



## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes Final

February 24, 2026, at 5:00 PST

Zoom: [Click here to access meeting.](#)

Meeting ID: 876 1008 6325

Passcode: 812963

TOPIC
<p><b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b></p> <p>Called to order at 5:00PM Pacific Time</p>
<p><b>Agenda</b></p>
<p><b>Minutes: January 2026</b></p> <p>Change the Legal fund donation to Legacy.</p> <p><i>Motion to approve the meeting minutes with changing the word Legal with Legacy, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.</i></p>
<p><b>Financial Reports – January 2026</b></p> <p>CDs No interest in January</p> <p>Stifel accounts: Investment amount and values provided.</p> <p>Museum fundraiser is complete and the expenses and income have been balanced out.</p> <p>Dues projection is currently down.</p> <p>National Board Meeting registration income provided.</p> <p><i>Motion to accept the financials as presented. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.</i></p> <p><b>Stifel account:</b> Legacy investment account is a little riskier than the Legal investment account. Treasurer shared screen to show the changes in values over the last year. Suggestion to look for another investment company.</p> <p>Legacy is in a low to medium risk and legal is conservative risk.</p> <p>Suggested to increase risk level, we don't necessarily need to go to a different company.</p> <p>Comment: When we signed with Stifel we signed an agreement to be conservative. If Stifel is being restricted based on BCHA direction, we should look at increasing risk.</p> <p>It was suggested to read the IPS policy before we make a decision.</p> <p>Going forward, read the investment policy and discuss it at another date. Stifel is available next week, or even for the next EC call. Have Stifel look at the investments now and make suggestions on potential higher risk investments.</p> <p>EC to read the IPS policy and we will schedule with Stifel in the middle of March.</p>
<p><b>Public Lands</b></p> <p>Public Lands is going to make some changes, and Brad has stepped away from the Public Lands Chair position.</p> <p>Draft Bill to Prohibit Agencies from Restricting Class 1 E-bike Use: BCHA was alerted by The Wilderness Society to a draft bill (yet to be introduced in Congress) that, if introduced and</p>



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passed, would prohibit all federal land management agencies from restricting the use of Class 1 e-bikes on all trails other than a National Scenic Trail or trails within designated Wilderness or Wild & Scenic River corridors. Randy recommended to the EC that we first attempt polite outreach to the congressman who appears prepared to introduce the bill, explaining in detail our steadfast opposition. BCHA's opposition would be based on concerns regarding:

1. Potential unsafe conditions and increased trail conflict experienced by equine users on multi-use trails as a result of fast-moving e-bikes; and
2. The potential for displacement of equine users on trails with a high volume of e-bike use.

Important to the discussion is the point that the bill would represent a top-down, one-size-fits-all mandate, as:

3. The draft bill, as written, would preclude the agencies from making decisions at the local level—without the input of affected stakeholders like hikers and horsemen. Local decision-making by federal land agencies is a long-standing talking point made by western conservatives who adamantly oppose top-down mandates.

Since the congressman in question has stated his appreciation in the past for Back Country Horsemen in his state, and of because the crucial leadership in Congress he holds over the budgets of federal land agencies, BCHA has undertaken respectful outreach to his office and the entities in-state that requested the bill. Randy alerted and requested proactive outreach to the congressman's office by the BCH state national directors, the statewide hiking organization (via help from American Hiking Society), the Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, and the state Horse Council (via help from American Horse Council). Randy also will attempt to meet with the congressman's office in Washington DC during Hike the Hill.

**Equestrian Legacy Radio:** It was Randy's turn as guest in the monthly Saddle Up America aired on Equestrian Legacy Radio. He spoke about the purpose of BCHA's engagement in Hike the Hill, plus other topics. The interview can be accessed via:

<https://www.equestrianlegacy.net/>

**Hike the Hill Webinars:** Randy participated in multi-day webinars with trail colleagues in preparation for the upcoming Hike the Hill event (March 1st-6th). He presented to the audience the importance of the US Forest Service 2005 Travel Management Rule, the current proposal by the administration to repeal the Rule, and the potential consequences of doing so.



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Coalition Zoom Meetings: Randy represented BCHA in the following coalition zoom meetings:

- AHC Recreation, Trails & Land Use Committee— discussion included the following topics:  
Dec. 2025 US Forest Service Trail Program Status Report, FY'26 federal agency trail budgets, e-bike issues, updates via Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (EXPLORE Act implementation).
- Coalition for Recreational Trails— discussion regarding advancement of RTP Full Funding Act.
- Travel Management Core Group— ongoing discussion of proactive steps to avert the full repeal of the US Forest Service Travel Management Rule.
- PNTS Advocacy & Policy Committee—planning discussions related to upcoming Hike the Hill.
- Northwest Trails Roundtable—Legacy Restoration Fund, FY'26 appropriations, FS Trails Report, etc.

### Committee Updates

#### Youth Committee

- Lexi Studebaker has accepted the position of Youth Committee Chair.

#### Expansion Committee

- Misty has accepted the position of Expansion Committee Chair

#### Marketing & Media

- We do not have a chair for this committee yet

#### Education

- Working on videos.

#### Volunteer Hours

- 16 states have submitted their hours

Nomination committee is set up, saw and partnership are preparing for the National Board Meeting.

### Updates from the Chairman

#### Credit Card Policy

- Motion to accept the credit card policy as presented, seconded.
- Discussion: Add parking and approval by certain people. Travel is already budgeted so maybe we don't include this because if it goes over the budget the person would need to come to the EC for approval anyway.
- Add including but not limited to.... for travel.



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*Motion to approve the credit card policy with the amendments to person's approving credit card other than the card holder, use and travel disclaimer with example but not limited to... Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*

### PLD Job Description

- Discussion on Public Lands Director SOP and Job description.

*Motion to adopt the SOP/Job Description for the Director of Public Lands position.*

*Seconded. All in favor. None opposed.*

### National Board Meeting Updates

- Quick overview of the agenda.

### Governance Policy

- There has been discussion on simplifying the Governance Policy. A couple adjustments are being considered and will be discussed at the next EC meeting.
- Next meeting there will be a compliance review during the March meeting.

### Code of Ethics Anti-discrimination policy.

- Chairman would like to accept this as part of our policy.
- This is a BCHA policy and not a state or chapter policy, but states and chapters can use it if they prefer.
- Suggested adding political status.
- Suggested to make this a national policy.
- How do we enforce it? Does it need to be this extensive?

We will revisit this in March and give time for all to review and think about this policy.

**Saw** – Discussion on chaps, video shown how chaps might not stop an electric saw.

**Next EC Meeting: March 24, 2026** - Last meeting before the National Board Meeting.

National Director Call tomorrow night.

### Adjourn

**Motion to adjourn meeting, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:34PM Pacific Time.

**In Attendance:** Mark Himmel, Craig Ferdig, Latifia Rodriguez, Heather Schultz, Greg Schatz, Jim Allen, Brad Pollman, Heather Cox, Darrel Wallace

**Staff:** Randy Rasmussen, Michelle Wade



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### **Motions Passed**

- 1. Motion to approve the meeting minutes with changing the word Legal with Legacy, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*
- 2. Motion to accept the financials as presented. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*
- 3. Motion to approve the credit card policy with the amendments to person's approving credit card other than the card holder, use and travel disclaimer with example but not limited to... Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.*
- 4. Motion to adopt the SOP/Job Description for the Director of Public Lands position. Seconded. All in favor. None opposed.*