



Executive Committee Meeting Agenda DRAFT

July 22nd, 2025, at 5:00 PST

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

Meeting ID: 817 5603 0264 Passcode: 568627

TOPIC
<p>In Attendance: Mark Himmel, Craig Ferdig, Latifia Rodriguez, Heather Schultz, Greg Schatz, Jim Allen, Brad Pollman, Heather Cox, Darrel Wallace</p> <p>Staff: Randy Rasmussen, Michelle Wade</p>
<p>Welcome & Introductions</p> <p>Meeting called to order at 5:05PM Pacific Time.</p>
<p>Agenda</p> <p>No changes to the agenda</p>
<p>EC Non-Director Position</p> <p>Darrell Wallace has accepted the non-director position to fill Dana Chambers position as she resigned.</p> <p><i>Motion for Darrell Wallace to fill the remainder of Dana Chambers' position as Non-Director on the Executive Committee. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed, Motion passed.</i></p>
<p>Minutes: June 2025</p> <p><i>Motion to accept June 2025 minutes, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.</i></p>
<p>Financial Reports – June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CD's no interest gained.• Value of the Stifel accounts provided. No fees or deductions in June.• Donations income provided• Miscellaneous Income description provided.• Randy travel expenses provided to Washington DC explained.• Disaster relief fund income provided• Net revenue provided. <p><i>Motion to approve the June 2025 financials as presented. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.</i></p>
<p>Public Lands</p> <p>Public Lands Sell Off Victory– BCHA touted to our membership, via our July 8 email update to all members, the defeat of the public lands sell off in Congress. While hundreds, if not thousands, of organizations sounded off to oppose largescale federal land transfer, BCHA members no doubt added to the chorus of voices that made this “win” possible. As such, our update to membership was celebratory and thanked them for collectively raising their voices at this time.</p>



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Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations for Trails, etc. – Despite a proposal by the administration (aka, the “President’s Budget”) to reduce funding for the NPS and USFS by 30%, the House of Representatives proposal for funding land management agencies issued last week proposed only minor cuts for these agencies next fiscal year. This includes the proposal to reduce the NPS operations budget by 6% and only a “slip dip” for USFS non-fire programs. Exact numbers for budgets related to recreation, trails and wilderness have yet to be provided.

Yet the overall budget for the NPS, in particular, is daunting. The recently passed “rescission” in the Big, Beautiful bill stripped the NPS of \$500 million intended to enhance agency staffing as passed in the Inflation Reduction Act. Partner NPCA [reports](#) that NPS staffing is down 24% since January, losing about 4,000 staff, including 100 park superintendents. As noted above, further cuts are in the work causing NPCA’s president to declare:

This has left parks severely understaffed during peak visitation, putting visitor centers, trail maintenance and public safety at risk when help is needed most.

BCHA continues to work with the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) to call attention to the negative impact on visitors experience and safety resulting from continued RIFs and cuts to the budgets of the NPS, USFS and the BLM. With leadership provided by the American Hiking Society, we submitted a coalition [recommendation](#) for FY’26 appropriations to the House of Representatives.

Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture Changes to National

Environmental Policy Act – Both departments recently released “interim final rules” that drastically alter NEPA regulations for the National Park Service, BLM, [US Forest Service](#) and other agencies. It appears the primary intent of these changes include fast-tracking energy development and commercial timber production, while drastically minimizing the public’s voice in the environmental analysis process. Worst of all, the interim final rules would essentially eliminate public input requirements related to Environmental Assessments and would require public input only during the scoping stages of Environmental Impact Statements. BCHA is working with PNTS, the Continental Divide Trail Coalition and other concerned organizations to submit coalition comments in opposition to these rule changes.

Committee Updates

Fundraising: The focus is on sponsors; the goal is to get two sponsors. A sponsorship flyer draft was sent to the EC prior to the meeting. The goal is to benefit BCHA National



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operations. Also, the committee has put together an action plan for the next few years. This is a working document.

A questionnaire has been drafted to send to National Directors, this survey is to see if there are any special skills through National Directors and if so, they are interested in helping with the fundraising committee.

The focus for fundraising is to obtain donations outside of the BCHA membership. In addition, what can we do with the National Board Meeting, more of a convention instead of a meeting.

Chapter Support Grants: Not a lot of movement currently

Volunteer Hours: A Meeting on September 4th, 2025, at 5:00PM Pacific Time.

Youth Committee: 1st grant for 2025-2026 year was submitted and approved.

Marketing & Media: Focusing on education tools to help states and chapters.

Partnership: The committee is working with the Forest Service Museum in Missoula, Montana. <https://forestservicemuseum.org/campaign-closers-circle/>.

There are sponsor opportunities to be a part of the museum. The level of sponsorship determines the amount of incentives received from the museum. The state of Montana has voted to donate at the \$10,000 level. The museum is providing BCH history in the museum. National can also piggyback Montana and then it will cost \$15,000. BCH is listed in partnership and conservation in the museum. If the Executive Committee chooses, there is room for BCHA history. This museum is expecting 50,000 to 60,000 visitors annually. Mark is willing to take this on at the National level and Craig commented he would donate. The board sense is this is a good idea, and we should talk to the National Directors for further support.

Saw: Looking at an alternate site outside of Region 8. Regions are changing/combining, example region 8 and 9 will be region 89. Trying to get advanced training in a particular area and keep it there for future training. This will be Forest Service training/lead.
Grants: What is the ask, Michelle to help pull it together.

Public Lands: Looking for someone to take over as the Chairman.

Updates from the Chairman

The National Board meeting for the 2026 and 2027 will be held in Kansas City, MO. The only difference is the \$4 room charge increase in 2027.



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Next EC Meeting: August 26th, 2025

National Director Call tomorrow night.

Adjourn 6:30PM Pacific Time

Meeting URL:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81756030264?pwd=7wI ZZnGvCbPZ5movtcy jxDgtlb1abV.1>