

SRBCH Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2026

Emery County Administration Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wayne, Dale, Ken, Tom, Rod, Terri, Don, Erik, Angela, Scott

Old Business: Wayne welcomed everyone out to the first meeting of 2026. In 2025 SRBCH cleared 15 different trails, with a total of 26 trails being cleared at some point in time.

Volunteer Hours: in 2025 we had a total of 417 volunteer hours, 103 miles of cleared trail, 102 days horse use, 166 equipment hours use for a total of \$71,300 in-kind donated. Thank You to everyone for all your hard work and efforts.

Public Lands: Rod reported on the national efforts. The federal government wants the Forest Service (FS) to do away with its travel management of forest service land. This would mean open access to all motorized use. Each forest will need to redo their travel management plan. This is still being considered and fought on the national level by BCHA.

There was an organization called RV.com which published the greatest secret to camping is in equestrian horse camp. The national BCHA and many other organizations/people wrote to this organization and complained. The next edition of this newsletter they rescinded the article and stated this should not happen. His point was, your input matters. It was suggested to Rod, next time to please help the members know what to say in an actual email by forwarding us his response of which we could put into our own words. Not all of us have the skills Rod has when writing, this would be very helpful for our chapter.

Chainsaws: Wayne has resigned as Educational instructor for the Utah BCH, and Ken will not be physically capable to conduct chainsaw trainings this year. Therefore, there may not be any trainings this year unless others from out of state conduct the trainings. It was stressed if this occurs, those who sign up for the class must attend. This topic will be brought up at the State BCHU meeting to be held January 24, 2026 in Richfield.

New Business:

Membership Renewal/New: Our numbers are down and have consistently went down for the past couple of years. Some people didn't renew due to age and lack of ability to join on work projects. Many ideas were discussed:

Angela will revamp a letter with a poster to be sent to various organizations and to place the poster in a variety of businesses in Emery, San Pete and on the Wasatch front to encourage people to check out SRBCH. It was suggested to reach out to: high school rodeo teams, college rodeo, 4-H clubs, local farriers.

Possibly do an obstacle course in an arena to attract more people and let them know about SRBCH. It was also suggested that everyone give membership applications with the letter/poster to at least one person. Angela will have these for the next meeting.

Weekend Rides: Some people have expressed an interest in weekend rides. Wayne will direct this. We are planning a trail ride every 3rd Saturday. None in January. This will start in March 2026.

Work Projects:

Forest Service – complete Scad Valley Trailhead and bridge. Hopefully around June 2026.

BLM – Continue to work on Moore Cyn. trail. Work with the BLM on their Wedge Management Plan, in particular the East Wedge Equestrian parking. We will install 2 highline/tie rails. In 2027 we will probably need to write another grant to assist in the purchase of rocks.

State – Continue to help at Goblin Valley with a possible better trail for horses.

Volunteer Hour Submission – **Erik Sandstrom** has agreed to be the contact person for recording hours and sending them to the State BCHU. Please notify Erik of all hours worked with info of time spent, travel hours, equipment used and horses used. Contact him at:

Esandstrom@me.com 801-824-3706

Financial Report: Ken Snook gave the financial report. We currently have \$23,613 in our checking account. We keep this amount in order to have matching funds for possible grants we may apply for.

Terri: Terri reported from the Trails meeting. Jaydon Mead, BLM, announced SRBCH has received a national award from the BLM. The National BLM Community Engagement Award for Outstanding Volunteer Group has been given to SRBCH. This award will be given in the Emery County Public Lands meeting on Feb. 3, 2026. Don, past president, will accept the award. Anyone interested, please attend the meeting.

Tentative Schedule

January 24, 2026 – BCHU meeting in Richfield

February 5, 2026 – SRBCH meeting – Jayden Mead BLM to be invited. We will talk about BLM projects

February 27-28, 2026 – Goblin Valley and Chute Canyon rides and campout

March 5, 2026 – SRBCH meeting – invite Kacie Healy/Josh Clark from Forest Service to talk about FS projects.