



## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2023, at 5:00 PST

Zoom: [Click here to access meeting.](#)

Meeting ID: 864 7805 6109 Passcode: 671350

TOPIC
Welcome & Introductions Called to order: 5:19PM
Agenda
Minutes: Approve October 2023 Minutes <i>Motion to accept the minutes as written, motion seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.</i>
Financial Reports – October 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Stifel</b> Mark Finnicum presented our investment accounts.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ November has been exceptionally good for the accounts.</li><li>○ Documents show the account workbook and the other one is both accounts put together, portfolio analysis.</li><li>○ This calendar year we are up \$19,000 which is up 8% mostly due to November.</li><li>○ We expect to see a strong stock market throughout this year.</li><li>○ Suggested to split the \$17,500 between two other investments, the Executive Committee voted to approve the recommendation from Stifel to move funds around.</li><li>○ Legacy fund is not doing as well as the Legal fund.</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Treasurer Report</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Bank account balances presented.</li><li>○ The 7 month and 15-month CD balances provided. 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of interest was paid.</li><li>○ Youth Committee Grant, the first grant was paid in October.</li><li>○ Budget Vs Actual is relatively the same.</li><li>○ Donations have slowed down.</li><li>○ <b>DISCUSSION:</b> We are at the 6-month point; we should look and see if any changes need to be made based on our position now in comparison to the budget. We need to discuss this with the National Directors, they imposed this budget. Remind the National Directors of the commitment made at the National Board Meeting.</li></ul></li></ul> <p><i>Motion to accept the financials as presented, motion seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.</i></p>
Public Lands



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Electric Motorized Bicycles (E-bikes) in National Forests – Randy reported on the following three current e-bike issues:

- 1) Arkansas “win” – BCHA and Arkansas BCH worked together, via public scoping comments, to convince the FS to drop its proposal to authorize Class 1 e-bike use on existing multi-use trails in the Upper Buffalo area (Ozark-St. Francis NF), which is important to horsemen and abuts the Upper Buffalo Wilderness. The FS carried forward its proposal, in an Environmental Assessment (EA), to add e-bike use on two other trail systems that carry less interest to horsemen.
- 2) BCHA submitted public comments on an EA for the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit to add Class 1 e-bike use on over 100 miles of existing multi-use trails that largely connect communities surrounding the lake. BCH members generally use instead trails at higher elevations like the Pacific Crest Trail, Tahoe Rim Trail and surrounding wilderness areas. Yet it's important we push the FS to provide a thorough and complete analysis of potential safety concerns and trail conflicts associated with adding e-bike use to the multi-use trail system, including the need for an education and enforcement plan.
- 3) The FS last week issued a draft Decision regarding the Tahoe NF Pines-to-Mines Trail EA, which would add Class 1 e-bike use to a 72-mile backcountry trail connecting the communities of Nevada City and Truckee. BCHA and BCH California submitted comments opposing the addition of e-bike use; their public comments were largely ignored in the Draft EA, while the Final EA goes to great lengths to address our concerns. There is a 45-day “objections period” (ending Jan. 2nd) and the Public Lands Committee will discuss next steps. Bills in Congress – An issue that BCHA promoted during February's Hike the Hill in Washington DC was the Volunteer Drivers Tax Appreciation Act. The bill was reintroduced this year (S.3020, HR3032) and would change the outdated IRS code that allows only 14 cents per mile driven to match the federal reimbursement rate (currently 65.6 cents/mile) going forward. Randy will reconnect with the bill's supporters to ask how BCHA might help to move this legislation forward.

Regional BCHA Public Lands Workshop – Randy asked that the EC consider adding funds to next year's budget for the conduct of several regional or state Public Lands Workshops. The purpose of the day-long workshops would be to brainstorm or work through critical public land issues with BCH volunteers, including proactive measures like preparing for e-bike proposals on trails important to horsemen. If we get a critical mass of BCH volunteers with interest in a range of public lands issues, the workshops would demonstrate another aspect of what BCHA does for its membership.



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### Committee Updates

- Committee chair meeting is scheduled for December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5:00PM, Pacific.
- New committee based on the meeting in Kalispel, the past chairs have been convened to serve in an advisory committee. The first project is to work on the Wyoming resolution that was passed. Has a good call last night. Also working on gathering historical data to put on the website.
- Chapter Support Grants committee had a meeting, and they have a new chair, Connie Long. Grant applications will be ready to go on the first of January. The convention is early this year, so the grant application dates have changed, due March 1, 2024.

### Updates from the Chairman

- **Newsletter**

- Printed newsletter is coming up the first of the 2024 year.
- We don't have any articles for the newsletter, and it is going to cost BCHA approximately about \$7,100.
- Due to financial restraints and lack of articles suggested to not have a

*Motion to not have a printed newsletter in January, monthly update only. Motion seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*

- **Michigan:** We had been trying to contact them with no response from anyone in Michigan. Mark met with them a few weekends ago with gravel boxes. After some discussion some of them want to be just a saddle club but they did not want to see BCH leave the state. Mark asked us to keep communication open and let us know how we can help.
- **At Large Membership:** We need to discuss bringing this back for states who do not have BCHA. The board is asked to think about brining At Large Membership back to discuss at the next board meeting.
  - This could potentially help the Expansion Committee as well.

**2024 National Board Meeting** – Everything is ready to go pending approval of the National Board Meeting budget.

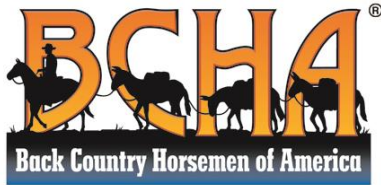
### **2025 National Board Meeting – Prescott Contract**

We have a contract from Prescott Resort, we have some time to get the final word back to them. We have April 14<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 held with the hotel.

### **No meeting in December 2023**

**Next Meeting:** January 23, 2024

**No other discussion.**



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Adjourn: 6:12PM, Pacific

**In Attendance:** Mark Himmel, Craig Ferdig, Kathy Young, Sherry Copeland, Craig Allen, Greg Schatz, Dan Key, Jim Allen

**Absent:** Tom Thomas

**Staff:** Randy Rasmussen, Michelle Wade

Meeting URL:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86478056109?pwd=emVEEd2xWYWJaRDBaMGQ2Sk9CRS95QT09>