



## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes Final

January 27, 2026, at 5:00 PST  
Zoom Meeting ID: 876 1008 6325  
Passcode: 812963

### TOPIC

#### Welcome & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 5:00PM Pacific

#### Agenda

Chairman went over the agenda, no changes.

#### Minutes: November 2025

*Motion to approve November 2025 minutes, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*

#### Financial Reports – November & December 2025

##### November

- Balance Sheet
  - Account balances provided.
  - No change in CD's
  - Investment account values provided. (Legacy and Legal Stifel Accounts)
  - Total Equity provided.
  - Net Revenue provided.
- Budget Vs Actual
  - Donations provided.
  - No other changes.

*Motion to approve the November 2025 financial report as presented. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*

##### December

- Balance Sheet
  - Account balances provided
  - CD- Interest income collected.
  - Investment account values provided. (Legacy and Legal Stifel Accounts)
  - Total liabilities and equities provided.
  - Net revenue provided.
- Budget Vs Actual
  - Membership Dues are coming in.
  - Donations provided.
  - Museum donations collected in full to equal \$15,000
  - Expenses moved from Admin general to Software and Computers including all programs used
  - New line item (License and Fees) created to put the legal fees paid to attorney for trademark.



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Suggested, the legal fees should come out of the legal fund and not administration. Move all legal fees for the last fiscal year from the new line item and administrative general.

*Motion to pay the legal fees for the current fiscal year and forward out of the legal account.*

*Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion approved.*

- Financials will reflect the changes in the January report.
- Museum line item is completed and will be moved for January reports.
- Substantial donation toward Legacy and Chapter Support Grants. Discussing providing the Lifetime Achievement Award to this person.

*Motion to approve December 2025 financial reports as presented. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*

### Public Lands

**Hike the Hill®:** There is an opportunity for BCHA officers to participate in the Feb. 9-11 virtual (zoom) briefings to be held prior to the March 1-5 in-person Hike the Hill event in DC. See:

<https://americanhiking.org/advocacy/#hike-the-hill> for listing of the briefings and registration information. During the Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> virtual briefing, BCHA will discuss the ramifications of, and the recreation community's pending response to, the proposal by the US Forest Service to repeal its 2005 Travel Management Rule.

Celebrating its 29th year, [Hike the Hill®](#) is a joint effort between [American Hiking Society \(AHS\)](#) and the [Partnership for the National Trails System](#) to bring together the trails community to advance shared trail priorities with congressional and federal agency leaders including: trails funding, public lands management and conservation, and reauthorizing the National Parks and Public Lands Legacy Restoration Fund. BCHA has participated each year in Hike the Hill, dating back to at least 2012.

**FY'26 Appropriations:** After intense public pressure, Senator Lee withdrew his amendment to remove text in the FY'26 appropriations bill that directs the Department of Interior to continue to maintain all Park Service-administered units, wild and scenic rivers, and national scenic or national historic trails "as an entity of the National Park Service." Removal of this language could have created a pathway for states or local governments to take control over the management of some national park units or national scenic or historic trails.

The appropriations bill moved forward and the most recent House-Senate compromise bill bodes fairly well for public lands-related outdoor recreation and trails. If passed into law, the Forest Service would face a \$59 million cut in its overall budget. Yet the agency would see a \$2 million increase in its trails budget (CMTL)—from \$20 million to \$22 million, a 10% increase. This funding is intended for programs rather than personnel, providing an opportunity for the Forest Service to modestly enhance trail work during the forthcoming season.



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It's no coincidence that the \$22 million CMTL figure matches the amount requested by the national trails community, as reflected in our FY'26 appropriations [request](#). It's proof positive that the appropriation requests we develop each year, backed by meetings with congressional appropriations committee staff during Hike the Hill and AHS submitting congressional testimony, continue to yield positive results for our nation's trails.

The Park Service and BLM are expected to take similar, but limited, hits to their overall budgets at minus (-) \$70 million (NPS) and -\$33 million (BLM). Yet these budget cuts would not have been nearly as deep as [cuts proposed by the administration](#), which for example would have cut Forest Service trails by \$12 million (representing a 60% cut from the current CMTL budget). In doing so, Congress [asserted its authority](#) to set and determine the annual budgets of the federal land management agencies.

**US Forest Service Travel Management Rule (TMR):** BCHA signed onto a letter spearheaded by American Trails and representing the national trails community, that laid out reasons that the [proposed repeal](#) of the TMR would be bad for trail users. BCHA's ongoing efforts to prevent repeal of the TMR is described in the Mid-December 2025 Public Lands Report. The Forest Service is expected to formally announce its proposal via the Federal Register this spring, at which time there will be an opportunity for public comment.

### Committee Updates

- Saddle Up is changing platform and will present BCHA education.
- Marketing and Media will be holding a meeting on Thursday night and has a new member to the committee.
- Youth: We are looking for a new Chairman of the Youth Committee.
- Education: Working on some great videos
- Partnership/Saw: Museum will be opening early, the first week of June. Continuing working with the Forest Service regarding Saw. Committee may need to update areas based on Forest Service areas. Some issues with saw training in Arkansas.
- Fundraising: Working on leads and filter through ideas to figure out what is going to work for BCHA. Donations have been coming in and we are building relationships.

### Updates from the Chairman

- **Credit Card Policy** – Please review to discuss and approve during February meeting.
- **PLD Job Description** – Please review to discuss and approve during February meeting.
- **National Board Meeting Updates**
  - Over the last several years we have had Monday and Wednesday lined up, Tuesday is what we need to work on. The first agenda meeting is on Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - Committee Reports for the NBM are due March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026, to Michelle



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Next EC Meeting: February 24, 2026

National Director Call tomorrow night.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:19PM Pacific

**In Attendance:** Mark Himmel, Craig Ferdig, Latifia Rodriguez, Heather Schultz, Greg Schatz, Jim Allen, Brad Pollman, Heather Cox, Darrel Wallace

**Staff:** Randy Rasmussen, Michelle Wade

**Meeting URL:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87610086325?pwd=jTf5KS2cg6U9Aoz480dtzMztR9TjIK.1>

### Motions

- 1. Motion to approve November 2025 minutes, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*
- 2. Motion to approve the November 2025 financial report as presented. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*
- 3. Motion to approve December 2025 financial reports as presented. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*
- 4. Motion to pay the legal fees for the current fiscal year, and years going forward, out of the legal account. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion approved.*