

BCHA National Director's Meeting

Eugene, OR April 24-28

Public Lands Meeting

Trail Classifications

Many of the states have not been working on the Trail Classification Task. Dennis Dailey has retired from working as an employee of BCHA, but Wilderness and Riding is in his blood and he suspects he will be around until he dies as it is his passion. He has agreed to be the lead in getting more of the states involved in the process.

F S Trail Maintenance Backlog

In 1983 there was a \$100 million backlog. GAO did a review in 1987 and the new figure in 1989 was \$194 million. In 2009 it had grown to \$459 million. In 2011 only 21% of all trails are maintained to standards. BCHA has ask for a new GAO review.

Partnerships

BCHA, The Wilderness Society, and the American Horse Council have all been working together as a team.

Executive Director

BCHA has a new staff member that was appointed right before the national meeting. Rick Mc Lean, from North Carolina is the new Executive Director for BCHA. Most of his career has been as a city manager. Him and his wife also operate a riding and boarding stables.

BCHA National Directors Business Meeting

There were many guest speakers throughout the entire meeting. BLM is asking for help in establishing new trails and adding existing trails to their system. They also are asking for members to get involved in Resource Management Plans and Travel Management Plans. All initial contact should be at the local level in your state.

International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) was on a panel and the feeling by all is BCHA and IMBA need to both work together on educating users. IMBA has 80,000 members.

American Horse Council, Ben Pendergrass

Stay in contact with your constituents, take agency staff members on trail rides. American Horse Council will help BCH members with planning for a field trail ride with congressmen.

Deputy Chief FS, Leslie Weldon

Forest Plan will be final soon. There are 19 million acres of bark beetle infestation in Colorado and Wyoming. Use of chain saws was asked by BCH. FS is asking for documentation of denial of using mechanical tools in wilderness areas. We can complain all we want, but unless we have documentation of asking and being denied, things will probably not change. Many of Idaho Forests are working on Management Plans. Get involved!! The FS budget was cut four percent, which was much less than most agencies.

BCHA Volunteering for 2011

376,370 hours & a value of \$10,913,278. The dollars was down this year. It was attributed to many projects being cancelled due to major storms and the heavy winter that keep us from getting to the work areas.

Action Items

Dues Increase

Directors approved a request for a dues increase of \$5.00/ membership. Vote: 22 yes, 13 no. (Your Directors voted NO) This will need to be on the agenda for the 2013 BCHI Convention. It has to be ratified by 2/3 of the states before it can be approved.

Mailing List

Directors approved selling the BCHA Membership for a minimum of \$10,000 sponsorship. Rick McLean will be seeking sponsors for BCHA. He is asking for any leads from business or foundations, as a referral is much better than a cold contact.

Montana BCH send a letter to BCHA asking to discuss issues with the national directors and a personal meeting with BCHA chairman and Executive Director. The meeting was held and it was reported Montana felt the meeting was constructive.

Resolutions Approved

- 1) BCHI-BCH Annual Reports will be on BCHA Website to review rather than making CD Copies.
- 2) BCHI-Loss of Lochsa Packer, stock, and Lochsa Historical Ranger Station. (To be returned to pursue in Idaho with BCHA Support.)
- 3) BCHI- Frank Church Wilderness backlog of trail maintenance. (To be returned to pursue in Idaho with BCHA Support.)
- 4) BCH of Washington-Establish direct emailing to all members of BCH (all members of BCH will be put on a mass emailing list for important items with the choice of opting out. Some items will still be sent out by Executive Secretary).

Resolution Tabled

- 1) Arizona BCH- Tabled BCHA dues schedule is revised to one fee per membership (single or family).

Resolution Rescinded

- 1) Wyoming BCH-Use all funds possible to hire an Executive director for BCHA other that the position of Executive Secretary. (Executive Director hired, April 2012).

Future Meetings

April 2013, BCHA National Director Meeting Rapid City South Dakota

2014 Tennessee

2015 California

Attached: Resolutions and business before the directors

Thanks,

Rod Parks

BCHI National Director