

Back Country Horsemen of Idaho
State Directors Meeting - Lewiston, Idaho
March 27, 2009

Raenette Didier, Chairman opened the meeting at 0830 am and everyone introduced themselves. Secretary Dorothy Bailey held roll call. All chapters were present except Sawtooth and Eagle Rock. Minutes were read and approved as corrected. Motion to accept the minutes by Gary Towle and seconded by Kathy Kerley. The 2008 BCHI Annual Report, Service Hours and volunteer Hours Report Summary will be posted on the BCHI website. Raenette announced the BCHI 2009 state membership is 890 compared to 848 members in 2008. Raenette reported the BCHI volunteer hours report/contributions for 2008 was a cost savings of \$370, 214 to government agencies.

Treasurer's report: Gretel Kleint gave the treasurer's report. We received three Broomtales ads for \$95.00 per ad. Rod Parks suggested removing the projected sales for the Horse Sense video because we are donating those VHS copies to libraries, 4 H groups, etc. Motion made by Wayne Nishek to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Gerald Aebischer. Motion carried. Anita VanGrunsven and Kay Ryan volunteered to audit Gretel's accounting records.

2009 Outdoor Show Report: Karen Parks reported this year's Outdoor Show expenses, are possibly not going to meet their goal for donating money to BCHI –there were several vendors that cancelled their booth space, the economy climate has an impact and competition in the community with another outdoor show. Last year the outdoor show gave the state organization \$187.00 in 2008. We may be about \$1000 short this year and Karen may be asking BCHI to help cover some of the expenses for the Outdoor Show. Mark reported the Outdoor Show is a three day show, and he reminded that when some of the chapters have volunteered and then had to cancelled participating in events, it is the responsibility of the chapter to resolve/find the solution and then call Mark Bogar with the chapter's solution, and not to call to make it the organizers' problem. Chapter displays should not be torn down until 3:00pm on Sunday, March 29. Mark would like to keep the Outdoor show as a state function in line along with the State BOD meeting, and possibly partner or combine the Outdoor Show with the Chamber of Commerce or other local organizations. The question that was brought forward: should the Outdoor Show be a BCHI state event or a Twin Rivers event? State Directors- please discuss with your chapters- will they help and support the Outdoor Show or will it be a Twin Rivers Event. More discussion about the Outdoor Show at the July BOD meeting.

Calendar Sales: Phil Ryan thanked everyone for selling the BCHI calendars- there are 40 calendars left to sell. We had 1550 calendars committed by all of the chapters and several chapters took extra calendars on consignment in November 2008. A few chapters still owe money for the calendar sales: Sawtooth, Eagle Rock and Priest River. North Idaho purchased their calendars from Priest River. Raffle winners are posted on the website. The expense for the raffle items (will be paid later in the year), the trailer is \$5700, and the 4 wheeler is under \$6000. Expenses are under \$20,000 and profits are approximately \$15,000. 1400 calendar raffle cards have been received by Kay Ryan.

Mary Beth and Bill Conger commented the calendars have been an outstanding resource for promoting our organization. The calendar sales have helped many chapters increase their membership numbers. Calendars have been sent to Idaho legislators and BCHA organizations across the United States. Wayne Nishek made a motion to reduce the cost of the calendar to \$10 at the 2009 Outdoor show. Motion seconded by Debbie Gullo. Motion carried.

Life Flight: Phil Ryan reported this is our second year-700 memberships this year, 400 last year. Three chapters have bought 100 blocks of their own- there are 40 Lifeflight memberships left in the state LF block. The numbers on the key cards are not relevant. You can only purchase a Lifeflight membership if you are a BCHI member, and only direct family members- children, grandparents, parents, immediate relatives are eligible for the LF membership at \$5.50 per person. LF helicopters need a flat surface, 75 sq feet in daylight, 100 sq feet at night and <10% angle/grade. Lifeflight has been accessed by four of the BCHI members. Bill Conger presented information about radios monitored by Idaho State Communications for contacting LifeFlight- VHF statewide network radio frequencies for EMT.

Report on Chapter issues: Raenette reminded the State directors: Please consider if you may need a letter of support from BCHI you need to draft a letter of resolution, send it out to the chapters 30 days prior to the BOD meetings and also discuss it at the chapter level- We are all here to help support each other in the state. Raenette circulated a copy of a sample resolution for the new State Directors for their binders to use for submitting any resolutions in the future.

Twin Rivers: Rod Parks- Land access issue- Fifteen years ago, FS purchased private land to build a trailhead. Slow progress in developing the Rapid River Trailhead off of the Little Salmon River-access road to the Idaho Power Fish Hatchery. Mike Cook is putting a request for recreational Trail grant, right of way was purchased several years ago.

North Central: Steve Didier encouraged the state directors that it would be helpful if we give input and support on a state level-Every state is involved in a writing a Travel Management Plan- California- has initiated a one car parking width on forest service roads- we should become involved. Region One, IPNF is a 300 foot parking width.

Priest River: Dale Schrempp- IPNF is working on a Visitor Use Map that should be completed by the end of the year and working on trailhead improvements area that accesses Chipmunk Rapids Trail. State budgets are tight and there is a reduction in grants for trail maintenance funds. Kathy Anderson reported - Dale and Kathy are both retiring/from the USFS -and it is essential to maintain communication and relationships with the current USFS offices. Dale Schrempp has been elected as the PRVBCH President and Terry Steiner will be filling the State Director position in May.

High Desert: There has seen a significant number of new foresters in their area, High Desert invites them to all of their meetings- We are building new highlines at Porcupine Springs. The November BOD meeting- is on Friday, November 13. The BCHI Convention is November 14- Convention packets will be available at the July BOD meeting.

Boise: Gary Towle discussed problems with a metal replacement bridge being delivered to a project- problem has existed over the last 2 years.

Panhandle: Bernie Lionberger - Bernard Peak Trail- a developer wants to purchase a land parcel and their chapter representative, Karen Kimball has been attending the Bernard Peak meetings. Land Management Plan for the Panhandle District-focused group safety issues- horse and motorcycle use – made progress for multiuse- awaiting decision of the committee.

Squaw Butte: Bill Conger - Forest Management plans: Multiuse discussion with motorcycles, equine users, hunters, four wheelers. Issue with Potlatch has purchased a parcel of Boise Cascade land and has landlocked FS land for horse riding.

NAIS Discussion: Raenette opened the NAIS discussion talking about the Idaho Horse Council (they support the horse industry) supports the NAIS. Raenette was asked to write a letter –She spoke with the IHC and they said that the 6 BCHI members on the IHB had no objections to the NAIS- Raenette discussed the emails she sent to all of the state directors within the last month regarding NAIS. BCHA supports voluntary NAIS. Six BCHI members: Connie Bowcutt, Don and Loraine McPherson, Barb and Norm Smith, Whit Whitman and are our Idaho Horse Council reps through 2010- we are not limited to six member on the IHC. None of these BCHI members are current state directors. Raenette would like to encourage more BCHI participation and have the current IHC Representatives submit a written report of every IHC meeting to BCHI. Any BCHI member can attend one of the IHC meetings if someone nominates them to attend the IHC meetings. Anita VanGrunsven (Heartland) –continued the discussion stating is this an issue of importance, does it affect the use of horses for BCHI riders, 4 H groups, horse owners in the state of Idaho, do we as BCHI become involved in the NAIS issue in Idaho-most of the BCHI are opposed to NAIS. USDA is saying it is voluntary at the federal level and attempting to drive the states with money incentives to make it mandatory. Anita’s focus is to take a proactive approach. The state of Idaho has an incentive to have residents sign up for Premise ID. Kathy Anderson stated Federal/State Partnership Premise Idaho is for animal producers with at least \$1000 as an annual income. Animal Registration- the state of Idaho’s recommendation is for animals that are moved off their property where animals co mingle- recreational use, fairs, trailheads, sales, etc. After discussion a Motion made by Steve Didier that we send a position statement as BCHI to the State of Idaho showing support only for voluntary participation of NAIS and totally oppose mandatory NAIS. Rod Parks reminded us that we need to keep perspective of any issue. Mark Bogar asked what is the positive side- tracking diseases and identifying those animals that are affected, i.e. Coggins, EIA. Bill Conger discussed the responsibility and the lack of communication from those BCHI members who serve on the IHC whom have not have not been reporting from the meetings. A motion was made to have an official BCHI representative for the IHC. Motion seconded by Bill Conger. Motion carried. Motion made by –Steve Didier -BCHI position statement to oppose mandatory equine NAIS chipping in the state of Idaho

Position statement: Motion to amend by Kathy Anderson- The BCHI position statement is : BCHI is opposed to equine involvement to mandatory NAIS, including Premise Registration, Animal Registration and Animal Tracking-Motion seconded by John Burns. Motion carried. Motion made to vote on the original amended motion/statement made by Kathy Anderson. Seconded by Bernie Lionberger. Motion carried.

Val Johnson- encouraged the State Directors to discuss with our chapters: What is the purpose and the philosophy of BCHA, and to review the BCHA mission and value statement:

- 1) To perpetuate the common sense, use and enjoyment of horses in America's roadless back country.
- 2) To assist the various government and private agencies in their management of said resource.
- 3) To educate, encourage and solicit active participation by various members of the general public in the wise and sustaining use of horses and people commensurate with our heritage and the back country resource.
- 4) To foster and encourage the formation of new member organizations and BCHI. Phil reminded the state directors we should try to limit our interested to our stated purposes.

State Insurance: Bill Conger discussed he has been researching other liability insurance carrier sources- He has contacted the insurance agency that covers BCHW (Wa) and bill presented the cost of the annual insurance premium. Most of the insurance carriers cover horse show events. Most carriers consider public events to which we might be charging a fee for the public to participate in. He is still looking for other possible insurance carriers- Bill will contact Peg Griewe and ask information about other insurance carriers for other BCHA organizations. Our current insurance carrier will not cover the Twin Rivers Kids Camp- because our current insurance carrier doesn't cover overnight events. Mark Bogar asked if we can't cover Kids Camp what are our options? Kid's Camp consists of instructing the kids attending the camp about horse care, saddle, trail rides, survival, LNT classes and the BCH mission. Val Johnson stated the liability insurance coverage is only for the public not for BCHI members. Our current insurance policy is limited to 20 public events during the year. There is additional fee for each chapter if they have more than two events in one year. Our insurance expires May 21, 09. Every ride and every work party- anytime you invite someone from the public – this makes any event as a public event!!! That means we have more than 20 events in a year—if you have several people coming on a ride- try to promote them to join your chapter.

Liability wavier form: Raenette asked the group did you come prepared to discuss if you chapter has a liability waiver. Kathy Anderson stated that PRVBCH members that renew their annual membership- sign a liability waiver; nonmembers sign a liability form at a public event ride. Mary Beth will send out her copy of what Squaw Butte uses for their liability release form and it was recommended that all of the BCHI chapters should have the same statement and language on their liability waivers- Each BCHI chapter should send a copy of their liability wavier form to Mary Beth Conger. She volunteered to review these and have one liability waiver form for all of the BCHI chapters to use. This will be reviewed at the July BOC meeting. Raenette Didier stated **The Equine Immunity Act**, Idaho Code Chapter 18, Section 6.1801-6.1802 should be posted at all public events at each public chapter event; the cost is \$10.00 for a metal sign and \$5.00 for a plastic sign available from the Idaho Horse council.

Bike Poster: developed by Robbin Schindele. Raenette and Phil passed out the Bike poster for everyone to review. BCHI would like to send this poster to all of the Bike

shops/Sporting goods stores and ask them to post the flyer in their store as both a bike/equine educational poster and to also email the poster to the school districts in the state of Idaho- the chapters need to mail or hand deliver the posters to the bike shops in the state along with the letter of endorsement. A motion was made to adopt this poster as an educational poster for BCHI. Steve Didier suggested that this poster should be presented at the BCHA Annual Meeting and possibly BCHA would endorse the poster on a National level. Printing costs are 18 cents per poster. Jack Lamb suggested that the Foundation may have available funds for postage. **The poster reads: “What the Horse Sees; Horses are a Prey Species, Anything Moving Fast, Quiet And Or Above Them is a Potential Predator. When meeting horses on the trail, please stop, if possible on the low side, beside the trail, remove your helmet, and Most Importantly, TALK TO THE RIDER. TRAIL SAFETY IS EVERYBODY’S BUSINESS. Brought to You by the Back Country Horsemen of Idaho”.**

Jack Lamb reinforced talking to the rider is the most important action- a suggestion was made to change the last four words “TALK TO THE RIDER” in red ink. Val Johnson and Rod Parks, our national Directors will presented this poster at the BCHA Annual meeting and the possibly of endorsing the poster on a National level. Motion was made by Kathy Anderson to mail the 150+ bicycle posters and requesting educational funds and postage costs from the Foundation or from the BCHI Education Funds. Seconded by Val Johnson. Motion carried. Gary Towle made a suggestion to add the BCHI website address to the poster. Kathy Kerley made a motion to change the wording on the poster to read: “remove your bike helmets” and to add the BCHI website address on the poster-Second by Val Johnson. Motion carried. A suggestion was made to add a section about backpackers to the letter of endorsement- A draft letter about backpackers will be presented at the July meeting .

Raenette presented thank you gifts: BCHI logo embroidered coats for Mark Bogar, Rod and Karen Parks for their contributions and efforts in planning the Outdoor Show. Gifts were also given to Phil Ryan, he received a BCHI shirt. BCHI carry totes were presented to Gretel Kleint, Treasurer, Sherri Lionberger, Past Secretary, Dorothy Bailey, Secretary and Marilyn Rousher, Newsletter Editor.

Broomtales Report: Marilyn Rousher reported that we should go back to the Burley Reminder for better quality and Marilyn has the authority to choose the printer at her choosing. Tribute to the BCHI heroes will be in the next newsletter.

Motion made by Val Johnson as above. Seconded by Debbie Gullo. Motion carried.

Ways and Means/Calendar Sales: Mark Bogar is looking for a second prize for the 2010 Calendar Grand Prize, possibly fencing from a fencing company \$6000 and possibly a grand prize from Cabelas? either one or both vendors for a grand prize. Mary Beth made a motion to continue the calendar sales for 2010, Val Johnson seconded- Raenette will contact the two chapters that did not support the 2009 Calendars. When chapters commit to selling a certain number of calendars they need to fulfill their commitment. The calendar sales were the best return for the investment. Kay Ryan has received \$36,620 in sales, minus cost of the prizes and the printing and 10% return to the chapters-

Photos for the Calendar: Phil Ryan recommended that each chapter should submit 10 photos for the calendar for 2010. Every BCHI Chapters- send Bernie Lionberger at least 10 pictures by digital format on a CD , by May 1st- photos will not be accepted by email please include work party photos. Please include the location of where the photo was taken, the name of the photographer and the names of the people in each photo.

Bernie will add this information on each month's calendar page-- visit the BCHI website: www.bchi.org for Bernie Lionberger's address. Prior to the July BOD meeting each chapter should have had a discussion with their chapter regarding how many calendars their chapter will commit to sell; state directors be prepared to bring this information to the July BOD meeting. Mary Beth Conger made a motion to continue the calendar sales for 2010. Seconded by Val Johnson. Motion carried.

National Director's Report: Val Johnson and Rod Parks

The BCHA Board meeting is in April at Port Townsend, Wa. Expansion- successful in additional states- has created some conflicts- East vs west and North vs South- Raenette will be facilitating the BCHA Board meeting. In 2010, the BCHA Board meeting will be in Missouri. Val stated as BCHI members we need to be proud of our membership in BCHA, BCHA is recognized as the predominant national authority of equine use in the back country.

Discussion: What does BCHA do for BCHI-? Steve Didier, BCHA Chairman of Public Lands- he reported on the following issues: Travel Management Plan- Eldorado River in California hopes they will change the parking plan regarding the single vehicle parking width rule. We now have 48 states with membership, state organizations or affiliates. BCHA has been acknowledged as the agency standard. There has been discussion in Michigan that horse riders could not ride on DNR land. Steve spoke at a group in Michigan regarding land use for horse riding and state legislators regarding a Right to Ride bill. This bill is being introduced in the Michigan state government. If it passes it will be the first Right to Ride bill in the US. New Mexico: Limited chainsaw use proposal, Forest Service is asking for clearing downfalls across trails and to clear hazard trees that are off or along the trails. What kind of trail impact for USFS trail classification will have an impact outside of Region 1, to define classifications based on what they saw, and not what is was designed for. Designed for pack and stock trail- the majority of, about only ½ is now classified as managed pack and stock use and designed use. Training will be available for BCHA and they will bring the training to BCHI BOD meeting in July.

Public Lands Report: Bernie Lionberger, Idaho Public Lands Liaison commented there are no Idaho public land issues to report.

Idaho Horse Council: Phil Ryan reported the last IHC meeting was attended by nine BCHI members. In the future a report from the meetings will be sent to the BCHI secretary to be distributed to the state directors and also post on the BCHI webpage. IHA is working on a coloring book for grade schools, containing sponsored pages from different support groups. Phil suggested having a discussion at the July BOD meeting if BCHI would like to sponsor a page in the coloring book. Raenette asked the state

directors if the chapters would like the chapter members to receive the IHC newsletter- several chapters would not like the names of their chapters sent to the IHC- instead members can request a newsletter from the IHC website- so only the chapter officers will receive the quarterly newsletter. The web site for the Idaho Horse Council is www.idahohorsecouncil.com.

Sportsmen's Caucus/Recreation Council: Phil Ryan reported that BCHI joined this group two years ago, he attends their monthly meeting. Currently there are 28,000 Sportsmen's' members which includes several members who are involved in hunting and fishing related activities- it is important that we remain involved in this organization. They will be conducting an analysis of public lands, if any lands become a public hunting ground, the organization will be promoting the land issues for public access.

Education report: Mary Beth Conger and Dale Schrempp discussed updates for the Educational Manual- additional topic- Back Country Emergencies will be added to the manual and will be available on the BCHI website. Horse Sense- information available for clinic presentations, Mary Beth and Dale plan to put the information on the website. Mary Beth and Dale are interested in education outreach with the state chapters for communication with the chapters' education directors. Dale and Mary Beth asked what they can do as a state resource to help the chapters for educational needs, please contact them if you have any needs. They thanked the Idaho chapters for over 1700 hours of education they contributed to in their local communities for a total of \$25,000 volunteer education hours. They thanked the state chapters for the volunteer education they have provided in their communities. Dale reported he is retiring in May 09. He proposed the question can he provide Chainsaw Certification and Defensive Horsemanship classes as a volunteer throughout the state? Bernie Lionberger reported that Bud Bailey from Selkirk Valley BCH received RAC funds to attend LNT Master Educator (Stock) Course in May at the Ninemile Wildlands Training Center in Huson, Montana. Rod Parks reviewed the information about the Packing for the Real World (5 day packing class) that he sent by email to the state directors regarding the packing course offered in Shawnee, CO in May 2009. Application deadline is April 4, 2009.

Membership Recruitment PowerPoint for BCHI: was presented at the Salmon BOD meeting in Nov 08. Comments Raenette received: Not enough verbage, not enough pictures from the whole state of Idaho, input regarding liking the Montana PowerPoint format, we can use Montana BCHM's graphics. John Burns asked as a group what is the target audience that we want to focus the presentation, who are we trying to recruit for BCHI membership, targeting multiple community groups (Rotary, etc)., will discuss in July. John is willing to provide additional photos/slides, adding work projects and assisting government agencies for the presentation and bring the new PowerPoint presentation to the July BOD meeting.

Discussion/Vote 2009 Proposed Budget- Gretel presented the BCHI proposed budget. The Great Western Trail and the BCHI Convention was removed from the proposed

budget (a BCHI Chapter will be sponsoring the convention, not BCHI). Anita and Kay reported the BCHI Treasurer's bookkeeping records are correct and accurate. The Education budget was increased from \$100 to \$300. Gifts budget was increased to \$700. Motion made by Steve Didier to accept the budget as proposed .Seconded by Wayne Nishek. Proposed budget passed.

State Board Elections: Sherri Lionberger presented the slate of officers for 2009. Phil Ryan has agreed to run as Chairman, Mark Bogar has agreed to run as Vice Chairman, Val Johnson has volunteered to run as National Director, Gretel Kleint as Treasurer, and Dorothy Bailey as secretary. There were no nominations from the floor for these officer positions. Motion made by Gary Towle to unanimously accept the ballot for those officers that are nominated. Motion seconded by Mary Beth Conger. Motion carried. Val Johnson presented Raenette with a BCHI State Chairman pin for her outstanding leadership and years of service as our Backcounty Horsemen of Idaho Chairman from 2007-2008.

July meeting agenda items: Insurance policy, liability waiver form, Outdoor Show 2010, Calendars: each chapter should decide the number of calendars for their chapter to sell, Idaho Horse Council- Coloring book ideas, sponsored page by BCHI, Radios-? Spot locators, Membership Recruitment PowerPoint for BCHI.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm
Submitted by
Dorothy Bailey, BCHI Secretary