Agenda Meeting Minutes

(approved 5/5/25 BOD mtg)

Back Country Horsemen of Missouri

January 20th, 2025 10:00 a.m.

Perkins Restaurant, Jefferson City, MO

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Chairman Becki Krueger
   A. Welcome and acknowledgement of guests in attendance was made for Gary Garner, Theresa Anderson and Leroy Raymond. At 9:55 am introductions were made around the room and the meeting started at 10:00 a.m.
   B. Roll Call took place with a few corrections being made (this information will be sent out to the board) Present today are Officers – Becki Krueger CHR, Jennifer Wolf VC, Julie Irwin TRSR and Kathy Jaeger SEC. Directors - Leslyn Randazzo, Jill Szczuka, Tim Anderson, Gary Harrison, Ruth Garner, Lynette Miller, Janet Rettenmaier and Sherry Copeland. Bob Wolf Public Lands and Maury Mertz Public Lands. Alternates - Kay Raterman, Pat Reinebach, Michelle Rager and Marsha Copeland.
   C. Agenda Adjustment – add under 6 Chapter Reports L. Tri Lakes (left off by mistake)
2. **APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 28TH, 2024 MINUTES**
   Corrections from Sherry noted then a motion made by Jill, 2nd by Janet to approve with corrections. Motion passed.
3. **OFFICER REPORT**
   A. Chairman – Becki Krueger No written report right now, will give a verbal report after the other officers
   B. Vice Chairman – Jennifer Wolf – nothing
   C. Secretary – Kathy Jaeger – written report in packet. Additionally, a thank you card was received from Paula Hull for a sympathy card sent on her husband's passing.
   D. Treasurer – Julie Irwin – Recap of finances shows an increase in our income, a decrease of expenses at this time. So good news as our projected deficit of $10,000 is down at $5,000 currently. We are in good shape at this time.

Becki began discussions over items recently brought up concerning our 501c3 tax status and the manner of entries being made on our reports. She has met with our CPA and had a meeting with a very experienced 501c3 Accountant, Laura Menke of Menke and Company, to review our financial documents. Laura assured Becki we are not who the IRS is looking at and our entries are above board in transparency. She stated Karen has provided the paper trail for the entries. She did suggest to have our current CPA make a few corrections effective 1/1/25 on a few of the past entries. She then suggested in moving forward that ALL restricted accounts be listed as well as ALL fundraising activities be run thru the Treasurer. New rules will be established by the Treasurer and Board on how to handle fundraising activities and all Chapters will be receiving these guidelines for complying with fundraising within any Chapter of our organization.

Becki brought up a second item regarding the sale of merchandise. We presently don't collect sales tax on our merchandise that we sell and we should be collecting sales tax for these items. Discussion took place and Maury suggested we simply sell the items at cost and then there would be no sales tax owed. This would eliminate a lot of headaches for different tax rates etc. Board agreed to this solution.

Becki raised issue of staying with Karen or establishing a new CPA with Laura Menke at Menke and Company. Laura charges $200 per month. Karen has lost an employee since we started with her but will not be offended if we want to go another route. Yearly cost would be $960 at Arnold Accounting vs $2,400 at Menke and Company. Jill suggests we stay with Karen as she is now informed on the changes needed in our reports. Michelle states we presently have the best of both worlds with the information received from Laura Menke.

Motion was made by Tim to approve the reports without the Treasurer's Report. Sherry 2nd. Motion passed. Treasurer's report will be corrected by Arnold Accounting and will be sent to Directors and Alternates. We may approve the Treasurer's report by a 'vote without a meeting'.

4. **STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   A. Education and Expansion – Becki reported the new formation of a Chapter has ghosted us and does not look like anyone is truly interested in organizing a new chapter.
   B. Publications – Cristlyn Randazzo written report in packet. John Stewart has volunteered to help Cristlyn with a story on successful projects – so please forward any info to him.
      a. Merchandise – Maury advised we have new hats, auto windshield shades and decals at cost.
   C. Public Lands – Bob Wolf inquired if we want to do the Land Manager ride in June? It has been 3 yrs and is usually attended by 14-16 managers. Motion by Tim to have a Land Manager's Ride, Leslyn 2nd motion. Motion passed. Jill would like to have her State and Park Superintendant attend, and feels it could benefit her in her area. Maury suggested Vince Keiller would be a good invite to get him acquainted with our organization.
      b. MDC Round Table report – Maury reported on the attendance and the connections made at the Round Table event. They are very conservative oriented and minded which goes in hand with us.
   D. Goals and Objectives – Jennifer provided report
      a. Proposal (with two Goals & the Objectives on how to achieve them)
         1. Recruitment/Retention
            a. A 10% increase in new membership over the previous year
            b. Retain 100% viable members
         2. Strengthen Operational Structure
            a. Member engagement
            b. Chapter Leader Development
            c. Membership Library
            d. Leadership succession plan
            e. Committee development
            f. Effective Communication

      A suggested budget of $2,000 was included in this proposal. Jill complimented Jennifer on this being a very good Proposal. Jennifer motioned to approve the proposal, 2nd by Tim. Motion passed. Theresa commented she is excited to share information in the Library. Sherry commented this will be the direction to grow the organization.
   E. Missouri Horse Council – Lynette reported on attending MU event on November 2 with approximately 115 in attendance. Highlight of the meeting: Gov. Parsons set December 13 as the Day of the Horse for Missouri. A new Equine facility to be completed 2026 at the state fairgrounds where the old Rodeo grounds used to be. Discussions are still taking place on the possibility of an Equine Check Off with funds to promote Equine activities. The Federal Horse Protection Act (recently changed) is to take effect on Feb 3 and may be affecting local Horse Shows, 4H shows and sales. Changes require a vet to be on site for inspection of horses. An organization called Western Justice is trying to get together a petition to hold this off for further research. The Horse Council held a silent auction and raised $300.
   F. Volunteer Service Hours – Ray submitted reports and advised one IIP had been awarded to Tri Lakes in the amount of $1,030. A new report for Volunteer Hours was submitted correcting some hours on the Rockwoods Range report.
   G. Memberships – Sue provided information to Kathy noting that 82 people have used Paypal. Jill inquired when we expect members to renew their memberships by – before March 15. Michelle clarified Chapter minimum is 15 members not memberships and Lynette reminded the year is January to December.
   H. National Directors – Becki advised that BCHA is still taking donations for the damage Hurricane Helene caused in Tennessee/North Carolina areas. More C Sawyers will be needed. A founding father of the BCHA by the name of Smoke Elser wrote a book titled Hush of the Land. Becki strongly encourages everyone to read it. The Forestry continues to have a hiring freeze that may go into 2026. Chapters in Oregon made a nice video of Trail work performed by BCHA-you may check it out on BCHA website. Utah had filed suit to reclaim federal land. There are BCHA Chapter

grants available $100-$1,000 with an application deadline of March 1. Youth grants up to $500. Jennifer motioned to accept the reports, Leslyn 2nd and the motion passed.

5. **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS** – Becki reported a Board Advisory Committee has been formed with John Stewart from At Large chairing this committee with members Steve Assenmacher and Janet Karrenbrock assisting. We are still in need of members to step up for open positions in Web page management, Volunteer Service Hours, Education & Expansion. An Ad Hoc Committee was formed. The Search Committee consists of Jill, Janet and Theresa. Maury volunteered to become the new Volunteer Hours coordinator.
6. **CHAPTER REPORTS:** (All but Indian Trails responded with reports)
   A. Brownfield
   B. Cuivre River
   C. Heartland
   D. Indian Trails
   E. Mountain Riders
   F. NEMO
   G. River Springs
   H. Rockwoods Range
   I. South Central
   J. Southwest
   K. Tornado Ridge
   L. Tri-Lakes
7. **OLD BUSINESS:**
   A. Indian Trails Chapter letter
   Becki, Chair and Jennifer, Vice Chair have sent a letter to Indian Trails stating they are on probation and advising their Opportunities to continue as BCHMO members. She will call them to see what action they would
   like to take. Maury asked what is needed from the board? Becki advised she is just informing the board of the situation.
   B. 2025 BCHA NBM April 13-16
   Becki advised she did some research on costs for attendance. Flights were very costly and she proposes car rental for a substantial savings. The attendees are in agreement for the extra days needed to drive. Board is in favor of the car rental for saving on the expenses.
   C. Upper Current River Clean Up Ride – March 28-30 Big Creek Trail Ride
      a. Establish Cleanup Project - Brett advises the same areas need to be covered as in the past and all members are encouraged to make their own reservations for camping, stalls and meals.
   D. Membership Appreciation Ride – June 6-8 Brushy Creek Lodge (Bob Wolf, Maury Mertz and Committee)
   E. Policies and Procedures (postpone until April BOD mtg)
8. **NEW BUSINESS:**
   A. Budget Review
   Changes were discussed on the printed budget proposal – Bob discussed the expenses relating to the Land Manager's ride , what to keep and what to cut - ended his budget request with $400; National Board meeting expenses raised to $3000; add Volunteer Hours of $500; add Goals & Objectives of $2,000; leave Chapter requests at $500 each; reduce Treasurer to $100; zero Merchandising (as already purchased in last budget);zero Training Chainsaw – might bring up to board during the year. The Final 2025 budget is $ (11,759) loss . Motion to accept the budget with a Publication discussion at a later date was made by Leslyn, 2nd by Janet. Motion passed.
9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND KUDOS**
   Becki thanked everyone for attending this meeting, providing input and helping to get the budget done. She reminded everyone to submit articles to John Stewart or Cristlyn. Thank you to the general members Leroy, Gary and Theresa – members are always welcome to attend. The Corps of Engineers at Mark Twin Lake have approved an e-bike policy that NO e-bikes will be allowed on multi-use trails. They WILL be allowed on the bicycle trail at Frank Russell and in campgrounds.

10. **NEXT MEETING**
    A. May 5, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
    B. Location to be announced
    C. Restaurant to be announced

    Motion to adjourn at 2:28 pm made by Jennifer, 2nd by Jill. Motion passed.