

**National Director call** began at 5:05PM Pacific

Executive Committee Meeting last night, minutes and financials were approved by the EC last night.

### **Financial Report – Reports provided to National Directors in advance of meeting**

Treasurer provided an overview of the financials

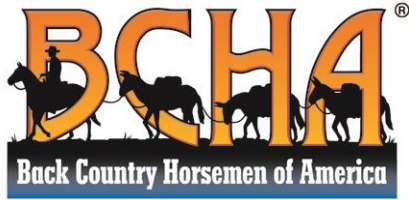
- Balance Sheet
  - Bank Accounts
  - Investment accounts
  - Total Assets and Liabilities and Equity provided.
  - Net Revenue provided
- Budget Vs Actual
  - Taking questions.; No questions.

### **Public Lands**

**BLM MOU:** We need to get word out to membership about the renewed 5-year Memorandum of Understanding we have with the BLM nationally. It contains many options for how states and chapters can interact with the BLM, so we need to make membership aware of these.

**National Trails Workshop:** Randy participated in last week's workshop, held by the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS). It had four tracks: 1. Fundraising & Governance; 2. Community Stewardship & Engagement; 3. Trail Operations, Management & Planning; and 4. Advocating for Trails. Keynotes touched on empowering youth and enhancing the visibility of indigenous people/shared stewardship. Highlights include:

- Pacific Crest Trail wildfire recovery efforts (*note: PCTA has a new app with fire/smoke warnings*).
- BLM Inventory, Assessment and Monitoring (and day-long field workshop), which is used to categorize the landscape elements of scenic, cultural, recreational and natural along a trail. Note: some National Scenic Trails (NSTs) and most National Historic Trails (NHTs) do not have management plans; they are linear features that cut through multiple fed agency ranger districts or field offices for which existing management plans often do not recognize the NST or NHT.



## National Directors Meeting Notes

October 23rd, 2024, at 5:00PM. PST

Zoom Video/Call

- Hike the Hill 2025 strategy session, where we discussed expected changes in priorities of the new Congress and Administration and where Randy emphasized concerns for a return of the Bikes-in-Wilderness bill and renewed discussion of federal land transfer to the states.
- BLM Roundtable, where tentative dates for State Recreation Summits related to the Blueprint for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Outdoor Recreation were discussed.
- US Forest Service Roundtable, where the agency's recent hiring pause was discussed, particularly in light of the recent release of its Trails Workforce Capacity Analysis (TWCA). FS personnel present speculated that the hiring pause likely will remain in place throughout FY25 and FY26. Details of an exemption process for seasonal hires will be issued Nov/Dec 2024 and likely include exemptions for seasonals hired with non-FS funds (i.e., 100% outside funding sources like grants and agreements). This is important as the TWCA found that 51% of all trail maintenance in FY23 was performed by volunteers and partners, who in many cases need guidance/agreements from FS seasonal employees.

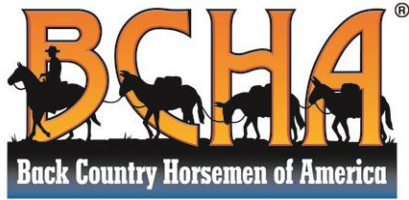
*Note: BCHA chapters are encouraged to meet soon with their local FS counterparts to identify the greatest stewardship needs next season versus what projects can be put on hold.*

Other take-aways from the TWCA include the fact that about \$60M is spent annually on salaries (517 full-time equivalents, or FTEs) while a shortfall exists of about \$40M to fill current trails-related vacancies. Importantly, 40% of FS Districts do not have a single FTE related to trails.

**Reach out to Randy for slides of the Trails Workforce Capacity Analysis, which includes region-by-region breakdowns.**

### Membership

- Membership is down more than expected.
- You will see information in the monthly update regarding information on membership.
- Some of these come from states across BCHA.



### Donations:

- We have reached out to companies earlier this year but missed the budget.
- We will be looking at this again.

### Hurricane Helene

- The Forest Service has requested not to go into the forest until we are told to do so.
- They would like to make sure skilled people are the ones going in to saw/clear trails.
- Need to give the Forest Service time to go in and do their assessments.
- Some areas that were not highly impacted are open.
- Directors: Tell your members to ease up until you hear from your district/Forest managers that is safe to go in.
- Make yourself known to the Forest managers so they can reach out to you when they are ready to help.
- Because some trails are open does not mean they are not dangerous.
- There is a form for people interested in helping,
- Don't just go, they need to organize and get things set up.
- If you are under a volunteer agreement in your state, it MAY be binding in helping out with the hurricane clean up, please check on this.

### Hurricane Helene BCHA Relief Fund

Donations have come in and we have had discussion on how to disperse these funds.

### Committees

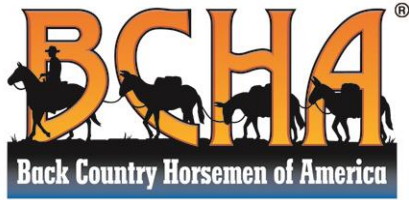
We will be having a committee chair meeting next month.

Go on to the website and please provide feedback.

### Membership Meetings – Get the youth involved

Questions have come up about bringing kids to the meetings.

- Have children's friendly events (Crayons, coloring books, games, etc.)
- Encourage older youth to participate, give them projects and include them in conversation.
- Encourage kids and grandkids to the events and meetings.



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- Get the youth involved, ask them questions, listen to them and be friendly.
- They are the future of BCHA

### Forest Service Museum

- They are expecting the museum to be finished in about a year. They are offering BCHA booth space, 20 feet of space and interactive.
- Thousands of people are expected to go through it each year.

### November National Director Call

This meeting is scheduled the night before Thanksgiving

Move the meeting to December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

#### **Comments:**

Hurricane: We need to learn from this event to be better prepared for future disasters.

Museum: Possibly have the education committee involved in the things needed for the booth.

Trails: Talk to ELCR and the Nature Conservancy. Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Any other comments? No other comments.

**Meeting ended** at 5.56PM, Pacific Time