

## Back Country Horsemen of Utah

### State Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2008

Beaver Creek Lodge, Logan, Ut

**Welcome:** Mike Pearce. Role passed around for attendance (attached)

**Called to Order:** Fred Leslie. Excused: Uinta Basin, High Desert, Hi Line and Hobbles,

**Approval of Minutes from May 12, 2008 Meeting:** Linda Morrison. Craig Allen made motion to accept, seconded, and approved by all.

**Treasurer Report:** Freddy Dunn passed out Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement. Around \$2500.00 left in account after all payments are made. @ 520 members. Motion made to approve, seconded and approved by all.

**Leave No Trace:** Craig Allen reported they planned for 12 people to be trained and 9 showed up, four of which were Federal or Stated representatives. Lasted 3 days. Planning on training same time and same place next year. Linda has already taught a class. Jordanelle is scheduled for a training session as are two scout groups. Craig/Terry need to get a list of graduates to Deb for the newsletter. Craig asked that the Trainers would report to him after they teach a class to get numbers to National. Freddy wanted a training session closer to the southern end of the State in April or May. It was suggested that the chapter presidents sign up.

**Guest Speaker:** Ann Justice-Allen DVM spoke with us about sponsorship of the "Utah Emergency Animal Response Program". It is non-profit 501c3 organization organized by several groups concerned about the well-being of pets, livestock and wildlife during natural and other disasters in Utah. Their BULL training (Big Useful Livestock Lessons) training is scheduled April 20-23, 2009 at two locations. Organization is looking for 8 (\$500.00) sponsors so that they can provide the training at no cost to the participants. Can access at [agewinn@xmission.com](mailto:agewinn@xmission.com). Motion made to make 2 \$500.00 donation, seconded and approved by all. BCH will designate one person to go. Suggested chapter presidents look over their members and finding someone who is in the rescue business (fireman, EMT, etc.) or a vet and submit suggestions to Fred for selection. Terry/Dick to check with Summit County Search and Rescue for suggestion. Ann to get information to Deb Walter for the Newsletter.

**Liability:** Fred reported that when you are conducting your activities that unless you sign a specific document from the provider for them to cover you for the activity, you are *not* covered by BCH for liabilities.

**Fee Pay Areas:** Those areas people pay to use need to be more accountable as to where the money is going. We need to ask the agencies this question and try and find out where the dollars are going to see if we can get some of it for projects.

**State Newsletter:** People like it. Each chapter needs to send in an article once every two years highlighting their chapter and one article per year covering an activity. Deb Walters sent around a sign up sheet for the chapters.

**Organizational Flow Chart:** Fred suggested setting up individual chapters with more people doing the work such as a first and a second Vice President, and delegating more. Food brings in people to meetings. Others stated speakers and light refreshments bring in more people to meetings. Suggested that there be a variety of rides offered for beginners and for those that do not want to go on a long ride. Terry suggested having training for the new members and officers. Fred to draw up schematics of an organizational idea.

**Huntington Canyon Project Report:** Wayne Ludington reported there were 23 horses/riders that covered 28 miles of the Manti La Sal Forrest, 266 volunteer hours, \$1200.00 worth of savings in equipment use. Stated that the ranchers and trail walkers have already sent him thank yous.

**Pine Valley Mt. Project Report:** Freddy Dunn reported that there were 16 packers plus three late arrivals, 28 stock that cleared the downfall on 4.5 miles of trails that had not been cleared for several years. The ride in was a long steep climb (@3000 ft in elevation change) to the base camp. There was little water, but with the water purifiers and man made troughs for the horses, all went well. The food was good and the scenery was beautiful. Freddy reported that the rangers were very appreciative of the services rendered.

**Escalante Staircase Monument:** Fred Leslie reported they have a grant for 7 signs and 2 trail head signs. Fred put out a letter of support for volunteer man hours. The Partners of Escalante Monument Staircase received a grant of \$112,000.00; \$56,000.00 with a match of volunteer hours. Has a meeting with them October 10<sup>th</sup>. Fred is also trying to get more information on grant writing.

**Calendaring Procedures:** Fred reported State scheduled activities for 2009;

- Jan 16-17 BCHU State Meeting and Extravaganza in Farmington Legacy Arena. (all chapters to have booth)
- April 18 State meeting TBA
- May 1-3<sup>rd</sup> Jordanelle Project (regional project for all chapters). Terry Morrison reported that Mike Johnson the ranger over the Jordanelle was very horse friendly. Is in the process of making two parallel trails for horse and walkers from the Cross Creek Trailhead and wants BCH involved with them in the planning and developing. Has plans to cut in 4 new trails with cabins along the trail for users. Need BCH help with weed spraying and control as well. Dick and Terry have a meeting with him in October and will get more information.
- May 16-17 St Jude's Ride
- July 10-12 Strawberry area Current Creek Project (regional project for all chapters) Paula Hill reported that the last project was successful with the funding available. Several mangers were repaired and 2 corrals were built, 6 more need to be. She passed out the camp ground format and what materials were needed and asked each chapter to see what they could get donated or bids from members.
- Aug 7-9 LNT training Hardware Ranch
- Aug 15-23 Crystal Lake Bridge in the Uinta's (regional project for all chapters). 15 packers + pack animals have taken in 1/3 of the needed corduroy for the bridges. More is needed to be taken in with the bridge being built. Will be scheduled for a week project with a base camp set up.
- Sept 19 State meeting TBA

**State equipment:** Craig reported that Demo Dude is being borrowed for some pictures at Thanksgiving Point. BCH will get advertising for it and donate 2 crosscut saws for chapters to use. Each chapter needs to start getting their own equipment. Linda volunteered to do an inventory of State equipment and get it centralized at Craig Allen's in Ogden in a storage unit. Any borrowing will go through her.

**What Works:**

Food at meeting and rides

Emails

Snail mail also

Clinics (shots and wellness)

T-shirts

\$ from Travel Council

Short ride < 2 hours

Ride chairman in each chapter

BCHU membership applications on cars at  
Trailheads

Set chapter goals for volunteer hours

Obstacle courses challenges; rides/activities

Individual contact of past members

Be assertive in getting new members

Multiple rides same day

Personalized thank-yous

Personalized belt buckles

Educational courses

Local newspaper articles

Guest speakers at meetings

More than one trail ride at rides

Smaller groups on rides (10 or less

County Fair horse rides

Newspaper articles (local)

Gatherings @ holidays with food

Committees instead of individuals

Planned trail rides geared to riding  
abilities

Appeal to younger families

**Annual Trails Extravaganza:** Fred wants to get more chapter members to the Friday meeting. Ideas to do so: 1. better publicity, 2. headliner groups, 3. appeal to general membership better, 4. offer training on Saturday for new officers. Craig will check into other activities for Friday night. Each chapter needs to provide a booth. Craig is doing the same advertising as last year and sending out invitations to vendors. Has clinics set up, with barrels for people to practice packing on. Same theme as last year with same requirements for each chapter: Where to ride in their area (3-4 trails), where to store horses, and where to stay.

**Committee Reports:** Wayne Ludington reported that the Forest Service's plan was on hold pending a court decision r/t to a public law suit. BLM has 6 plans that are available on line BLM.gov. Each chapter needs to check on own area and identify and prioritize for their area. Good idea to work with other users.

Minutes prepared by Linda G. Morrison September 22, 2009