerous with all the vehicles on the road. We do support it as a lodge and a family in Red River.
- Dirk Neal owner of Red river Stables and Mountain Adventures. Steve and Dirk are in support of the OHVS and think its great idea to help the economy and the community. Watching over the years of ATVS coming to Red River is a great thing and if it's done properly it will be a great thing for Red River. Go with the flow and have an ATV escorted by a horse.
- Joe Wells is a resident of Red River with a concern about liability insurance with the OHVS? It's very important to have liability insurance when registering the vehicle. Is there any authority for checking that, besides making a few stops?
- Marshal Smith said regarding that the State law requires that you meet the financial responsibility act for mandates of any motor vehicle. They will have to have the minimum 2500-50000-10000 coverages for that vehicle. Unfortunately we can't address that or do a local permitting. We have been working with our local attorney

and are under limited circumstances do an administrative stop to ask for paper work that is required by the state. If we get the go ahead then that would be a tool and could randomly check paper work. This would make sure they have the statutory requirements.

- Karen Kelly spoke on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce and would like to echo what Debbie Yates said in regards to the OHVS. We don't want our business closing up. We would like our business to thrive and have our real-estate thrive and as the President of the Chamber is totally in support of this bill and everything to do with it. I've been in tourism all my life and ATVS and OHVS continue to become popular and it's going to get better and better for our community.
- Jack Kile had a comment as serving as a county commissioner in Texas. You're either going forwards or backwards, there is no standing still. There is no such thing. The neighboring towns are dying and have nothing to offer new on the tax rolls because of new things. Jack invites some guest to come to Red River to ride ATVS they loved it. They are both coming to buy homes in Red River. They asked what's going on with Main Street, everything is for sale? Jack believes this will perhaps bring new economy to Red River which that's what we want.
- Ellen Goins which own a couple of business in Red River. Some of you know Ellen's family is anti ATV but thinks this is a common sense approach to this OHV bill that is written so far. Ellen asked if it could go from the Old Pass to Fourth of July Canyon and then come down 578.
- Mayor Calhoun explained, the transportation commission would have control over the opening of road 578 which the municipality does not have the authority. The transportation commission would have to do so.
- Phil Yarbrough spoke that he was against the OHVS. Phil runs the Edelweiss Condominiums and is speaking for the owners. Some of the issues were issues that they have already had at the condos. This would be the speed on Mallette. This would not affect them because they already have lodge to trails for ATVS. Many owners have eight condos on Mallette and experience ATVS ripping down High Street and Mallette. How are we going to enforce this, when we can't enforce what we already have now? Rocks are being thrown into vehicles and sliding glass doors which are expensive to replace. We are going to see increased noise is 8A.M. late enough as a start time of ATVS. Phil had mentioned speed bumps on Mallette. They laws are the laws to keep the honest people honest and the ones who break the laws are the ones who are going to do it anyway. Phil thought there is going to be increased traffic on High Street and River Street, due to ATVS, how can we safely travel on bikes due to increased traffic. Fines for underage drivers.
- Bill Hafley is not apposed and has a challenge. If you look at the map Caribel is the last street you can go and Bill is .75 of a mile further including other lodges that have

adequate parking for ATVS. It's a fairness questions of why couldn't they come from River Ranch legally into Town.

- Mayor Calhoun explained the Town is working very diligently with the transportation commission and the impact studies of how the traffic comes into Highway 38. A of now they are seeing it as a danger because the right of way is not wide enough. The Forest Service is in favor of it and is talking of a campground connector from the campground into Town. We are working to see if that can happen. It may not happen the first year but we will continue to push it.
- Marshall Smith addressed the concern of the noise there are subsets of the speed limit is 20 MPH on all roads inside of Town. They are noisy but if you ride them at the set speed it may keep the noise down. Right now David is working with the Sheriff's office right now of how they can show an increased presence motoring without of being heavy handed. David thinks speed bumps are a bad idea for low pressured tires. They would be airborne in no time. We would have to get with the Forest Service to monitor it also. We can change the law at any time, if we see somethings are not working out we can go back and it can be changed by the Town Council. The hours of 8:00 is the time we allow the trash truck to empty dumpsters that's why we choose 8:00, but that is up to the community input if you want to change to a later time. This law was crafted to increase our tourism base not to run off our generational families that have been coming to Red River. We have to follow a time that will work for everyone with fun but quietness in the mornings. During the ski season we have parking fines of \$20.00 for who parks in no parking zone. David agrees the fines should be stiff and Judge Griffin will have to assess the fees for that.
- Darcy Banks is a resident of Red River that lives on High Street. Darcy is concerned about the noise and traffic and since they have to turn off their machines for horses she doesn't believe this will happen. How are we going to patrol that many people with our small police force? When someone goes flying by her house and she picks up the phone and their gone. What will happen? David explained there will have to be an increase part on the police force to inforce the law.
- Sherriff Jerry Hogrefe spoke on behalf of an Elected Official and what the Commission has discussed. The County is not going forward to adopt an Ordinance allowing this in all county trails around the whole community which is 2,205 square miles; they are not going to do that. However Commissioner Fambro and himself looked at this matter of the corridor of 578 that goes up to the Upper Valley. We discuss it and looked at what the Town of Red River wanted to do and discussed it with Secretary Church who is the Cabinet Secretary of the Traffic Safety Bureau. If the Traffic Commission is going to allow use of 578 to the end of Town limits, they would like the whole corridor used and not to exclude anyone. They would like it to be fair and consistent. The Forest Service requires a spark arrestor and if that continues to be enforced it would control some of the noise issues. The County wants to support the ordinance and work together.

- Jodee Thayer made a comment about the OHVs will need to pull over on High Street when encountering horses. Jodee doesn't think we should limit just to High Street because they do rides to the Red River Ski Area and other roads. Jodee would like to change the wording to state on any roads approaching horses to kill engines. Jodee would like it to open at Jayhawk instead of at the Wye because she feels they will pass through the stables and will be a potential problem.
- Marshal Smith stated when they did the map they talked about opening it at Jayhawk instead and has spoken to the Commission about this issue.
- Nick Church stated as far as the speed limit was concerned in Town what will be the speed limit be for 578? Mayor Calhoun stated the speed limit will be 20MPH for all OHVs everywhere. It will be up to the Commission on 578 but will probably be the same everywhere.
- Juan is the owner from Rio Grande Motorsports in Taos. Juan spoke about the 20 MPH some OHVs do not have a speedometer. David responded that there is an app for that and is highly accurate or an aftermarket that you can install. Jaun and Jeff his Canam rep would like to put together a Poker Run for side by sides and OHVS they have spoken to the Chamber of Commerce. This would draw people from Texas because that is where the Mud Nationals are held. Red River was their first destination. Potential for rental places in town may offer secondary insurance for when the tourist come to town, for the few days they are here.
- Susan Hogrefe asked about helmets if all riders would need to wear them. David said it would be up to the Council to decide.
- Mayor Calhoun asked if everyone could sign in because the Commission would like to see how many came to the meeting.

4. MOTION TO ADVERTISE:

a. ORDINANCE 2016-04 RED RIVER OHV

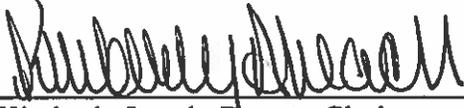
Councilor George Woerndle made a motion to advertise Ordinance 2016-04 RED RIVER OHV. Councilor Ben Richey second the motion. Mayor Calhoun called roll call vote. Councilor Steve Cherry, aye. Councilor George Woerndle, aye. Councilor Ben Richey, aye. Motion carried.

b. ITB#316-FISH STOCKING

Councilor Ben Richey made a motion to advertise ITB#316-Fish Stocking. Councilor George Woerndle second the motion. Mayor Calhoun called roll call vote. Councilor Steve Cherry, aye. Councilor Ben Richey, aye. Councilor George Woerndle, aye. Motion carried.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Calhoun adjourned the meeting at 7:07 P.M.



Kimberly Leach, Deputy Clerk



Linda Calhoun, Mayor