



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

July 24th, 2024, at 5:00 PST

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

Meeting ID: 850 4219 4601 Passcode: 565007

Welcome & Introductions

Called to order at 5:00PM Pacific Time

Agenda

No additions to the agenda

Minutes: Approve June 2024 Minutes

Move to accept the minutes as provided, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Financial Reports – June 2024

The treasurer is absent, financials were provided, and the small changes were explained.

Motion to accept the financial reports as presented. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Public Lands

Progress on the MOU with BLM, they have sent us a draft and it looks like it only needs some small tweaks. We hope BCH states/chapters that don't currently have relations with local BLM districts can use it as a springboard for further discussions.

Working with PNTS working group on getting data from the Forest Service on their challenges on hiring and retaining recreation-related employees. Senate Appropriations Committee is aware of the problem, knows of our work and has offered to support our info requests to the agency.

Southern Appalachian Watershed Resiliency Project is a proposal that applies to multiple national forests in five states. Currently in public scoping. Worked via Randy Brown, regional BCH public lands chair, to develop recommended talking points that BCH chapters can use in their comment letters. We view this as a potential opportunity to get forest staff to dialogue with chapters about trail sustainability and to document and formalize important non-system (legacy) trails, as many of these forests have never done comprehensive trails planning.

Working with BCH Oregon on public comments for draft EA by Deschutes NF for their e-bike pilot program. Forest followed recommendations of Deschutes Trails Coalition in proposing only trails that are either paved or purpose-built for bike use (and not important to equestrians). We support this concept and will be submitting comments with questions about implementation, monitoring and enforcement, including reporting of safety conflicts.

Bikes in the Wilderness Bill is back in the Senate but it isn't going anywhere given the current makeup of the Senate and administration. AHC reached out to Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, which also does not support the bill. AHC volunteered to write a letter to Senator Lee and circulate this letter to relevant horse council(s) while BCHA will circulate to all Utah chapters to sign on against the bill. Other allies, including IMBA do not support this bill.



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Committee Updates

The Committee Chair meeting was last week. Chairs gave updates on what they are doing and what their plans are.

The Light on the Land pack trip: 2 Colorado members wanted BCHA to pay for the trip including food and they also want BCHA to pay for training in other states. They were denied and they backed out of the trip. In addition, a couple from Montana also did the same thing.

Updates from the Chairman

Conversation with the Forest Service on the Challenge Cost Share. They don't want to give out money and they are afraid of BCHA getting hooked on money from the Forest Service.

Chairman is waiting for Brenda for further conversations.

Hawaii is very interested in getting BCHA started in its state.

The National Board Meeting Policy Draft was sent to the EC to make all National Board Meeting work the same. We will revisit this document in September when things slow down for EC members, and they have time to review it better.

Next Meeting: August 27th, 2024

National Directors Call Tomorrow June 26th, 2024

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:49PM Pacific Time

Attendance Required: Mark Himmel, Craig Ferdig, Sherry Copeland, Jim Allen, Brad Pollman, Dana Chambers, Heather Cox

Absent: Greg Schatz and Kathy Young

Staff: Randy Rasmussen, Michelle Wade

Meeting URL:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85042194601?pwd=UDLNavDUQkKcSnBDem8QB4LD R71jAX.1>