

High Desert Back Country Horsemen Minutes

Kanab Convention Center

August 14, 2025 at 6:41 pm Local Time

Approved at 9/11/2025 Meeting

High Desert Back Country Horsemen – July Agenda Kanab Center Aug 14, 2025 – 6:30 PM Ut Time

1. Call to Order

- Led by- Megan
 - Called to order at 6:41 PM MDT
 - Attendees: Megan McConnell, Dorene Mudrow, Cindy Beem, Don Clark, Mary Poe, Noel Poe

2. Mission Statement

- Read by
 - Not read at this meeting

3. Approval of Agenda

- Motion to adopt the August Agenda
 - Moved to adopt by Megan, second by Mary

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes- June

- July 10, 2025 – Motion to approve
 - Moved to approve by Mary, second by Noel

5. Reports

a. Treasury Update

- Current balances: Attached Treasury Report
 - Not reported in the meeting, nor attached
- Quilt Raffle ticket sales update-
 - \$172 in quilt ticket sales to date
- Pending reimbursements (e.g.Kane Community Room-chainsaw training May 4hrs)
 - Not billed yet

b. Membership Update

- Family & Individual totals

- o Not discussed
- Outreach/renewal status
 - o We should start the renewal process in October, in order to get it done within the timeframe allowed by Utah BCH. Dorene will work with Gina to publicize this beyond these meeting minutes.

c. Social Media & Website

- Photo/content updates- Quilt Raffle Aug 22-23 at what used to be Western Legends at Kane Plex Arena
 - o The goal is to get the quilt displayed at the quilt show that is part of the Legends Weekend, at the Kanab Center. Dorene will contact the quilt show organizers to see if this can be done. The drawing is planned to be held at the Kane Plex or somewhere around the concert venue at the Jackson Flat Reservoir - TBD.
- Membership fees updated
 - o Not discussed

d. Project Updates

- Shinarump Trail Gate Project- Removed old fencing- Don or Leigh?
 - o Don did some wire cleanup near the Shinarump trailhead, as did Leigh.
- Need to order "Keep Gate Close" Signs using HDBCA – Account to pay with Gina To order
 - o Dorene will follow up with Gina on this.

e. Cottonwood Trail

- Next steps for Trail Update- find route for making loop
 - o The route for making a loop was not discussed. However, Noel and Mary reported on some land clearing that is going on near the Cottonwood trailhead. They have met with planning people at the City, and will work some more to determine if the trailhead will still be accessible for equestrian use. Please see an email from Noel and Mary, at the end of this document...
- Need to Ride Trail and find future route

f. Volunteer Hours

- Report from – Turn in your monthly Volunteer hours to Dorene
 - o Sites: Diana's Throne, Shinarump Trail, Kaibab Mtn Jacob Canyon Trail- Lots of down logs
 - o Discussed some volunteer time put in by Megan, Dorene, Leigh, Mary, Noel and Don. Please report any volunteer time to Dorene, who will make sure it gets appropriately entered for credit.

6. New Business

a. Quilt Raffle

- Raffle extended to Western Legends Aug 22/23 –
 - See notes above.
- Money from Raffle – Purchase Tools for trail Maintenance & Donate % to ??
 - Brief discussion of how to use the money from the quilt raffle. Megan suggested using it to buy the Chapter's own trail-clearing tools, rather than having to borrow them.

a.2. Grand To Grand

- Jim Bentley has been in touch with Megan about engaging the Chapter as in past years, for trail support and “western flavor” for one day in the Grand To Grand (G2G) this year. G2G runs 9/20-27, date for the ride is 9/24, ride would be from the Elephant Butte trailhead near Coral Pink Sand Dunes state park. The need is for 4 riders, attendance at the kickoff dinner on 9/19 is included. Please contact Megan directly if you are interested.
- If you are interested in helping out with the G2G but cannot do the ride please consider helping out at an aid station, any day during the G2G schedule. Again, please contact Megan directly if you are interested.

b. Tack Sale

- Rodeo contact status (Gina)- Western Legends Rodeo in Aug possibility?
 - No update

c. Trail Use Reminder

- Keep Shinarump Trail active—ride regularly per Dan Gunn's advice
 - Cindy Beem has been riding this trail weekly, to help keep it established. Apparently some markers that Cindy has placed out there, to help keep the trail delineated, have been removed by unknown parties. Dorene and Megan also rode it.
- Cottonwood Trail – need to ride often- Map?
 - Not discussed in any detail. Please see the note above, and the attached email below, for notes on what was discussed.

d. Chainsaw & Crosscut Training

- Two members received Sawyer Qualification during May certification course
- Leigh Beem completed crosscut saw training hosted by USFS – Pine Valley District
- Group now has increased trail-clearing capacity for backcountry service projects
- There may be another sawer training session available, and may be discussed at the next HDBCH meeting

7. Monthly Rides & Service Projects

- **August 16th** –Trail Ride/Cleanup
 - Ride will probably be at Elephant Butte, to reconnoiter for the G2G ride. See the HDBCK Facebook page for more info.
- **September 20th** – Bull Rush Wash (AZ Strip)
 - September 20th is Noel's birthday, and Cindy's birthday is close by. Planning to have chocolate cake at the ride to celebrate.
- **October 18th**– Grapevine Trail (tentative)
- **November** – TBD
- **December** – Christmas Party- Location "Once Upon a Time Museum" Restaurant or Giff's BBQ – Gina to scout cost
 - If anyone would like to check out either or both venues, and report back to Megan, Dorene, Gina or Don that would be greatly appreciated. What do you think of the facility for hosting a Christmas/Holiday party, will the be open in December, etc.. **We plan to select one at the September meeting.**
- Potential service project
 - Rachel Bloomheart (sp?) from "Utah Cultural Site Stewardship" contacted Megan about Chapter members becoming trained and associated with her organization as "Cultural Site Stewards" As such we would be trained on locations, how to photograph and check integrity of the sites, etc., and could ride out to these sites to evaluate. Interested members should contact Megan.

8. Other

Items

- **Clothing Embroidery with BCH Logo**
 - Local supplier available via St George Chapter
 - Apparently there are several vendors available, for screen printing and other technologies. If interested please contact Megan.

9. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 20:05 MDT. Mary moved to adjourn, Dorene 2nd.

Email from Mary and Noel Poe, regarding clearing and potential construction near the Cottonwood and Bunting trail heads.

From: Noel Poe nmpoe0920@gmail.com

Subject: Bunting Area

Date: August 16, 2025 at 12:16

To:

Before Mary and I left for our vacation, a friend contacted me and asked if I was aware that a private landowner was removing lots of trees in the Bunting Area and below Cottonwood Canyon. This friend told me that the operator got out of the tractor and told him they may be building housing units in the Bunting Area. The operator told my friend that this was private land.

Mary and I drove out to Cottonwood Trailhead. There appeared to be no impacts around this Trailhead. Lots of trees have been removed on an estimated 2 to 3 maybe 4 acres of level ground in the Bunting area. There are two canyons that come together where rain water may flow down to this flat area which has been cleared. The owner or maybe a surveyor have planted wooden stakes on the ground and strung tape to show a boundary.

On August 7, I returned to the site to take photos. There had been more work done with the larger tractor. I inspected the area and took 4 photos. We decided to go to Kanab City Offices to meet and talk with Jake Dutton who handles *Roads and other Public Works*. *The Receptionist greeted us and told us Jake was out of the office today and the Receptionist told us that Janae Chatterley, who is Chief Building Officer (CBO) would be returning to her office soon.*

The Receptionist used the electronic maps that were in the computer and we helped her see the computer's site we were calling Bunting Area. We explained where the owner's tree clearing was on the map. If a heavy rain storm comes down the two canyons it could have real impacts on infrastructure, vehicles, etc.

Janae Chatterley returned to her office. She is the CBO (Director, Building Department/Land Use Department), and spent time with the Receptionist who relayed what she heard from us. Janae asked the Receptionist to tell us that she would be doing further research before a permit is approved. Mary and I thanked the Receptionist and left the Office.