

BCHC State Board Meeting

Education

Membership continues on its downward trend except for 2 units. The state number is 2455. The two previous years were 2595 and 2700. Some decrease was expected with the new dues increase but not this much. 9% have opted to renew with the 2 and 3 year option. There was a discussion to offer a 5 and 10 year option. The downside would be if National increases their fee we would absorb this loss. Also we are spending too much in postage sending out second reminders for membership fees. Please be prompt when renewing.

The volunteer report to state is due Feb. 1st There are changes to the value for volunteer hours but state will make the revisions. It has to do with hours accrued from Jan. to April. The report back to the units will be slightly different from what was submitted. Use the most recent form off the web site as they change. They are working to encompass MAC users.

The ongoing saga of the saw certification policy continues and we are waiting it being signed in Wash. DC. Comments were mostly positive. We will be looking for Saw Certifier candidates.

The Master's course had 8 Agency and 2 civilian attendees. The Wilderness Rider course on Nov. 12th will have the Masters course included. Next course will be held in Bishop in April. We are the only stock course in the USA.

Redshank unit will again host Officer training but date was not firm at this meeting.

Award nominations are due shortly for 2016 Rendezvous. Forms are on the web.

Best practice for trail projects is to have an Emergency contact number for all volunteers.

Public Lands

The Cuyamaca State Park trail identification continues. The next step will be to add it to the general plan.

HR1931 (American Land Act) proposing selling of public land only has a 2% chance of passing but it is an ugly proposal.

There is a proposal to reduce the acreage of wilderness in the several areas by a total of 10,460 acres. The committee agreed to respond negatively to this.

There are now Electric Bicycles and Gov. Brown signed an order including them in the DMV code. Class 1 and 2 are restricted to 20 MPH, Class 3, 28 MPH. Only Class 3 is restricted off trails. State Parks will have to create a policy. This does not apply to Federal lands. State does not support this use in parks.

State Board

Next year's National Board meeting will be in Las Vegas. The east coast units have been a great help in contacting Wash. DC on proposals affecting Public lands.

The Executive Director hired did not perform as hoped and was fired. Our Past president has taken over his duties.

The Nat. BCH website has been updated.

Ann Lang and Alan Hill received Lifetime Achievement Awards. They have been BCHC members for many years.

I requested that they look in to increasing the liability insurance for our public days due to many land owners wanting two million for coverage. Currently ours is one million. Our insurance agency does not provide this coverage. This will be looked into.

As requested by the education committee we will look into the pros and cons of providing 5 and 10 year membership options.

We will spend \$2,500. for attendance to the Greenways Conference.

The committee tasked with compiling all state policies over the years continues its search

The calendar fund raiser for 2015 raised \$35,000.

Next years "Rendezvous" is titled "Working Together to Save Our trails" Dave Stamey was not available and Linda Gail will replace him. Dave will be back in 2017.

It was reiterated that money paid to the c4 side of the Org. is only tax deductible for advertising. Everything to the c3 side is tax deductible.

There was a lengthy discussion as to whether to continue the calendar fund raiser in 2017. Final vote was 15 for 11 against so it will continue. This year our unit did not participate.

The 2017 Rendezvous will be held in Bishop Mar. 17th to the 19th.

BCHA sponsored our presentation at the Rocky Mtn. Elk Foundation gathering in Las Vegas this Dec. during Cowboy Christmas. This amounted to over \$3,000.

It has been suggested to create a volunteer Emergency phone chain that members could use when on the road and in need of help.

There is a new monument in Northern Ca. (Berryessa, Snow Mtn. Nat Monument). It encompasses BLM and National Forest Wilderness as well as private land. We have representation on the steering committee. Early on there was talk of Eminent Domain being used and road closures.

Respectfully

Jerry Stone