



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes DRAFT

May 27th, 2025, at 5:00 PST

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

Meeting ID: 886 9845 8156 Passcode: 378936

TOPIC

Welcome & Introductions

Called To Order at 5:03PM Pacific Time

Agenda

No additions or changes.

Minutes: March 2025 Minutes

March minutes were not approved pending Randy's March Public Lands report submission. Approve March minutes during the June EC meeting.

Financial Reports – April 2025

The treasurer presented the financial report, highlighting the current assets, liabilities, and total equity.

Financial Reports Approved as presented. Seconded. None opposed, All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Lands

Public Lands Sell Off – BCHA issued an action alert on May 15, titled “Return of the Great Public Lands Heist,” asking members to take action by contacting their representatives in Congress in order to:

1. encourage them to join the new Public Lands Caucus (which opposes large-scale federal land transfer to states), and/or
2. not support the sale or transfer of federal public lands as a way to pay for tax cuts or reduce the deficit.

As we learned on May 21, the Public Lands Caucus and, particularly, Congressman Ryan Zinke (R-MT) insisted that a wide-ranging public land sell-off for Nevada and Utah be pulled from the forthcoming budget bill. Congressman Zinke is the new champion for “keeping public lands in public hands.” It is important for BCH MT to call and write letters of thanks to the congressman (Randy stands by ready to help as needed).

Fiscal Year 2026 Budget – BCHA continued to work with AHS and partners to submit the trails community's request for congressional funding of trails, recreation and wilderness among federal land management agencies. At a time when Congress is gearing up for significant across-the-board budget cuts, we're calling for agency trail-related budgets to essentially remain the same as in the previous two fiscal years.

RTP Full Funding Act – BCHA submitted an organizational request to the House subcommittee on Transportation & Infrastructure in support of the Recreational Trails Program Full Funding Act (S.811). Our request included adding the bill as a key provision in the forthcoming reauthorization of the 5-year transportation funding bill. If passed as written, S.811 would more than triple the amount of RTP funds available each year to states.

Coalition Meetings – During the past month, Randy was an active participant in the following coalition zoom meetings:



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- Coalition for Recreational Trails (re: steps to advance S.811);
- Equestrian Land Conservation Resource (re: advice on ELCR's strategic plan update);
- Northwest Trails Roundtable (re: ramifications of agency job losses, draft strategic plan leaked by Dept. of Interior, strengthening the congressional Trails Caucus);
- Partnership for the National Trails System, Advocacy & Policy Committee (re: coalition ask for FY'26 federal budget, Continental Divide Trail Completion Act);
- Trails are Common Ground (re: reviving/refreshing trail etiquette campaign);
- BCHA Public Lands Committee Regional Co-Chairs (re: information exchange on current public land issues);
- American Trails Recreation, Trails & Land Use Committee (re: agenda for June in-person meeting);
- Partnership for the National Trails System, Membership Committee (re: recruitment techniques and outreach for new affiliate members).

Committee Updates

Sawyer

Chairman is going to be pushing the sawyer program as permanent during next year's National Boad Meeting.

The group discussed recent crosscut saw training activities in Idaho, where 150 people attended, including 44 specifically for crosscut upgrades. They noted that the Forest Service had not appointed a national saw program manager, leading to uncertainty about policy changes and certification processes. Tiff shared her experience with a recent training in Salida where she was surprised to learn after the fact that Forest Service evaluators would not be certified, despite similar previous certifications in Durango. The committee also discussed budget matters regarding Tiff's out-of-pocket expenses for the Salida training, which were not yet formally approved for reimbursement.

The Executive Committee discussed how to handle reimbursement requests for the Sawyer training program, with Tif explaining the \$2,500 total cost and her \$1,000 out-of-pocket expenses. The committee agreed that while the ad hoc committee should have oversight of expenses, they would submit reimbursement requests to the Executive Committee for approval until the committee becomes permanent, with all expenses to be accompanied by receipts for verification. Dana suggested implementing a donation option during online registration, similar to their Washington program, which has been successful in generating additional funding.

Marketing & Media

At the first meeting only one person show up. But we have another meeting on Thursday night so, we'll see how that one goes.



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Education

Colleen is working on developing a code of conduct for the organization to address issues with chapter and state leadership.

Expansion

We did have somebody reach out from New York and we sent him the packet on starting a state and he was going to review it; Dana will be reaching back out to him to see if the committee can answer any questions.

Updates from the Chairman

- **2025 National Board Meeting Recap**
 - Chairman shared financial details from the recent National Board meeting, noting a net loss of \$3,228, with the auction raising \$21,939.

Next EC Meeting: June 24, 2025

National Director Call tomorrow night.

Adjourn 6:36PM Pacific

In Attendance: Craig Ferdig, Mark Himmel, Latifia Rodriguez, Heather Schultz, Greg Schatz, Jim Allen, Brad Pollman, Dana Chambers, Heather Cox

Staff: Randy Rasmussen, Michelle Wade (Absent)

Meeting URL:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88698458156?pwd=QMadeA6aba2AqkQCm7HGVJmyXRj4Ow.1>