



Executive Committee Meeting Agenda FINAL

May 26, 2026, at 5:00 PST

Zoom: [Click here to access meeting.](#)

Meeting ID: 884 0342 4683

Passcode: 505942

TOPIC

Welcome & Introductions

Meeting Called to Order at 5:00PM

Agenda

Agenda overview provided.

Minutes: April 2026

No minutes to approve from April 2026.

Financial Reports – April 2026

Treasurer provided an overview of the end of April 2026 financial reports.

Account balances provided.

Stifel investment account values provided. Investment expense provided.

Donations provided.

National Board Meeting revenue provided included auction income, Expense total provided and net income.

There is a problem with the Stifel line items, accountant error. The accountant has been notified and rectifying the error. We will revisit the financial reports when the corrections have been made and approve them at that time.

Craig commented he wouldn't be able to do what he does without the EC and thanked them.

Public Lands

Bill to Elevate OHV Use (HR 7979): Coordinated with BCH Colorado on a recently introduced bill, [HR 7979](#) introduced by Colorado Springs congressman Jeff Crank, that would make increased OHV access a priority for the BLM and US Forest Service. Compelled AHC to contact House Natural Resource committee staff (majority and minority) to voice our joint opposition to the bill. Secured chairman approval for BCHA to be added to national sign-on letter opposing the bill. Prepared draft letter of opposition for BCH Colorado to submit to the congressman (draft letter reproduced on the following page in this report).

USFS Travel Management Rule Campaign: Negotiated and secured \$5,000 mini grant for BCHA's continuing effort to prevent the repeal of the Rule. In joint effort with American Trails and AHS, reached out to national motorized/OHV groups with request to advocate jointly against Rule repeal and to identify needed updates to the Rule that both motorized and non-motorized trail users might agree upon. Reviewed and commented, via AHC, on proposed updates/revisions to the Rule advocated by the [Outdoor Recreation Roundtable](#).

USFS Roadless Rule Campaign: Crafted talking points for use with a Wyoming-based philanthropic foundation that might be interested in providing BCHA a grant to fight the proposed repeal of the Rule.

S.1547, America the Beautiful Act: Coordinated with BCH California their sign-on to a state-specific request to US senators to cosponsor [S.1547](#). The bill would extend for 7 years the Legacy Restoration



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Fund (LRF), which was authorized by Congress in 2020 via the Great American Outdoors Act. For the past 5 years, the USFS for example, has successfully used this funding source to address the deferred maintenance of trails, road and other facilities. The BLM and National Park Service also receive funding via the LRF. Made personal request to Oregon senator Jeff Merkley to please cosponsor S.1547.

BCHA Member Monthly Updates: Prepared updates for membership regarding the availability of trail grants via [ExtremeTerrain](#) and a call for [nominations](#) by the Coalition for Recreational Trails for their annual awards program.

Coalition Zoom Meetings: Randy represented BCHA in the following coalition zoom meetings:

- American Horse Council, Recreation, Trails & Land Use Committee—chaired quarterly committee discussion that included a Hike the Hill® recap and associated FY'27 trails community appropriations request, and discussions of USFS reorganization, public hunting near trails in the Midwest and East and how AI data centers and transmission lines are adversely affecting horseback riding on private lands.
- Northwest Trails Roundtable—coordinated regional responses regarding USFS reorganization, HR 7979, Rep. Simpson (pending) e-bike bill, and USFS last-minute switch to Mutual Interest Agreements and appeal to Under Secretary's office for rapid approvals for trail groups.
- Partnership for the National Trails System—monthly zoom meeting of PNTS' Advocacy & Policy Committee that included discussion of USFS reorganization, LRF reauthorization (S.1547), rumored USFS proposal to forego Volunteers in the Forest agreements. Chaired quarterly meeting of PNTS Membership Committee.
- Travel Management Core Group—ongoing discussion of joint outreach to avert full repeal of the US Forest Service Travel Management Rule.

Letter drafted for BCH Colorado:

The Honorable Jeff Crank
US House of Representatives
455 E. Pikes Peak Ave.
Suite 103
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

RE: Opposition to HR 7979, Request for Meeting

Dear Congressman Crank:

I represent the members of the Rocky Mountain chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Colorado who work and/or reside in your congressional district. We are writing to express our profound concern over your introduction of HR 7979, the so-called Public Lands Access Restoration Act. If passed as introduced, the bill could serve to improve access to our US public lands for only a single user group—motorized recreation enthusiasts. While many of our members enjoy motorized recreation on our public



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lands, our concern is based on the fact that HR 7979 is one-sided, as it serves to promote motorized-related recreation, possibly to the detriment of other public land visitors including equestrians, hikers and anyone else who seeks a relatively quiet and peaceful recreational experience.

The bill also would preclude the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), nationwide, from restricting motorized recreational use, even in cases where it can be demonstrated that the use is resulting in adverse impact to public land resources or other public land visitors. In fact, HR 7979 would force the agencies to act upon and approve nearly any and all proposals from the public to expand the footprint of motorized recreational use on our public lands. This would represent an unprecedented usurpation of agency discretion by a single user group and would preclude other public land stakeholders from weighing in on proposals that could affect their recreational experience. Moreover, the bill would ask far too much and represents an unfunded mandate for consistently under-resourced field staff throughout the BLM and US Forest Service.

Lastly, based on our reading, HR 7979 could leave open the possibility that local clubs and motorized riding advocates might attempt to push motorized use onto currently non-motorized trails shared by equestrians, hikers, trail runners and others. That's because the language in section 3(b)(2) of the bill is nebulous with respect to the "repurposing or conversion of roads or trails." As currently written, that section could imply that current non-motorized trails may be nominated for motorized use as section 3(c) does not preclude such a possibility.

In closing, we strongly oppose concepts associated with the introduction of HR 7979. We respectfully request a meeting with staff in your Colorado Springs district office in order to discuss these concerns in greater detail. Thank you.

Public Lands Chairman discussed some trail issues and voiced frustration.

Saw- Discussion on the last saw training and attendance and where we stand as BCH with Forest Service saw.

Discussion on the change in climate that hurts the trails, disease, bugs, fungi, etc. In wilderness it is more challenging. Question: is this move by the FS to address the Frank Church wilderness specifically softening the Forest Service to the point we may be able to have a conversation with them?

Acknowledging the 2019 Resolution concerning the use of MRA's (Minimum Requirement Analysis) in Wilderness, resolution was passed.

Partnerships: Look at where they are with the wilderness and changes.

Comment: Might be time to send out this resolution again. (MRA) Find out what the partners think. We would like an unbiased analysis done.



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Roadless Rule: We all heard Macks presentation at the National Board Meeting. Did the board of directors take any action with the Roadless Rule? Not at the meeting. Suggestion is to provide directions on how BCH will move forward on the Roadless Rule. Comment; a repeal of the rule is not good.

Question: Clarify what BCHAs position is and get it out to the membership. EC agreed to do this. BCHA would like to have some webinar presented by education on rule changes.

Committee Updates

All committees are doing well; fundraising is gaining traction. Colleen has been asked to be a mentor to Lexi; youth committee chair. Expansion has been meeting with Michigan and other states. BCHA has not been told no by these states yet. Expansion is working closely with states. Volunteer Hours updated the volunteer hour spreadsheet. 2 new youth grants have been submitted.

Updates from the Chairman

2028 National Board Meeting

Suggestion to hold the 2028 National Board Meeting in Missoula Montana so states can take an outing to the museum states donated to and see the BCH exhibit. Sounds like a good idea, Michelle will get RFPs for venues in the area.

Next EC Meeting: June 23rd, 2026

National Director Call Tomorrow Night

Adjourn 6:32PM

In Attendance: Mark Himmel, Craig Ferdig, Latifia Rodriguez, Heather Schultz, Greg Schatz, Jim Allen, Keith Holley, Darrel Wallace

Absent: Heather Cox

Staff: Randy Rasmussen, Michelle Wade