Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

August 25th, 2026, at 5:00 PST
Zoom: Click here to access meeting.
Meeting ID: 884 0342 4683
Passcode: 505942

Welcome & Introductions

Call to Order at 5:01PM

Agenda

Went over the agenda for tonight, a lot to discuss.

Minutes: July 2026

Any discussion, no discussion.

Motion to accept the July meeting minutes as presented, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Financial Reports – July 2026

Treasurer provided the balance sheet and the Budget vs. Actual.

- Account balances provided.
- Investment values provided.
- CDs were renewed and mature right before Christmas 2026.
- Liabilities provided including the credit card balance.
- Grant income was received from the Wilderness Society.
- Everything is on track for this time of year.

What was the grant for? It was for work that Randy did with American Trails and Wilderness Society.

Motion to approve the financials as presented, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Stifel Investments

A presentation from a potential investment company was provided. Our current investments are in low-risk investments. Some of the current funds were mentioned. We had discussed this before about potentially being more aggressive with Stifel, but it did not go further than discussion.

Comment: Our investment policy states we cannot go over a specific risk level.

Comment: We are paying just under 2% in fees.

Comment: It may not be the right time to change; we could lose principal when the bubble bursts.

Comment: We could increase our risk just a little bit and not expose ourselves too much.

Comment: The membership may not have the stomach for the risk, but our investment value should be higher.

We need a motion to allow Stifel to increase risk, or motion to look at a different firm.

Motion to pursue alternate investment firms for Legacy and Legal accounts, seconded. Any further discussion on this topic. Only that it was a lot of work the last time there was a change

in investment company. Would like to amend the motion to ask Stifel to lower rates. Suggested to ask Stifel to rebid their services. Any further discussion. Call the question.
Motion to pursue alternate investment firms for Legacy and Legal accounts, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

2027 National Board Meeting Budget

Treasurer provided the National Board Meeting budget for 2027 to include income and expenses. Food & Beverage estimates provided.
Motion to approve the 2027 National Board Meeting budget, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Public Lands

E-bike

The Chairman discussed ongoing legal challenges regarding e-bike use on non-motorized trails in the Tahoe National Forest, submitting objections to a third environmental assessment covering over 450 miles of trails. He also addressed the Forest Service's recent proposal to change the 21-year-old travel management rule, which could undo existing trail designations and increase motorized access across national forests. The proposal lacks specific details but indicates an intent to expand motorized use, with an environmental impact statement expected next spring.

Travel Management Rule Discussion

Randy provided an update on the travel management rule, explaining concerns about motorized recreation and the need to submit comments by September 21st. The discussion focused on whether BCHA should submit comments independently or join coalitions, with Randy suggesting potential partnership with American Hiking Society and American Trails while avoiding environmental groups. The Chairman emphasized the need to carefully consider the strategy and will meet with directors in the coming days to determine the best approach. The conversation also clarified that e-bikes remain considered motorized vehicles under the proposed rule, though there's a possibility they could be exempted from certain travel management provisions.

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Roadless Rule Advocacy Strategy

Randy discussed the Roadless Rule and emphasized the need for personalized letters from members to representatives, as copying and pasting content would be ineffective due to AI detection. The Chairman outlined three options for the rule: leaving it as is, rescinding it completely, or reducing identified roadless areas by about 60%. Heather clarified that the rule does not affect wilderness or wilderness study areas and recommended using a map viewer to understand specific impacts in different areas. The discussion highlighted the importance of members researching and providing tailored feedback on the rule's impact in their regions.

Roadless Rule Comment Period Discussion

The meeting focused on the official comment period for the Roadless Rule, with the Chairman asking participants to encourage their states and chapters to submit official comments.. Craig Ferdig and Randy clarified that BCHA had already signed on with partners in a previous letter, which could provide standing for future litigation if needed. Heather emphasized the importance of submitting specific, substantive comments that address errors in the analysis rather than generic opposition.

Roadless Rule and Travel Management

The meeting focused on the roadless rule and travel management regulations, with the Chairman explaining that national guidance cannot be provided due to diversified local forest impacts, and state chapters need to make their own decisions. Randy informed participants about concurrent congressional bills (S. 2042 and HR 3930) attempting to retain the 2001 roadless rule, while emphasizing that comments on the current rule must be submitted by September 21st.

Updates from the Chairman

BCHA/AQHA

Proposed partnership has been provided. Lengthy discussion. No motion was made to accept the partnership agreement.

2028 National Board Meeting

Discussion on the contract, we can get 2 years under contract, A/V will be a separate estimate, but we can expect at least $6,000 to $7,000.

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Motion to sign the Hilton Garden Missoula contract for the 2028 National Board Meeting. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
Next EC Meeting: September 22nd, 2026 National Director Call Tomorrow Night.
Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 7:13PM.

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

Absent: Darrell Wallace

Staff: Randy Rasmussen, Michelle Wade

Motions

1. *Motion to accept the July meeting minutes as presented, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*
2. *Motion to approve the financials as presented, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*
3. *Motion to pursue alternate investment firms for Legacy and Legal accounts, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*
4. *Motion to approve the 2027 National Board Meeting budget, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*
5. *Motion to sign the Hilton Garden Missoula contract for the 2028 National Board Meeting. seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*