

**BCHI State Board Meeting
April 11, 2008**

Raenette Didier, BCHI Chairman opened the meeting at 0845. All chapters were present except Salmon River, because Val went to test out the helicopter flight to Spokane for a heart stint. Minutes were read from the November meeting and approved as read.

Treasurer's report was presented by Gretel Kleint. There was a question on the life flight expense shown; the income for life flight membership was shown under miscellaneous. Interest from the money market for this period was \$315.60. Norm moved to accept the current year budget report seconded by Ken; motion passed. Raenette asked for bills to pay. We have 77 paid to register for the convention. Out of this income, Gretel will pay the bills for dinner, lunch, breakfast, decorations, coffee pot, packets, and building rental. Raenette had an expense for business cards for T. Allen Hoover for \$15, plus a bill for several awards to be given at the convention for \$200. Terry motioned to pay the bills, Susan seconded. Motion passed. Debbie Gulo and Lorraine volunteered for the audit committee to review the books.

Agenda : Forest Service Comment Period – how to make your voice heard

Sherrri Lionberger gave a short presentation on why the Forest Service needs to hear from you, the information you need to receive so that you can comment, and how to make your comments heard.

Agenda item: Legislative contact – T. Allen Hoover

Mr. Hoover had to cancel at the last minute. He has been in touch with Bernie on a couple issues, but they weren't necessarily BCH interests. Robin noted that nothing has happened with the memorium and we will wait until we get a bill into the legislature to throw our support behind it. Didier's and Lionberger's met with T. Allen Hoover after the November meeting and talked about some sideboards for him. He did ask business cards so he could meet with legislators and leave them a card. He had planned to speak about how we should react when there is a bill in front of the legislature so we can connect better. We need to be cohesive in our response. Let Bernie know if you see anything from Mr. Hoover.

Agenda: Annual Elections (Val – replaced by Raenette in his absence)

Bernie's national director slot is open this year as well as the alternate slot. Rod Parks would take on the national director role. Terry Steiner would serve as alternate. Raenette is willing to take on the chairman again, and Phil the vice chair. Voting to be later in the day.

Agenda: State Website

Connie Glass has been our web master volunteer for numerous years and did a great job. The state website has been corrupted since early last summer and she is unable to fix it. Connie is retiring from the website! Raenette has quotes to fix our website, because this is a big job. We will also get timely updates, which was hard for Connie with a full time job. Quotes: #1 - \$4000-\$6000, plus \$200/month for maintenance. #2 - \$90 per page with 7 pages = \$630 total plus another \$70 – plus a yearly \$15 and a \$20 per month. This quote uses a California server instead of our free site donated through POVN. #3 – This gentleman understood we are a small non-profit and would set us up for \$750, but would make a \$250 donation back to us because he believed in our cause. There would also be a \$20-30 per month fee. Raenette was told that our

original info on the current website can be downloaded and transferred to the new site. (Mark Bogar noted that not having our website up caused them an additional 25-30 percent workload for the outdoor show.) Robin suggested the 3rd quote is best for us, and that we allow \$1000 in case it is a bigger job than he thinks. Question was asked about how we pay for it as it isn't in our current our budget. We would have to put that in the 08-09 budget. We also need to realize it will be \$20-30 per month. We have the money to cover these items. Terry moved and Bernie seconded that we accept option 3 as it is. Question asked if there is a term of contract. No, the website building is a one time deal, then we have the monthly maintenance fee. Motion passed.

Agenda item: Review proposals for convention voting.

These include the BCHI by-laws change, state convention and calendar proposal. Question asked about how many calendars to sell—it takes 1000 to break even. We had discussed 2000 to print and sell. We haven't determined how many each chapter should sell, because chapter size differs, but we do need to equitably distribute them. The chance to win monthly prizes helps sell them. The states that have done this have done well. Questions again asked about the reason for # of cash prizes, and we still need the grand prize figured out before tomorrow's convention. It was noted that next year the outdoor show will be move to the end of March because Easter moves around. March 27, 28 and 29 of 2009 will be the dates.

Agenda item: Ways & Means – Mark Bogar & Phil Ryan

We now have a grand prize horse trailer (basic 3-horse slant load) for the calendar and Mark is working on a second prize so the winner would have a choice. We would need a registration form that people mail in to be included in the drawings. This takes the administrative hassle away from us. (It would cost more to have the form and the return postage.) Phil would draw the name each month and get a check from Gretel to pay them. The calendar doesn't just make money – it gets the word on BCH out to others and it has a prize associated. This could keep us from raising state dues if we have this for a money maker. Mark asked directors to check with your chapters if this proposal passes and ask how many they can sell, to avoid guessing. Mark thinks the show is doing pretty good – lost some vendors and gained some others. There are fewer saddle and tack vendors, and we lost some due to fuel prices. They have more local vendors now with a total of 61. That pays for the show in booth prices and donations to the auction. The colt starting clinic is in the morning only – 4 competitors will do it all at once. The demos will start in the afternoon so there isn't the conflict. Other attractions are dog agility, kids archery shoot and diamond back shoot. We need to let the businesses that contribute such as the horse trailer, have an ad in our Broomtales. Budweiser is a new sponsor and they were very helpful and supportive.

Agenda item – Broomtales – Marilyn Rouser

She was complimented on Broomtales; it is very interesting to read. We also got articles into recent BCHA newsletter. The state secretary needs updated membership lists so that people get both newsletters. Question asked if we want something in the National newsletter – should it be sent to Marilyn or direct to the National. Send it to them and a courtesy copy to Marilyn. Terry said that everyone was solicited for donations to National – he sent a check and it was not acknowledged. Raenette will bring it up with the national directors and noted they have had those conversations before about getting “ThanksYou's” sent out.

Agenda item - Foundation Report – Jack Lamb

They had their annual meeting today and have \$6361.29 in the coffers. They reimbursed PBCH for the \$500 trailhead work last year. Several ambassador items will be auctioned off today with money going to the foundation. Boise, Selkirk and Sawtooth chapters do not have membership on this board; it would help to get information out to all. Jack explained how chapters can use the money on a request basis for educational things you are doing. It is best if you can expend the dollars and ask for reimbursement. They only meet once a year, but you can make requests at any point in the year. Grant money can be funneled through the foundation and back to you to be used for whatever you want. Election of officers – Sharon will take another 2-year term as secretary. Mitch Christiansen will be the new president.

Agenda item: National Directors / Public Lands Report – Bernie Lionberger

Each director from last year's National meeting was supposed to be on a committee. He was on the education committee and they were trying to get folks to the 9-mile training for LNT. They will pick someone to attend nationally and offer funding. He was also on the volunteer hour committee that was suggesting a national spreadsheet (send to the chapters again). A standard format is necessary for reporting at the National level. National hired a new Director of Development – Kandee Hartel. BCHA needs money; if she is successful (and she has been very successful for other organizations), it will help out tremendously. Kentucky will come in as a state organization this year, so we are growing – mostly on the east coast. A BCHA proposal from California is again the request to base # of directors on numbers of members.

Public Lands Report – tabled until tomorrow when Steve Didier is here. However, travel planning is an ongoing process throughout the FS and we need to be involved in that state-wide. Dale Schrempp noted there is a conference coming up in Boise later this month on Quiet Commotion – for non-motorized users. Dale's supervisor is considering sending him to the conference, sponsored by Wilderness Society, ICL, American Hiking, Biking Association, etc. www.quietcomotion.org Robin said this push for quiet trails is from the mountain biking association because they cannot ride in the wilderness. They are opposed to more wilderness, but want quiet areas. BCH should try to attend these meetings and make sure our interests are understood. Jo Heiss said the BLM in her areas is working on their travel management plan as well and their example is to be used through the rest of the BLM when they are complete. So – make sure you work with them as well, especially in the south.

Agenda item: Sportsman Caucus – Phil Ryan

We joined last year with 31 different groups. Of the 12 meetings he went to (20,000 members in the state of Idaho), most of the issues are dealing with sportsman and not horse use...this group deals with a lot of access issues for sportsmen. We have a voice with the group, and he has helped educate them on our mission and what we do. Raenette noted that one of the luxuries we have with more money at the state level is we can have attendance at these meetings and be members. We need to put a link to their website on our site. Robin moved that we continue our membership in this caucus; Phil Foster seconded. Motion passed.

Agenda item: Horse Council/Board – Norm Smith

Great Western Trail – the trail will be signed as soon as the FS places them on the ground. Horse Expo is next weekend in Nampa. Raenette attended the Horse Council meeting in Worley. It was appreciated that we had a board member attend. At some point they usually discuss volunteer hours on public lands. The Horse Council does not do on the ground work so

it was very interesting to them that we had all the volunteer hours. She suggested that people who attend these meetings need to know what we do as an organization.

Agenda item: Education Report – Dale Schrempp (Mary Beth Conger not present)

Dale has taught the defensive horsemanship for BCH which R1 requires for volunteers. He will teach at 3 chapters, and will also make sure saw certification is taught. He saw that Boise NF has a new stock management plan similar to Ninemile for employees. He wasn't sure it was used for volunteers. MTDC improved on the defensive horsemanship course with a new CD; Dale customizes the course towards BCH. Terry asked about reporting education hours – it is only the hours we spend educating others. Raenette noted that Twin Rivers down to Salmon River need to include their information to Dale to report out their activities.

Agenda item: Discussion/Vote – Budget for next year

Audit committee report – the budget was on the mark!!

The website will be added in to this budget for \$750 and \$20-30 for the monthly maintenance. Gretel noted that there may be an increase in board travel expenses due to people not putting in for the full costs. With fuel costs going up and a better budget available, it may go up. Robin suggested a change in the mileage rate based on the IRS rate. Raenette asked to table that until July when she is setting up time to work on our budget. Phil noted that we need to pay for the printing of the calendars up front if it passes tomorrow. Susan motioned to pass the projected budget from 08-09 as amended and seconded by Wayne. Motion passed.

Elections of Officers:

Slate of officers are: Chairman – Raenette, Vice Chair – Phil Ryan – Treasurer - Gretel Kleint, Secretary – Sherri Lionberger for now, but may move this year. Chapters need to ask their members – travel is paid!! National Director – Rod Parks – alternate National Director – Terry Steiner. It was moved to accept the slate by acclamation by Wayne Nisheck and seconded by Ken Nunguesser. Motion carried.

Agenda item - Chapter issues:

Wayne said there is a lot of discussion in the community on slaughter houses. This is a big concern for horse owners; some irresponsible owners are not taking care of their stock – especially with high hay prices. Question asked if the Horse Council was taking a stand on it – none known. If anyone has some ideas on this to bring to our partner organizations, please bring it to July meeting.

July meeting location: Hosting chapter will be Treasure Valley. They will receive \$50 to have a facility and continental breakfast. They can put on a lunch as a fundraiser if they choose. Date will be Saturday, July 12.

July agenda items are: if the calendar proposal passes, how many can your chapter sell; budget review; update from Mary Beth on recreation council; website update; and convention update if we pass the proposal.