

Meeting Notes 2019
National Board of Directors
Agenda
Crown Plaza, Asheville, North Carolina

Sunday, April 7

4:00 PM -5:30 PM- New Board Member Orientation- Mitchel & Roan

6:00 PM -Meet & Greet

Wyoming new Director, Heather Schultz & New Grants committee chair Karen Saner attended the New Board Member Orientation. The Orientation has been added a couple of years ago. This is for new Board member and give them an idea of what to expect and what is expected of them.

Monday, April 8

7:30 AM - 4:00 PM- BCHA Country Store

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM-National Board Business Meeting

Chairman Freddy Dunn called meeting to order after roll call. There was 30 out of 32 state represented at the meeting.

Welcome - Freddy Dunn, Chair

Pledge to Flag- West Henderson High School ROTC Color Guard

National Anthem-Joy Payne

Roll Call-Sherry Copeland, Treasure

Introductions- Freddy Dunn

Memorials to Lost Members-Mike McGlenn

Meeting Etiquette- Freddy Dunn

Host Welcome - BCH North Carolina- Amanda Buscemi, BCHNC

State of **BCHA** - Freddy Dunn

Agenda Adjustments - Freddy Dunn

Motion to Accept/Revise Business Meeting Agenda - Freddy Dunn

Consent Agenda

- Minutes 2018 BCHA National Board Correspondence
- April 2018 - March 30, 2019 Executive Committee Minutes

A consent agenda as represented which was in the member's area on the web--site. I reviewed the agenda before the NBM and had no issues.

Consent Agenda.

1. Minutes 2018 BCHA National Board.
2. Correspondent April to March 30, 2019
3. Executive Committee minutes.

The Executive minutes where pulled for discussion.

Consent Agenda was approved, minus the Executive minutes.

Some board member had issues with not having a hard copy even though the information has been on the member's site for over a month. The **Executive minutes where approved.**

Committee Reports:

Public Lands – Jerry Bentz

- Looking having regions (5 Possibly) based on Forest Service Regions

- The Rocky Mountain Region would be Jim Allen
- Every state needs at least 1 one person on the committee

Expansion – Truman Prevatt, chair FL

- New interest in the North East and Texas. One of the main things needed when trying to start a new BCHA organizations is people wanting to take a leadership role.
- Education – Craig Allen, Chair UT
- Webinar on BCHA leadership rolls was a success with a good response across the Country. Planning on more Webinar on subject such as memberships, fundraising, working with agencies, and other organizations.
- Updating members area on Web-site adding more info. For our members.

Fundraising - Ginny Grulke, KY

- Donation from Spur, Trails Forever Fund and the Legacy Fund.
- The Spur program is the Chairman letter that is sent out a couple times a year.
- The Trails Forever program is where you can make monthly donation of \$5, \$10 or whatever you want and the amount can be taken out of credit card by a secure source like pay pal. Both Karen and I are donating to BCHA this way and have had no problem.
- Legacy Fund Program
- This is a fund that is being built so BCHA can use the interest off it for funding. These funds are being raised by Cash donation, leaving BCHA in your Will. Leaving Stock or Bonds to BCHA. By the end of the meeting the Legacy Fund had raised around \$ 75,000. The goal for the end of the year is \$ 100,000.

Volunteer Hours - Leean Sahagun, AZ

- Looking into making the process easier possibly combining some of the entry. Also looking into an App. That members can use.
- 30 State reported
- 91,416 Basic Hr.
- 43,391 Skilled Hr.
- 10,008 Recon Hr.
- Personal Travel 105,7413 miles
- Stock Hauling. 666,815 miles
- Stock days ?
- 322,125 Total hr.
- Value of \$ 12,105,284. Dollars.
- The committee was expecting some more to be coming in.

Media & Marketing - Mark Himmel, MO

- Working on revamp of web-site. Facebook is still how a lot of the BCHA is communicating. More and more folks are using its getting BCHA message out to more non BCHA Members.

Membership - Darrel Wallace

- 70% of Washington State renewed on-line in a pilot program.
- The list of members needs to be sent through the states from each of the chapters and then go to national
- More and more recruiting on-line

Public Liaison - Don Saner

- MOU with National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Bureau Land Management. American Hiking Society.
- Have been approached by the US Army Corp of Engineers about a MOU committee is working on this. Also looking into a MOU. With US Fish & Wildlife.
- Advocacy Partnerships is off to a good start rebuilding this program. This program look for like-minded organizations that will pay dues to BCHA with certain benefit provided by BCHA. The committee has gotten most of the old members signed back up, bring in close to \$1,300. The goal is to be bringing in \$ 3,000 by years end.
- BCHA pays dues to these falling organizations.
- America Horse Council.
- American Trails.
- Partner's for National Scenic Trails
- Leave no Trace.
- National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance.
- These organizations have may benefit for BCHA. Such as Funding from grants, education Webinar, representing BCHA. on equestrian issue in Washington DC.
- Keeping BCHA informed on trail issues.
- And the last is organizations that BCHA has a agreement with we don't pay dues to them and BCHA doesn't charge any dues to them.
- The Wilderness Society.
- Endurance Riders of America
- Equestrian Land Conservation Resources.
- Working on program with BSA, FFA, 4-H

Grants - Karen Saner

- For the Grants please take pictures before during and after all projects.
- This is a new committee within BCHA that has replace the Education Foundation.
- There duties is to collect grant applications and then determine who will receive grants.
- You have to be a BCHA Chapter or State organization or be affiliated with a BCHA organizations to apply.
- The committee will also be providing grants information for state that are for that state only.

Legacy Fund & Legacy Society Presentation Steve McClintock

Treasurer's Report Discussion and Proposed Budget Discussion – Sherry Copeland

- BCHA came in under budget and was able to put \$5,000 into saving according to our Business Plain.
- Each state needs to have its on EIN number
- Treasurer's Report and 2020 budget was approved.

Headquarters Report – Erica Fearn

- Mainspring is the Management Company that sets up the National Board Meeting, Erica Fearn

Facebook Presentation – Mark Himmel

- Chapters can use it a fundraising platform as well as gaining additional membership and outreach.

- In order to fundraise need to have a tax exempt number

Strategic Plan/Business Plan – Freddy Dunn, Darrell Wallace, Sherry Copeland

Governance Policy Changes - Darrell Wallace

- A lot of discussion on 1 vs 2 directors. The basic thoughts were that though 1 is cheaper there would be a lot of mentoring opportunities lost and if a state has differing views on an issue that could be better represented. Committee work and communication back to the state and local chapter would be better represented with 2 Directors. The Motion to remain at 2 passed.
- The resolution to only have 1 Director instead of 2 **FAILED**.
- The resolution to send a letter to the USFS on asking the USFS to use it full tool box including minimum tool requirement on trails that have that been closed because of an event like major fires, wind event. **PASSED**.

Nomination Committee Report & Candidate Introductions – Dennis Serpa

- Nominations for non-director position on the board included
 - Jim McGarvey
 - Brad Pollman
- Executive committee
 - John Chepulis
 - Latifia Rodriguez
 - Yvette Rollins
 - Dennis Serpa

Utilizing the Website and Members Only Website

- The BCHA “members only” <https://bcha.site-ym.com/login.aspx> page has a lot of information. Your login is your first and last name with no space. Capital first letter, last name is not capitalized.

Member Benefits

- There are a lot of products and services available at a discount to BCHA members. So it is very important for chapters to get their membership information to the state treasure so it gets sent to national. Including Air Med and Equisure.

The next National Board Meeting will be in Kanas City Embassy Suites and Breakfast is included April 20-22, 2020; free shuttle to the airport

4:45 PM - 9:00 PM-Offsite Event

Tuesday, April 9

Public Lands Workshop: Building Partnerships, Growing Opportunities

Welcome and opening remarks Freddy Dunn and Randy Rasmussen, (BCHA Public Lands)

Building Partnerships, Growing Opportunity.

- The subject of the day was Collaborative efforts.
- Implementing the 2016 Trails Stewardship Act. A panel from Region 8 Chris Spori director of Recreation, Heritage, Wilderness and Volunteers.
- Debbie Cohen Trails Program Mgr.

Implementing the 2016 Trails Stewardship Act - Chris Spori, R8 Dir., Rec., Heritage, Wilderness and Volunteers; Debbie Caffin, RB Trails Program Mgr.

- Forest Planning: Why Public Participation in Critical - Michelle Aldridge, Forest Planner and Alice Cohen, Pisgah-Nantahala NF
- "Shared Stewardship" is the Forest Service term for the program. This is what terminology BCHA should use in conversations with their local FS.
- Some FS regions have a volunteer coordinator position, and these people are a great asset. If there is not one you should advocate for that position if you wish.
- Looking at the use of App for trail condition. It is a great way to provide information in real time back to Land Managers.
- Youth volunteer hours are important to record

Panel: Case Study on Collaboration, Nantahala-Pisgah Forest Plan Revision

Julie White, **IMBA/SORBA (Bike/Rec.)**

Lang Hornthal, EcoForesters (Forestry)

Kevin Colburn, Amer. Whitewater (Rec.)

Jill Gottesman, The Wilderness Society

Deirdre Perot, BCH NC (Horse/Rec.)

- Panel discussion was what the Trails Act can do for it partner BCHA need to remind your local forest of the Act.
- Make sure you are tracking work you do as we know the forest service is not receiving any extra funding for this program. We need to contact our legislator to get more funding for trails.
- I (Don) did ask the question on the part of the Act. That deals with the Outfitters & Guide program as I know there were concerns in some of WY. Chapters. The answer I got was if a forest has a good program running that they will not be forced into this program.
- The big take-a-way here is we need to be engaged at all levels. Participation is Critical! Let them know what you want and use partnership.
- There was 5 members representing different user and conservation organizations there was 12 other members not on this Panel They been serving on this board for 7 years.
- This was a lot like what WY went through in it WPLI process. I (Don) heard them talk a lot about Collaboration but I (Don) didn't see much everyone pretty much talk about their special interest. This kind of effort need members that are willing give and take.

Partnership with Great Smoky Mountains. NP.

- Christina Hoyer, G.S.N.P.
- Christina talked about the importance of BCHA and the work they do on the trail system and the pack support that BCHA provide for them.

- Lots of discussion on how G.S.N.P. has a window in the spring where they let chain saw use in the Great Smoky Wilderness area. They do this every year but still go through the Minimum Tool Requirement process.

Tom Thomas BCHA NC. Talk about the import role NC BCHA plays in the maintenance on the Appalachian Trail.

- Not all of the Appalachian Trail is open to saddle and packstock so by use stock folks are seeing the good we do. NC BCHA also provides stock support to numerous trail and conservation organizations a lot of the work being done would be harder and less miles of trail would not be able to be cleared if it wasn't for the stock support provide by NC BCHA.
- Mike Passo from American Trail spoke about the work they do in trying to bring all trail users to fight for more trail dollars, put are difference behind for the betterment of trails.
- BCHA is a dues paying to this organization. They put out a monthly magazine and are always looking for articles. Good chance for chapter to blow their own horn on the work we do.

In Partnership with Great Smoky Mountains National Park - Christine Hoyer, Great Smoky Mountains NP

- The Appalachian Trail and Why Equestrians Are Vital to its Maintenance - Tom Thomas, BCH NC, NCHorse Council
- Collaborative Trails Partnership, Mark Twain NF - Sherry Copeland, BCH
 - Ideas for partnerships and fund raising included custom license plates, and sponsors companies (I (Heather) thought of Sierra Trading Post for the National Meeting in 2021)

Keynote: Breaking Down the Silos – Mike Passo, American Trails

- This was a great conversation with working with all other trail users and groups. Together we as trail users can provide more collaboration on creating, and maintaining trail systems.
- Many times saddle stock users are completely left out of the conversation.
- It was a great example how if we become partners with the other user groups they will help get us a seat at the table or even help represent our interests.

Wrap UP - Randy Rasmussen

Wednesday, April 10

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM-BCHA Country Store

9:00 AM - 4:30 PM- National Board Business Meeting,

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM- Silent/Live Auction & Social

6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Annual Banquet, Passing of Gavel, Awards, Live Auction

9:00 AM

Call to Order and Announcement – Freddy Dunn

9:15 AM- Noon

Committee Breakouts

Discuss the opportunities in the coming year and how each committee will tackle them. Each committee met in separate rooms and I (Heather was met with the Public Lands Committee). This committee is going to have regular conference calls.

Every committee has a Google Drive

Each committee will have a conference call-in number for meetings

12:00 PM – 1:00PM- Lunch

1:00 Board back in session-Freddy Dunn

1:05 PM -2:45 PM

Committee Reports

- Public Lands – Jerry Bentz
- Expansion – Truman Prevatt
- Education – Craig Allen
- Fundraising - Ginny Grulke
- Volunteer Hours - Leean Sahagun
- Media & Marketing - Mark Himmel
- Membership - Darrel Wallace
- Public Liaison - Don Saner
- Grants - Karen Saner

Motion to accept the recommendations

2:45 PM – 3:15 PM – Break

3:15 PM – 4:00 PM

State Report – Freddy Dunn

BCHA Logo use.

- The BCHA official logo has to be used as it was designed, the ratio has to stay the same and Copperplate Gothic Bold is the closest to the font. Each state is allowed to place their state name under the logo.
- Cannot change the Letters with the stock moving through it. Name of chapter or state under BCHA but must be smaller.

Future National Board Meeting Proposal - Erica Fearn and Heather Schultz

- Wyoming has been approved for the 2021 National Board meeting. Heather did a great presentation. The Host city will be Cheyenne.
- Heather will be working out the details with BCHA management. So folks we wanted it now we got it. So please help put Wyoming best foot forward. Heather will be asking for help as this moves forward.

- Cheyenne is proposed because of the facilities available and location near Denver Airport.

4:00 PM – 4:30

Elections and Results

- Chairman Darrell Wallace. WA.
- Vice Chair Sherry Copeland MO.
- Treasurer Mark Himmel. Montana
- New Executive Committee members
- Brad Pollman Montana
- Tiff. Rodregis. Co.

These officers & committee members have my full support. There a good mixes of old and new. Both Darrell. & Sherry have come up through the BCHA ranks as Darrell was are past Vice Chair and Sherry are past Treasurer. Both did a great job and I have full confidence in all that was elected.

4:30 PM - Meeting Adjourns

6:00-10:00 PM –

Silent/Live Auction & social, Banquet, Passing of the Gavel, and Awards

Don- Again I want to thank you all for letting me represent Wyoming at the National Board meeting.

Heather-It was a wonderful experience with a great group of people. Thank you to Don for helping mentor me and BCHA Wyoming for the support of my attendance at the meeting.

Role of the BCHA Public Lands Committee

1. The Public Lands Committee exists to work on public land issues as they pertain to the five principles of BCHA.
2. The Public Lands Committee will assist the BCHA state organizations when called upon to help with public lands issues. Public lands are defined as all publicly owned lands not just federally managed lands.
3. The Public Lands Committee will provide the State Organizations with the resources and education to help them better understand how to deal with public land issues.
4. The Public Lands Committee will promote cooperation with all public land managers, as well as with those organizations with whom we share a common interest.
5. The committee shall help screen issues coming from states and recommend those issues that could have Regional or National precedence or require response from the National Organization and pass those issues on to the Director of Public Lands and Recreation.

How the BCHA Public Lands Committee is organized

1. Communication is very important for the public lands committee to be successful.
2. There shall be one chairman of the public lands committee, who is responsible for the functions and duties outlined in Governing Policies 4.12.7.
3. The chairman of the Public Lands Committee and the Director of Public Lands and Recreation will work together to ensure that the Public Lands Committee is working to best serve the members of BCHA.
4. The United States shall be broken into regions. The regions will be primarily based on Forest Service Regions but other factors will be considered.
5. Each region shall have a chair. The regional chairs will report to the chair. The states in each region shall have at least one member each on their regional public lands committee. Each region shall work with its members on local and regional public lands issues.
6. Each month the regional public lands chairs will meet with the BCHA Public Lands Committee chair on a conference call. The purpose of the meeting is for the regional chairs to share what is going on in their regions with each other and to influence as a group which items BCHA should be handling as opposed to being taken care of at the local level. It also is a time for the BCHA public lands chair to share with the regional chairs what is going on with public lands that they should be aware of and pass on to the rest of their committee. Communication is everything.
7. Regional public lands groups are encouraged to meet on a monthly basis.
8. A member of the Public Lands Committee does not have to be a member of the BCHA National Board.

Starting Point for Splitting BCHA into Regions

Far West Region - WA, OR, ID, CA, AK

South West Region - NV, UT, AZ, NM

Rocky Mountain Region - MT, CO, ND, SD, WY

North East Region - MO, IA, KS, MN, WI, IL, MI, IN, NY

South East Region - AL, GA, FL, SC, NC, VA, TN, KY, AR - *who from VA*

This is just a starting point for the regions. Any state may decide to participate in a different region contiguous to itself. This is a living list and may be changed at any time.