

High Desert Backcountry Horsemen Minutes  
February 13, 2025  
Approved at 13 March 2025 Meeting

1. Members Present: Megan McConnell, Mary Poe, Noel Poe, Cindy Beem, Leigh Beem, Becky Tietze, Don Clark.

Meeting called to order at 6:37 PM. Thank you to everyone who attended.

2. Reading of the "Purpose of this Organization", see the Agenda.
3. Approve Minutes from September 2024 Meeting: Becky moved to approve, Mary seconded, passed unanimously.  
Approve Minutes from January 2025 Meeting: Becky moved to approve, Noel seconded, passed unanimously.
4. Reports:
  - a. Treasury Update: Cindy provided the numbers - \$2,423.13 in the checking account, \$24 in Savings.
  - b. Membership Update: There are some new members, and checks coming. Cindy will update member document in the Google Drive folder. We discussed that the signed waivers should come to the Secretary.
  - c. Megan provided a printed copy of agenda for the Back Country Horsemen of Utah (BCHU) January State meeting. Amanda Heinritz will be sending the Minutes.
  - d. Notes from the BCHU State meeting: There are several grants available, left over from 2024 as long as we apply by 28 February 2025.

At this point in the meeting we jumped to Agenda Item 9.b:

9. New Business:
  - b. Discussion of applying for a \$500 grant from BCHU for the purpose of supporting BLM in the development of the Shinarump equestrian trail. Noel moved that we apply for the grant, Megan seconded, motion passed.
  - f. ii. April Utah Trails Conference: This will be held in Kanab in April, and attendance will be free for Chapter members. See the BCHU State meeting agenda (see 4.c above) for some additional notes.
4. Reports (continued):
  - e. Annual Report: Megan described that she, Noel and Don will collaborate to get this completed for 2024.

- f. Service hours: Make sure to report service hours - Megan will do this for anyone, if we let her know about activities.
  - g. Cottonwood trail cleanup and condition assessment - Dorene not in attendance, so topic was not discussed.
5. Celebrations of service: Becky, Dorene, Gary Mudrow, Maria Vanhart and Barbara Maxwell.

Dorene, Gary, Maria and Barbara were not in attendance, but Becky was recognized for her work on the recent service on the Cottonwood Trail, and Megan gave her a BCHA sticker.

6. Quilt Raffle: We have approval to display the quilt in the lobby of Zions Bank in Kanab, with the caveat that bank staff cannot be involved in the fund raising. We need to figure out how to place a QR code on signage that would enable contributions by scanning the code, with raffle ticket purchase money going direct into the HDBCH bank account. We agreed on a price of \$2 per ticket, or 3 tickets for \$5 (moved by Megan, 2nd by Don, all approved).
7. Shinarump Horse Trail: Leigh showed a map of the trail, and described sending an email to Dan Gunn regarding marking the trail with stakes. He mentioned that we can cut overhanging branches and trim sagebrush, but cannot remove vegetation. No response from Dan yet on the trail marking. He mentioned that Dan had mentioned a trailhead sign, which we could perhaps fund with grant money (see item 9.b). Leigh will send an electronic mapping file (something that perhaps could be imported into Gaia, onX OffRoad, etc.) for the Shinarump trail to Megan.

jumped to topic 9.e

9. New Business (continued):
- e. Monthly Trail Rides:
    - i. February ride/service: Shinarump, February 22nd at 11, plan on lunch along the trail. Cindy will post on the HDBCH page.
    - ii. March ride/service: Shinarump, February 15th at 11, plan on lunch along the trail. Cindy will post on the HDBCH page.
  - a. HDBCH Post Office Box: having a Chapter PO box would provide consistency in getting USPS mail in the future, not impacted by staffing/member changes within the Chapter. Don researched getting a PO box in Kanab - \$51 for 6 months, \$102 for a year, no discount for not-for-profit organizations. Cost seems high, Megan will look into the cost for a PO box in Fredonia.
  - c. BCHA Grant Application: Grants are available in the range of \$100-1000, with a specific Youth Grant of \$500. We discussed briefly what we would do with it, and decided to study the possibility for a year and revisit this at this time next year.

- d. Discussion of Saw training, that will be made available by BCHU, with 60-days notice. By offering “seats” to BLM and others (USFS, NPS, etc.) we will be doing our part of working with these organizations as described in the MOA’s of these various organizations. Attendees would need to have an active CPR card. Becky moved to request the saw training, from BCHU/BCHA, Leigh seconded, motion passed. Megan will request, requires at least 60 days lead time.
- e. Monthly Trail Rides (continued):
  - iii. April ride/service: Coral Pink Sand Dunes north section, April 19th at 10, plan on lunch along the trail.
  - iv. May ride/service: Area 73, Carmel Junction, off Rte 9, location of possible campground on BLM land, May 17th at 10.
  - v. June ride/service: Navajo Lake, west end, June 21st at 10.
- f. Social media. Gina not in attendance, in WA with her sick Mom, discussion was limited. Need to get the April Trails Conference on the HDBCH Facebook page.

#### 10. Ideas for Future:

- a. Leigh suggested re-routing the first mile of the Cotton Wood Trail, from the trailhead at the upper parking lot. It is a lot of up and down and could be simplified by moving it closer to the cliffs.
- b. Short discussion of who “owns” the road up the hill between the Bunting Trail and Cottonwood Trail parking lots. Road is in terrible condition, especially for hauling a trailer up to the Cottonwood Trail parking lot.
- c. Megan suggested that Mary and Noel continue to function as the HDBCH representatives to the BCHU meetings in Richfield. They seemed to agree to this :-)
- d. Last month Mary described that a friend of hers makes items (e.g. key chains) from horse hair, and is requesting any tail and mane hair that anyone wants to donate. Tonight she showed a large bag of horse hair donated by ???.

11. Adjourn: Mary moved to adjourn at approximately 7:50, seconded by Megan. Motion passed.

#### 8. Old Business

- a. Horse Camp at Kaneplex: Not discussed.
- b. Horse Camping at Mt Carmel Junction: Only discussed in the context of a monthly ride - see item 9.iv.