



**2018 BCHI State Board of Directors Meeting**  
**September 22, 2018 Minutes**  
**Hosted by Palouse BCH in Moscow, ID**

The September 22, 2018 BCHI State Board of Directors (SBD) meeting was called to order at 8:04 by State Chairperson Bill Conger in Moscow, ID, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**State Secretary**, Debbie Samovar announced that Jo Heiss, President, Sawtooth, sustained a head injury after a non-equine related fall, and that long time member Bob Lynch of Priest River pass away. Roll Call of State Directors was conducted. All chapters were represented except Cache Peak and Portneuf River. Minutes from the last Directors Meeting of March 9, 2018 were e-mailed to the directors prior to the meeting. Corrections were listed. Sara Johnson, Salmon River, made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, Gretel Kleint, Heartland, seconded. Motion PASSED.

**State Treasurer**, Kay Ryan reported that for the period March 10, 2018 through September 1, 2018 we started with \$79,689.39. We took in this period \$14,715.00, spent **(\$20,897.62)**, and earned \$7.71. We now have \$73,514.48 in total assets, with \$21,025.27 in a money market account, \$1,203.78 in checking and \$51,285.43 in CDs. Money market interest was credited as follows: \$5.14 to legal fund; \$2.57 to endowment fund. Raenette Didier, North Central, made a motion to have all of the money market interest put into the endowment fund, Cheryl Bice, Treasure Valley, seconded. Motion PASSED.

Dues invoices will be sent out in November. Portneuf River, Priest River and Twin Rivers still owe for additional insurance. The 2019 Raffle/Calendars were \$ 322 over budget due to paper cost increases. Our first two issues of the newly formatted Broomtails cost \$1.724.87 (\$860 ea), plus \$220 in advertising. Expenses of \$306.56 were reimbursed against the \$150.00 budgeted or expansion. The new Secretary laptop, budgeted for \$1,500.00 cost \$562.42.

The Secretary's advance, which has lasted almost three years, has been depleted, and office supplies reimbursements are going to exceed the budgeted \$200. Kay would like to see an increase of \$100.00 per line item. Raenette Didier, North Central, so moved, Joe Brinkman, Eagle Rock, seconded. Motion PASSED.

There was discussion on the \$15,000.00 CD coming due February 2019. There was discussion about we should do with it. Paul Grunzweig, Selkirk Valley, made a motion to put the funds into the Money Market account until after the March budget is finalized and put the balance back into a CD. Gary Kalmbach, North Central, seconded. Motion PASSED.

There was a discussion as to what the Endowment Fund was. The idea was that when members passed they would bequeath funds to BCHI and we would operate off the interest. Raenette Didier, North Central, made a motion to have all of the money market interest put into the endowment fund, Cheryl Bice, Treasure Valley, seconded. Motion PASSED.

Dottie Yerkes, Priest River made a motioned to accept Treasurer's Report, Curtis Elton, Boise, seconded. Motion PASSED.

**Directors Training – Raffle/Calendar Sales Training** - Phil Ryan, Squaw Butte, passed out sheet on how to sell raffle tickets/calendars and a copy of a flyer you can put up on bulletin boards to each chapter. *(See Attachments #1 & #2)*

Phil talked about the history of the raffle/calendar program and how this has become the least painful method for BCHI to raise operating funds and the chapters got 10% of their sales. Of which he is going to put forth a proposal at the March meeting to reinstate the chapter's refund. **REMEMBER: BUY ONE, SELL ONE.** Explaining what operating costs are covered, where to sell, where *NOT* to sell, info on mailing and a sales pitch.

There was a shortage of 33 calendars from the printer, thus each chapter will get two less calendars and the three chapters who take and sell the most will get three less.

**Nominations Committee** –Raenette Didier and Aline Brinkman volunteered for the Nomination committee. Positions to fill are: Chairman, Vice Chairman, a National Director for a 2 yr term (2019-2020) and an Alternate National Director for a 1 yr term. Will also need a Public Lands – North, as Rod will be stepping down to run as Chairmanship. Kay Ryan will continue on as Treasurer. Debbie Samovar will continue on as Secretary.

**Public Lands Report – North** – Bill Conger filled in for Rod Parks.

**Federal Register** – Link to FS, BLM, & NPS <http://www.bchi.org/issues.htm> lists notices of any action from these agencies. Your chapters public lands person should check these websites at least twice a month as some of the notices only have 30 days for comments. FS Management Plans and Motorized Travel Management Plans are some of the issues that members should be following with their forests.

**SOPA** – Important to check quarterly on your forests “Schedule of Proposed Action”. <http://www.fs.fed.us/sopa/> gets you to every forest in the country. The Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) is published in January, April, July, and October. It contains a list of proposed actions that will soon begin or are currently undergoing environmental analysis and documentation. It provides information so that you can become aware of and indicate your interest in specific proposals. We encourage your early and ongoing involvement in any proposals of interest to you.

No chapters have brought any issues to my attention. If you have an issue that you feel fits within the mission of BCHI feel free to contact me if you need help with comment letters to the agencies.

The Palouse Chapter is working with a private company to build a trailhead on their property. They already allow stock riding. I provided them some plans with forest service trailhead plans and several websites with plans so they could present a proposal to the private company.

**Public Lands Report – South** - Phil Ryan, Squaw Butte

The Idaho Sportsmen Alliance (ISA) does not meet in the summer; first meeting will be in October. There is no significant information from the Alliance. They will have a 6 gun raffle.

The Owyhee Initiative (OI) has had one meeting in Murphy, Idaho conducting business about the science review that will be done by the University of Idaho. The RAC committee viewed the Perjue Canyon Recreation Area in Owyhee County to discuss the BLM’s plans for the development of a trailhead there. Purposed work is to begin this next spring. The county commissioners decided that this is a no go unless they get more money for road maintenance.

The Boulder White Clouds-Jerry Peak-Jim McClure Wilderness management plan (final decisions) has been sent out to all parties that had sent in comments. The Forest Service has decided to reduce the number of people per group and reduce the maximum number stock allowed per group. This is an exact copy of the Sawtooth Wilderness management plan.

In May, Region IV of the Forest Service had a meet and greet meeting in Boise. All of Region IV’s forest supervisors and staff were there. I had a chance to discuss the new trails bill with the head trail supervisor and he told me that the Forest Service wasn’t even discussing trails or maintenance in Washington. All they were concentrating on was what the Secretary of the Interior was going to do about mining and oil and gas exploration on public lands. He did not paint a bright picture.

Region IV has begun the sawyer “train the trainer” process that was part of the trails bill.

The Hoodoo landing strip is still a go.

Scott Nichols, Boise, was elected to the southwestern area of RAC. Alan Harper, Panhandle, is on the RAC. You should check to see if you have a horse person on the RAC in your area.

**Nominations/ Elections** – The Nomination committee, Phil Ryan and Amy Lyman, put forth Bill Conger, 1 yr term for Chairman; Rod Parks, 1 yr term for Vice Chairman; Marybeth Conger, 2018-2019 term for National Director; Aline Brinkman, 1 yr term for Alternate National Director, Kay Ryan 1 yr term for Treasurer and Debbie Samovar 1 yr term for Secretary. Motion to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of officers as presented. PASSED. All other committee chairs have agreed to continue in their positions.

**Education Chair Report** – Karen Kimball, Panhandle, went over the report that Marybeth Conger sent out to the Directors. Several equine groups attended a meeting the Idaho State Police Headquarters in Meridian to discuss

the proposed bill to eliminate brand inspections. Idaho Horse Board is taking the lead on writing a proposal to reflect higher fees. The inspections legitimize ownership and \$3.50 per inspection goes to the Idaho Horse Board which then goes into grants. The State does not keep records of lifetime brand inspections and its \$10 to get a new one.

\$3.00 of the inspection fee goes to the Idaho Horse Board, which is then given back to the horse industry in the form of grants. If your chapter needs more money for education, promotion and research, apply for a grant by December 1st. Details can be found at [www.idahohorseboard.com](http://www.idahohorseboard.com).

LNT – Mater Educator course in CA has officially been canceled due to fires and there is no new date at this time. Therefore we should look at bringing the LNT Master Educator team to Idaho to certify 3 new master educators. We already have three individuals with the necessary skills who would be positive master educators. We have the BCHI Foundation to help with costs along with requesting grants from the Idaho Horse Board. Karen and Marybeth are planning on holding LNT training workshops in 2019, one up north and one down south.

We should all take all opportunities to get BCHI expenses reimbursed, such as through the Foundation and other grants. Also, let's not have our raffle/calendar be our only source for ways and means.

*(See Full Report - Attachment #3)*

**Riding Helmets vs. Hardhats** – Karen Kimball, Panhandle, was reading that Board Service would allow helmets to be certified for chainsaw cutting. She did a comparison test between an SEI riding helmet and an OSHA construction hardhat. Using a 6# splitting maul, the hardhat was only dented after four hits, the helmet cracked on fourth hit. The Forest Service hardhats have a different rating than construction hardhats. Go through your Forest Service about getting the correct hardhat. If you do have to buy them make sure they are for working in the woods. Hardhats are required for crosscutting, as is all other PPE with the exception of chaps.

**Web Coordinator** – Jill Nebeker, Treasure Valley. The website is under utilized and the cost to redesign it doesn't warrant the expense at this time. There is a calendar and we should send in our events to let other chapters know what we are doing. If you don't have a website, but if you do have a Facebook page, make sure you have a link to your page and a link on your page to BCHI. It was asked if it would be a good idea to create a PowerPoint presentation to show the Directors how to navigate the website? They could also show it to their chapter. It was suggested that we have a link to an "In Memoriam" page for our members who have passed on. Request will be sent to Directors and it will be on the March Directors meeting agenda.

**Communications** – It was asked if we are keeping copies of our information in case we lose the ability to communicate electronically. Sara Johnson has physical copies for most of the Broomtales and Raenette has the historical copies of all the minutes. Steve Didier and Rod Parks also have documentation of the Trail Classification Assistance Program. We have to be vigilante on watching that trails are not removed from maps.

**BCHI Insurance** – Bill Conger reminded everyone that the state pays for 2 public event days per chapter. It's very helpful if you can turn in all you request in February. Go to the website, <http://www.bchi.org/documents.htm>, scroll to the bottom and you will find "Public Events Liability Insurance Instructions" and "Public Events Liability Insurance Forms" Fill the form out and e-mail it to Bill. If you add an event during the year, fill out the form and send it to him. If you need an Additional Insured Certificate, make sure you have the specific language that the entity requires on that certificate. Prices for an additional day run around \$45, parades \$100+ depending on crowd size and additionally insured \$20. Parades are covered by the State insurance if it is one of the 2 event days for your chapter. If you request more than 2 event days, the parade is part of your "2 days" to save your chapter money. And it would be a good idea to list your parade even if the organizers say you're covered.

As members of BCHI you can ride with any other chapter without it being a public event. BCH members of another state are not covered. The policy covers us in a suit if our animals kick a passerby. It does not cover one member's horse kicking another member's horse. It's like your homeowners insurance; you can't sue yourself if you fall over your kids skateboard. Remember, if you have grandkids that join you, have them join the chapter.

If you have a non-member join a ride and you use a waiver/disclaimer, they can still sue you and you would not be covered by the State's insurance. You can not wave personal liability on a minor and a

wavier/disclaimer on an adult is not going to stop you from getting sued. Any guest that joins your chapter ride puts the whole chapter at risk. If it is a chapter sanctioned function on your Facebook page and you have non-members on that ride and someone gets hurt, they're going to go for deep pockets. Naming everybody on that ride, naming the chapter and they're going to try to name BCHI. If you having members stating they are going for a ride on your Facebook page saying anyone is welcome to join, they are using your advertising vehicle. They need to put it on their personal Facebook page. It was suggested that you put on your Facebook page that you must be a member of the BCHI if you want to go on the ride. If they are a member of another chapter have them fill out a waiver stating what chapter they belong to, sign it and print their name. (See Attachment #4)

When you add an event, above your allotted 2 days, please pay the invoice when Kay sends you the bill. That way she doesn't have to keep sending you reminders.

**2019 Convention** – Joe Brinkman, Eagle Rock, reported that they have just about everything ironed out. It will be at the Shiloh Inn on the River in Twin Falls, March 22nd & 23rd. The meals will be catered by Jakers Restaurants. Their chapter's president, Winnie Welker, her daughter is the chef. The theme is "Sharing the Adventure". They are meeting with the Inn in October and will get further information out to us. Both the Directors meeting and the Convention will be held onsite.

**National Directors Report** – Marybeth Conger, Squaw Butte reported, via cell phone, she highlighted the report that she e-mailed out to the Directors. There was a memorial for lost members, Wisconsin was voted in as our newest state, eleven committees reported, the resolution to add a youth membership category narrowly passed, the BCHA foundation had grant monies to help fund chapter and/or state activities. For more details visit [www.bcha.org/blog/2017/12/06/bcha-education-foundation-grants](http://www.bcha.org/blog/2017/12/06/bcha-education-foundation-grants). The BCHA combined volunteer hours were very close to \$13 million.

She covered a list of 22 ideas to develop new strategies to increase and retain membership. Talk about new ways to elevate public awareness of BCHI and its mission. It is important for all of us to stick to the BCH mission principles, as put forth by our founding fathers. Marybeth prepared a BCHI National Director Training outline with input from Ken Carmichael, Marsha Copeland and Darrell Wallace. BCHA is a downward up organization. Starts with the members, goes to the State and then goes to national. This info is on our website. (See Full Report - Attachment #5)

**Volunteer Hours and Annual Reports** – Bill Conger, Chairman, reported for Rod Parks

Every chapter should have a Volunteer Hours Coordinator and chapters should complete and submit their reports to the BCHI Vice Chairman at [vice-chairman@bchi.org](mailto:vice-chairman@bchi.org) by the end of the year. Forms and guidelines are on the BCHA website at <http://www.backcountryhorse.com/get-involved/volunteering/hours/>. Our reports will be combined for the state and sent to BCHA. Write a report on each project that you did and Rod will pick one from each chapter to put in his National report. If you need help with the reports call Rod at 208-791-3246. Report any project you do with any land management agency, even if we're doing it on private land for the good of everybody, regardless of what state it is done in. Report hours for education, public outreach, time for doing newsletters that are also sent out to agencies, speaking in front of other groups.

These reports are best thing we have to get some clout, accountability and recognition from our public agencies we work with. When you put your reports together you should also send them to any agency that you did work for them. We should report our hours and the dollar value when we are speaking to other groups.

**Idaho Horse Council** - Raenette Didier, North Central, reported on:

**Historical Horse Racing (HHR)** – The HHR was shut down in Idaho in 2016 due to an effort that claimed the machines, which simulcast old horse races at tracks, were illegal. Since that time the Idaho State Racing Commission has been trying to pass new legislation to activate HHR once again. In late 2017 funds were finally dispersed from the State House that were collected in 2014-2015. In January 2018 an IHC committee was formed & the Idaho Equine Youth Fund was created. On the IHC site there are now forms that any equine youth group in Idaho can download to apply for funds for their club. Requests will be granted until the 2014-2015 funds are depleted. If HHR is reinstated a portion of the revenue generated will also be deposited into the Public School Income Fund each year. That means more money for schools and students in your community. The Idaho Horse

Council supports Prop 1 & asks BCH to take this information back to your chapters. Proposition 1 – Historical Horse Racing will be on the ballot this November.

**Mustang Heritage Foundation** - has a veterans program where vets can experience a life-changing encounter with wild mustangs. Here is a quote from one of those veterans.

*“You cannot force a mustang to do anything. You have to open yourself up to new ideas and new behaviors that are not comfortable for you,” said Darrell Urey, a Spring 2018 program participant. “I’ve learned as much working with a mustang as I’ve learned about myself going through every Veterans Affairs anger management, PTSD course over a 10-year period. I learned more in those weeks about myself, my reactions, my reasoning, and it’s all because of the mustang.”* For more information go to; [mustangheritageprogram.org](http://mustangheritageprogram.org) and click on Programs.

**Idaho Brand Board** - received a request from the Idaho Cattle Association (ICA) to organize a joint industry meeting to collaborate among the different livestock industry organizations regarding equine brand inspections and the fee structure associated with equine brand inspections. A collaborative industry meeting was held on September 10, 2018 at the Idaho State Police Headquarters in Meridian, Idaho. Marybeth Conger & Janine Townsend attended. Marybeth provided a synopsis of that meeting in her Education Report today. It was noted that if you’re selling a horse, you have to have the Brand Inspector out, whether or not you have a brand inspection on the horse, before it leaves your property.

**Idaho Horse Council Annual Meeting** – is Saturday, November 17, 2018, in the “Rodeo Room” at the Idaho Center. Take the elevator to the Rodeo Room on Upper Level #3. The Idaho Center is at 16114 Idaho Center Blvd., Nampa, Idaho 83687. There will be an all day meeting with a lunch. The evening program will have dinner & a silent auction. Evening speakers scheduled are the Mayor of Nampa, Debbie Kling & Steve Taylor CEO of the Appaloosa Horse Club in Moscow, ID. Steve is also an IHC Director. There is a charge for the Annual Meeting, the Lunch & Dinner.

**IHC Grants** – The IHB is looking to give out grants for large projects. Such as the 4-H group out of Boise who are looking to do work on the Cascade Rite campground. The water system doesn’t work and will take several thousands dollars to repair. Applications are on line and the filing deadline is October 31st and awarded in January. The Idaho Horse Board gives out smaller grants around \$1000.00. Funding came from the \$3.50 Brand inspections.

**Idaho Trails Association** – Rob Adams, Squaw Butte. They are home based in McCall and put together a lot of volunteer trail projects. This last year BCHI partnered with them and packed in the set pieces and the volunteers’ personal item. They worked on two trails, one in the Farley Lake area in southeastern Sawtooth and another in the Frog Lake area of the Boulder-White Clouds area. Squaw Butte put about 6,000 miles on hauling trailers and packing and got paid \$2,800 for their mileage. They do projects all over the state and if you would like to help them, contact Jeff Halligan

**Wilderness Volunteers** – Rob Adams, Squaw Butte. This is a national organization that sells wilderness vacations and we help out with the packing. The people are real interested in how the packing is done and enjoy the stock animals.

**Saw Certifications** – Rob Adams, Squaw Butte, passed out a packet to each chapter and did a presentation on the material. Generally 10% of your chapter works around saws. In July 2016 the Forest Service brought in a new Saw Policy. It was designed around, cooperators, volunteers and contractors, and created a National Policy, instead of the Ranger District doing their own thing. This policy brought about the ability for organizations to self train. California was the first state to build such a program and put it into effect March 2017. Idaho is a neat state in that it has two regions. Region 1, north of the Salmon River, who has there “stuff” together and Region 4, south of the river, who are in chaos. We have 12 National Forests and 15 Wildernesses.

To support this activity the following prerequisites are required: the cooperator must have an established Forest Service program that follows the requirements of FSM 2358 and has been approved by the National Forest Manager. It’s a paperwork trail. Who is your single point of contact? The State needs a sawyer coordinator for each region. Region 4 should have 39 sawyers and Rob Adams will be the contact for in the south. Region 1 should have 50 sawyers and Dale Schrempp, Priest River, will be the contact in the north. Do you have a safety

officer? Any incidents with a saw must be recorded and reported. The cooperators must have a qualified C Sawyer and/or C Sawyer Evaluators instructors. This program only treats bucking (it's what we clear over the trail). A Feller card can be gotten through a Forest Service provided program.

In addition to various levels of sawyers, you need to have a Safety Officer who will keep track at the chapter level. Cheryl Bice, Treasure Valley, will be a certified CPR/1st Aid instructor at the end of the year and is willing to go to the chapters to do training/certifications. You don't need your CPR/1st Aid card to take the sawyer training, but you do need it to get your sawyer card.

A Sawyer – Apprentice Sawyer Bucking Only. These sawyers must be supervised by a B or C skill level sawyer, for both chainsaw and crosscut saw. Re-evaluation schedule: yearly.

B Sawyer – Intermediate Sawyer Bucking Only. These sawyers may work independently during saw work activity, and may cut any size material in moderately complex situations. Re-evaluation schedule: every 2 years.

Every chapter should have a sawyer coordinator, or a trail boss. Someone who takes responsibility for your sawyers, their training and their progression.

C Sawyer – Advanced Sawyer Bucking Only. These sawyers have completed the requirements for A Sawyer and/or B Sawyer, or have demonstrated comparable knowledge and skill. Candidates have a demonstrated ability for advanced saw work, self-limitation, an understanding of policy and the ability to teach saw skills to others. These sawyers have demonstrated good judgment assessing complex situations and safely completing tasks.

There are training videos that can be used as a refresher course prior to going back out into the woods.

PPE is very important, chaps, helmet, eye and ear protection. Region 1 can get theirs for free from their regional manager. Cabela's, D&B and Amazon have a Forester Safety Package which runs about \$60. This would be great for the chapters to ask for from the Idaho Horse Board.

BCH California sent us copies of all their paperwork and we just need to drop in our information and submit to the Forest Service. They are also willing to send some of their instructors to get our first few classes started. This should cut about 6 months off the process and hopefully have it done by the next meeting.

**Broomtales Report** – Alice Millington, Treasure Valley. It has come up more than once that it would be less expensive if it was online. It is online, <http://www.bchi.org/documents.htm> second item down on the page. So the question is, are there enough people who would rather get it online and not have it sent a copy. We need to go back to our chapters and find out how many people want a physical copy or would prefer to view it online. The value of the newsletter is to share what we are doing, how we are doing it, and a description of the area to promote visitors to come, The costs for the last Broomtales was \$536.55 for printing, \$25 for the mail merge, \$108.63 for the folks who do the folding and tabbing, this is how they get paid, \$171.81 for postage (\$95.28 for bulk rate mailing, \$8.84 for 1st class mailing, \$67.69 for the flat chapters' copies) and some tax. Total cost of \$875.68 for 800 newsletters (\$1.095 ea).

**Adjourn** – Bill Conger, Chairman, entertained that we adjourn at 2:35.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debbie Samovar  
Secretary  
208-245-3041  
[secretarybchi@gmail.com](mailto:secretarybchi@gmail.com)