



The meeting began at 5:03PM Pacific Time

Chairman provided an overview of the Executive Committee meeting. Darrell Wallace was elected to fill the duration of the open non-director seat on the Executive Committee.

Financials

The treasurer provided a summary of the financial report for June 2025.

- CD's no interest gained.
- Stifel account values provided, no fees or deductions.
- Donations income provided
- Miscellaneous income was a late registration fee for the National Board Meeting
- Travel for Randy was provided to attend the AHC event in Washington DC
- Net Revenue provided.

Public Lands

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.

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 to the 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.

Brad Pollman is looking for someone to replace him as the Public Lands Chair.



Committees

- Chapter Support Grants – Connie Long
 - Not much going on at this time, just getting organized for grants to open the first of the year.
- Volunteer Hours – John Chepulis
 - Having a meeting scheduled for September 4th, all volunteer coordinators and National Directors were invited.
- Youth Committee: Alley Pike
 - Moving along nicely.
- Marketing & Media: Dana Chambers
 - Working on state and chapter resources under education. If there is anything in particular your state or chapter is looking for, please reach out to Dana.
- Education: Colleen Fisk
 - No report
- Fundraising – Tif Rodriguez
 - Have achieved planning to move forward in the short term, mid term and long-term goals.
 - Focusing on Corporate Sponsors
 - Building a skills matrix, sending out a questionnaire to see if any of the National Directors know someone with particular skills.
- Partnerships – Mark Himmel
 - Back Country Hunters & Anglers, no response regarding partnership at this time.
 - National Forest Service Museum in Missoula, Montana.
 - Montana is sponsoring \$10,000 to hold a place in the museum for BCH historical information and BCH can tell their story.
 - Electronic Trees, each ring is 10 years and tells a story in each of the 10 years.
 - BCHA has an opportunity to piggyback Montana for another \$15,000 to total \$25,000 sponsorship. We would have opportunity for a display and ability to use the building when we want.
 - Expected 50,000-60,000 to attend the museum each year.



- Great way to get BCHA name out there and potentially increase membership.
- A unique opportunity to tell BCHA story at a level we have never been exposed to before.
- **Ask:** would BCHA chapters and states be willing to donate for BCHA to be a part of the new museum?
- SAW Training
 - Being held in Missouri and invitation only. Looking for people going to C.

Other

2027 National Board Meeting has been scheduled in Kansas City, MO.

2026 Hotel room cost is \$129, and 2027 room cost is \$133 per night.

Meeting ended at 6:12PM, Pacific Time