

High Desert Back Country Horsemen

January Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 8, 2026

Time: Meeting called to order at 6:39 PM

Location: Kanab Event Center (Inchworm Room)

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by **Megan McConnell** at 6:39 PM.

2. Mission Statement

Read by **Dorene**.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: **Mary**

Seconded by: **Becky**

Result: Approved

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

(November 13, 2025 & December 11th Party)

Motion to approve: **Dorene**

Seconded by: **Megan**

Result: Approved

5. Reports

a. Treasury Update

Report coming soon. Treasurer Gina Tully reported computer issues; financial update pending.

b. Membership Update

Nothing reported.

c. Social Media & Website

Nothing reported.

d. Project Updates

Shinarump Trail Gate Project

- Status: Rancher approved.
- Waiting for BLM approval of signs.
- Need to check on wire left in place (identified as potential safety hazard).

Cottonwood Trail – Bench Repair & Maintenance

- Maintenance trip scheduled for **Saturday, January 17, 2026 at 11:00 AM**.
- Meet at parking lot (BLM).
- With or without horses (mostly without).
- Dorene will determine landowner and ask about assistance with bench repair.

Volunteer Hours Reporting

- Discussion regarding 2025 close-out and improved 2026 tracking requirements.
 - Emphasis on better documentation of volunteer hours.
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6. New Business

a. Officer Updates / Vacancies

- Chapter Chair: **Megan McConnell**
 - Vice Chair: **Dorene Mudrow**
 - Treasurer: **Gina Tully**
 - Secretary: **Maureen Behrens**
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b. Cottonwood Trail Cleanup & Maintenance – January Group Event

Event Date: January 17, 2026

Scope of Work: Cleanup, maintenance, loop observation

Vandalism Concerns:

- Stone picnic table seats vandalized.
 - Members discussed documentation, photographs, and reporting to land manager.
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c. Trail Tools – Chapter Property & Storage

- Tool checkout procedures and storage location discussed.
- Mary read rules and protocols.
- Motion to approve tool checkout protocol: **Dorene**
- Seconded by: **Mary**
- Motion Approved

(Details included in separate document.)

d. Chainsaw & Crosscut Training – Spring 2026

- Proposed for March 2026.
- Wayne currently unavailable due to accident; training to remain on agenda.
- Potential partner agencies: BLM / Forest Service.

Motion to continue planning: **Dorene**

Seconded by: **Becky**

Motion Approved

e. Tack Sale / Swap Meet

- Spring planning discussion.
 - Concern expressed that Farmers Market booth costs may be too high.
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7. Monthly Rides & Service Projects – 2026 Calendar

- **January:** Cottonwood Trail Cleanup & Maintenance (17th)
- **February:** 21st (3rd Saturday)
- **March:** 21st
- **April:** 18th
- **May:** 16th
- **June:** 20th
- July–November: Open – email ideas requested
- **December:** Christmas Party
 - Location and reservations must be secured by August/September

Additional Ride Interests & Ideas:

- Dorene interested in Kaibab trail maintenance (Victoria Allen runs volunteer program on the forest).
 - Interest expressed in Bryce ride.
 - Camping opportunity at Kim Thomas's property.
 - Kim Thomas to give presentation in March on private Bryce Canyon rides.
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8. Other Items

BCHU State Updates / Announcements

- **Ponderosa Horse Camp** to be added to future agenda:
 - Trees chainsawed; debris blocking access.
 - Need to check on SR-9 possible Horse Camp
 - Dorene will check sign on Sand Dune Hancock Rd
- Future agenda item: Ensure Arizona trails remain open after recent fires, especially Kaibab area.
 - Dorene to speak with Fredonia Kaibab North District Forest Service.
 - Reminder that we are a National organization.

- Arizona Trail Group and Panguitch are part of our chapter.
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9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: **Megan**

Seconded by: **Dorene**

Time adjourned: **7:54 PM**

Attendance & Volunteer Hours Record

Total Members Present: 6

Total Guests Present: 0

Meeting Attendance Hours Credited: 9 hours

(Service project hours to be recorded separately.)

BCH Record-Keeping Note

Volunteer hours recorded may be entered into BCHU/BCHA reporting systems and used for land-manager coordination, grant documentation, and member recognition.