

BCHU State Meeting

May 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Location: Ramada Inn 333 North Main St. Richfield, UT

Attendance:

- Southwest Chapter: Freddy Dunn, Lin Hokana
- High Desert Chapter: **None**
- Bridgerland Chapter: Kari Prescott, Dawny Byington
- Central Chapter: Julie Heavirland
- Canyonlands Chapter: **None**
- Mountain Ridge Chapter: Lisa Caddy
- Uintah Basin Chapter: **None**
- Wasatch Front Chapter: Linda Price
- Hi-Line and Hobbles: Rod Unsworth
- San Rafael Chapter: Rod Player, Wayne Ludington
- High Uinta: **None**

No quorum established. Only 7 chapters represented.

Old Business:

Approval of meeting minutes from Jan 25, 2025 tabled until next meeting.

Financial Report – Presented by Freddy Dunn. Approval of financial report tabled until next meeting.

Membership Report – Presented by Freddy Dunn.

As of : 5/14/2025

2025						2025			
CHAPTER TOTALS	Ind	Fam	Pat	Youth	Total	2024	2023	NEW Memberships	k6/g6
Bridgerland	10	6	0	0	16	20	24	3	18.75%
Canyonlands	24	22	3	0	49	48	42	5	10.20%
Central	7	16	0	0	23	27	23	4	17.39%
High Desert	5	8	1	0	14	19	21	2	14.29%
Hi Lines & Hobbles	18	21	1	0	40	53	53	17	42.50%
High Uintah	7	9	0	0	16	14	14	6	37.50%
Mountain Ridge	30	27	0	0	57	75	77	9	15.79%
San Rafael	1	12	1	0	14	16	23	1	7.14%
Southwest	47	38	0	2	87	96	104	15	17.24%
Uintah Basin	1	3	0	0	4	9	7	2	50.00%
Wasatch Front	25	18	1	10	54	68	86	7	12.96%
Unaffiliated	1	0	0	0	1		1	0	0.00%
	176	180	7	12	375	445	475	71	18.93%
2024 Number of Members	176	360	7	24	567				

- Membership has declined. Recommend emails be sent out to old members who did not renew their memberships. Freddy has a list of members dropped.

- Suggestion for next year contest to be \$500 to the chapter that has the highest percentage of membership renewals.
- Uintah Basin has not had the required minimum 10 members for several years. Lisa will reach out to Adam Morrill to see where they stand as a chapter and whether there is consideration to close chapter or see if there is an interest in help from the state to help revive membership.
- Freddy asks that chapters do their best to solicit and send in new membership by the end of February.

Executive Committee actions since last meeting:

- \$500 grant approved for High Desert BCHU Chapter to be used toward a project they are collaborating on with the BLM Kanab Field Office. They have requested to use the \$500 toward signage at the Shinarump trailhead.
- \$500 grant approved for Mountain Ridge Chapter to be used to toward a chainsaw for their chapter.
- Request received for the High Uinta Chapter to also be used to purchase a chainsaw for their chapter.
- At this point all chapters have received a \$500 grant with the exception of Uinta Basin.

New Business:

National Board Meeting Report: Given by Rod Player

- Link to BCHA May 2025 Monthly update <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/-BCHA-May-2025-Monthly-Update.html?soid=1134684059006&aid=L4X9n1FKg70>
- Theme of the meeting was the lack of federal funding with the USFS and BLM. There have been many firings within the federal agencies.
- Federal government is looking at the sale of public lands. Approximately 465,000 acres potentially up for grabs in Utah. Get involved and become familiar with the "Return of the Great Public Lands Heist" Keep public lands in public hands.
- Recreational Trails Program (RTP). Grants to non-profit organizations. Utah pulls from these grants. Contact Utah Senator John Curtis who supports this to continue his support.
- Call to action to connect with Horseman. Watched You tube video "BCHInception2". <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m27V3z8Bid8>
- Wasatch Front was awarded a \$1000 grant for 3 day 2 night youth camp
- Rod said there is more money for youth grants at BCHA.
- 5 chapters were awarded grants for service projects.
- There is an updated service hours reporting form. Craig already converted us over to the new form.
- Light on the Land has updated curriculum on the BCHA website. It was recommended that the state pay to have Light on the Land trifold printed for each chapter. Tabled for now. Will vote on it next meeting.
- 2026 National meeting will be in Kansas City, KS.

Rod's take-a-ways

1. Promote Light on the Land Curriculum
2. Remember the importance of relationships with federal agencies
3. Cut them some slack

Public Lands Report: Continued by Rod Player

- E-bikes and bikes in wilderness are still a big concern. Utah Senator Mike Lee is a supporter of bikes in the wilderness.
- BCH Montana is pushing for the Drivers Appreciation Act to propose an increase in mileage reimbursement to \$.70 per mile.
- BLM has hired Jennifer (unknown last name) to oversee equestrian use on BLM lands. It's good to see the effort toward equestrians.
- Will email USFS and BLM MOU's to each chapter to encourage familiarity with the agency and to motivate them to reach out and become more familiar with their agency rep.
- Reminder to get involved with committees to be the equestrian voice (i.e Trail Mix and Utah Outdoor Regional Council)
- Poaching Trails – When forest trails are taken over by bikes/e-bikes is becoming a big concern. Represent equestrian by being on those trails.

Education Report: Given by Wayne Ludington

- 2 Chainsaw classes completed. One in Kanab and one in Kamas. One more scheduled for 5/20 for Snow College Trail Crew in Huntington Canyon.
- Ian Heinritz working on becoming a certified saw instructor.
- Wayne working on a cross cut certification class. Gary Siddoway has volunteered to certify as a C buckler for crosscut saw. He would then be able to certify our members to be B Buckler with crosscut saw.
- Wasatch Front chapter is looking to host a fall chainsaw certification class.

Utah Outdoor Initiative Report

- All regions reporting that it has been slow up to this year with only 1 meeting on average per region. Will get more detail at next meeting.

2025 Utah Conference report: Given by Lisa Caddy

- Trails conference was a success.
- Pack workshop was well attended by several participants from federal, state, county and city employees.
- Several contacts made: Utah High School Cycling league looking to BCHU chapter to teach trail etiquette to their students and Morgan County Commissioner Blaine Fackrell reaching out to Wasatch Front Chapter to help with the development of new land purchased to be a Wildlife management area with equestrian trails.

Signage Options from previous meeting

In the previous meeting a vote was taken to have the State pay for set up fees for each chapter to have signs made that can be designed chapter specific and posted. Lin Hokana brought examples of the signs to show with pricing for any chapter who is wanting to order signs. Signs can be ordered from Speedy Sign in St. George 335 S Bluff St. 435.656.0905. See attached example.

Next meeting will be in November. A Doodle poll will be sent out in September to determine a date.