



MVBCH

HORSE TALES

BCHW.org

MVBCH.com

[Facebook](#)

SAFETY IN BCHW

Mission: The purpose of Backcountry Horsemen of Washington is to perpetuate the legal and moral claim by the American people to use horses and mules for recreation on public lands.

2022 Chapter Officers

- **Director:** DK Williams (360-676-1319)
- **President:** Cathy Upper (509.429.2955)
- **Vice President:** Michelle Schmidtke (206-730-1904)
- **Treasurer:** Bennet Upper (509.429.2955)
- **Secretary:** Michelle Schmidtke (206-730-1904) and Sue Elson 509-997-0430
- **Volunteer Hours:** Kay MacCready (509.996.3969)
- **Membership:** Megan Casey (425-533-5833)
- **Newsletter/Blog:** Linda Seaman (cell 206.909.9676)
- **Budget:** Pete Stoothoff (509.997.7004)
- **Historian:** Jan Ford (509.997.0133)
- **Sunshine:** Betty Wagoner (509.279.8717)
- **Trail Bosses:** Bill Ford (509.997.0133)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from *Cathy Upper*



Happy 2022 everyone! I hope with the longer daylight you are thinking of the seasons ahead.

At the last meeting we voted to go ahead with the Davis/Microsoft funds and hire WCC (Washington Conservation Corp) to bring a group of 6 to work on thread on the Williams Lake trail for 8 days. We'll need to have it logged out before they arrive. This project will be used as matching funds for a grant that MVBCH member Michael Liu is monitoring for Jason Ridlon—probably up Andrews creek with NW Youth Corp. Dates have not been decided yet and other trails might be worked on.

Four of us attended the most recent Methow Collaborative meeting. Lots of exciting things happening there. The Collaborative has a trail manager job that we can hopefully tap into! Information sharing is certainly the biggest need for all of us.

The Spring ride is going ahead! We're applying for permits and most jobs have a leader (except 'facilities'). We need a tractor and dumper to clean manure bunkers on Sunday.

Calendar events are being gathered if anyone wants to host a ride or work party on their favorite trail. Please let us know ASAP! We will have our Spring Ride on the BCHW website.

Please join us at the February 3rd meeting to help us gear up for the year 2022!

WE NEED YOU!

Inside this Issue	
January 2022 Minutes	2
Odds n' Ends	3
Minutes (cont)	4
Membership Renewal Info.	5
MVTC Information	6
Membership Renewal Form	7

Make A Difference



MVBCH JANUARY 13, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Members present: Michelle Schmidtke, DK Williams, Ashley Ahearn, Mark Brantner, Mary McHugh, Cathy Upper, Bennet Upper, Kay McCready, Betty Wagoner, Michael Liu

The meeting was called to order by Cathy Upper, President

There were no corrections to the minutes of the 12/4/21 meeting

Director's Report (DK Williams):

DK presented the highlights from the 4th quarter Director's board meeting:

- BCHW Nomination Report: Dana Chambers, president, Bob Iddins, vice-president, Kathy Young, Director, Tom Conner, BCHA alternate director, Secretary position is open, special projects is open
- Treasurer's Report: Teri will continue as treasurer until centralized accounting is up and running.
- Reimagine Committee: It has been decided to follow the BCHA model and form an Executive committee. The current directors' positions will remain in place.
- Need volunteers for Rendezvous.
- Website Changes: Launching an events calendar, submit to Kathy Iddins.

Cathy reported that the new Trailhead News is online and it describes the details of the director's meeting. She said Christina Cline (farrier and member) is our representative to Rendezvous and will give a talk about hoof health. MVBCH has donated \$390.00 towards a chain saw for Rendezvous.

Treasurer's Report (Bennet):

MVBCH has budgeted for Rendezvous attendance plus a donation. Donations to MVBCH in the past 3 months have been made and allocated towards trail work. The current total balance was provided to the membership at the meeting and chapter members may contact Treasurer Bennet Upper for current balances if interested. Mike Liu stated that we have additional funds from a state grant but it requires a 2.5 matching grant which should be no problem. Bennet emphasizes that all expenditures will go through him and the easiest way to purchase anything is with our credit card. Bill Ford and President Cathy will each have a credit card. Our budget has been submitted to the state.

New Membership Chair:

Megan Casey has volunteered to be our new membership chair.

Volunteer Hours (Kay MacCready):

Kay has nothing to report on Volunteer Hours.

Spring Ride:

- * Cathy suggested we raise the price of the event to \$30.00 and the price of breakfast to \$10. A vote of members present resulted in unanimous approval of holding the Spring Ride. Cathy will apply for the permit and will start advertising. She said MVBCH needs to create some publicity flyers. She is soliciting help setting up a facebook page and she needs help with advertising. DK suggested that Cathy contact Megan Casey to help with the facebook page and advertising.
- * There was discussion about whether to have the Dutch Oven potluck or just a regular potluck on Friday night. Betty suggested recruiting Willy Kemper for overseeing the Dutch Oven potluck.
- * Rick and Shelly Jones are taking charge of the auction committee
- * A facilities chairperson is still needed. MVBCH needs a tractor, san-i-cans, firewood, etc
- * Cathy suggested a mid-ride break that offered coffee, cookies, granola bars
- * Michelle is in charge of logo wear. She said there are lots of items available from previous years but may need to order more large and extra-large sizes of the current inventory
- * Betty is in charge of music and the route planning.

"In the world of mules
There are no rules."

Ogden Nash



YAHOOOO!

Let's welcome our new MVBCH Membership Chair

Megan Casey



Megan started her new role beginning January 1st of this year and she will work with our state membership chair Dana Chambers to track and record our chapter memberships.

Megan's contact information is with our other chapter officers on the first page of every newsletter.

Please see page 5 for more information.



PLEASE HELP — WE NEED A VOLUNTEER HOURS COORDINATOR!

The hours we work on trails, our horse camps, and raising money for these projects as in the Spring Ride/Auction are recorded and shared with legislators and the Forest Service!!

This focuses attention on the need to keep the trails and camps we use open. It is part of our community credibility.

If you have questions, please call me!

Computer skills are required; you must be able to learn or use Excel.

509-293-1413 OR Kay.MacCready@gmail.com



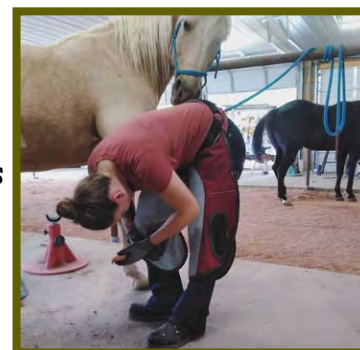
ML FARRIER SERVICES

Offering shoeing and barefoot trimming in the Methow Valley. Melissa Stusinski is a Winthrop resident and graduate of the Equine Lameness Prevention Organization's farrier school.

Contact Melissa:

425-478-4005 or

mlsfarrierservices@gmail.com



MVBCH JANUARY 13, 2022 MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

Bennet said the 'bank' will have a card reader for processing purchases.

Trail Work:

- * Landon, Rosemary and Mike Liu discussed trail projects for the 2022 season. There is a position open for a trail coordinator at \$40K.
- * Cathy contacted Joe Hall because he has 4 weeks to work on the Wolf Creek and Cedar Creek trails.
- * MVBCH can hire a WCC crew of up to six individuals to work on the Williams Lk trail and/or improvements at the Twisp River Horse Camp.
- * Mike Liu said Jason Ridlon is trying to coordinate trail work with more regional groups rather than the individual chapters.
- * The Pacific Northwest Conservation Corp is available to work on the Andrews Creek trail that accessed the Pacific Northwest Trail.
- * The water system for the North Summit Horse Camp is probably going to be paid for by a USFS grant.
- * Betty is in charge of putting together the 2022 ride calendar so she needs input from members.
- * Cathy is coordinating with the Evergreen Bike Alliance to work on the Twisp River Trail and she needs input from members. She said the Virginia Ridge Trail project is still moving forward. Cathy said the planning phase grant for the Loup trails is still proceeding..

Cathy urged all members to fill out the WDFW survey about usage of the Methow Wildlife areas. Go to <https://publicinput.com/R2352> [please copy and paste the link if you cannot just 'click' on it] for the survey. Michelle said it's really important to urge better access via parking lots large enough for trucks and trailers.

Mary McHugh said the project to re-locate the South Pass trail has been stalled due to lack of change of ownership from the current owner's name to Jack Crammer's name.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Michelle Schmidtke

Got Snow?

Jan and Bill Ford shared a snapshot of their horses in their pasture up Twisp River Road. The horses were up to their bellies in the white stuff, and I'll bet they weren't finding much to graze on 'till the hay bales were put out!



NOW is the time to RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!!!

From now on Dana Chambers, our state BCHW membership chair AND also our BCHW President, will manage all membership applications and renewals for all chapters.

Sound like a lot of work for one person?

Well it is, so we also have our own Methow Valley membership chair and her name is...

Megan Casey

Yes, Linda Seaman has retired from the membership job because there is someone who is more qualified—and it's Megan! Besides, the newsletter is providing Linda with plenty of things to keep her busy!

The only part of this membership process that the chapters have is to renew memberships on time AND record our members' information that Dana sends to us so we can maintain a list of our current members. Dana will record the chapter dues paid (\$10 for MVBCH) in Quickbooks for each chapter to access when needed.

We're already a month into 2022 and Dana posted the latest MVBCH Membership Application/Renewal form on the BCHW.org website. You can access it by going to the site and clicking on the **Members Join/Renew** tab on the website.

You will also be able to find the 2022 Membership Join/Renew form on our own chapter's blog by going to MVBCH.com and click on the "Join Us" link for instructions. Your completed and signed form with your check made out to BCHW is sent to Dana.

NOTICE:

Your current membership in BCHA, BCHW and MVBCH will end with this newsletter if you choose to not renew your membership before the end of February 2022.

Please go to page 7 of this newsletter or to BCHW.org and renew your membership!!



MVTC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2022

Members Present: Ben Nelson, James DeSalvo, Bill Davis, Cathy Upper, Julie Mullyeart

Note Recorded By: Adrienne Schaefer, Communications Coordinator

Action Items

- Add bi-laws to MVTC agenda email
- James will reach out to Landon about joining the Steering Committee/BOD
- James will send out the Trail Coordinator position description to the Steering Committee
- Ben will ask Virginia about working on a visual representation of trail projects/funding opportunities in the Methow
- Heide will forward the new WDFW job description
- Refine Trail Crew Lead/Coordinator position at next Steering Committee meeting
 - Begin hiring process in March

Formalizing the MVTC

- Still in the process of
- Ask the membership to vote whether they are in favor at the next bi-monthly meeting.
- Identify temporary board of directors. BOD will be elected after articles of incorporation are complete.
- Need to identify president, secretary and treasurer.
 - Cathy suggested Mike Liu and Don Hecker would be good additions the BOD as community members
 - James suggested trying to find an agency representative
 - Landon Decker?
- Vote in favor of or against proceeding as a 501c3
- Cost for state level ~\$50. Federal status depends if we hire an attorney, \$500 application fee. Possible to complete the application and have an attorney review it.

Summer Opportunities

- BCH has funding for multiple projects this summer
- Title II Funding for a Trails Supervisor/Coordinator for 2022 summer
 - \$40,000-\$50,000 for an 8 month position
 - Evergreen has Title II funding for a trail crew
 - Heide suggested hiring someone from WCC
 - Other ideas: Blake Joseph, previous Forest Service Trail Crew employees
 - Start hiring process in March
 - Have possible candidates come to the January meeting.
 - Get a list of projects from MVTC members so they can be prioritized

Wildlife Area Advisory Committee

- Important to get someone from the MVTC as a representative on the committee
- Heide will talk to Brandon about presenting it at the next bi-monthly meeting
- Heide will talk about her new position as the Recreation Planner for WDFW at the January bi-monthly meeting

This information is shared with permission of MVTC.

Come Join Us!

Go to BCHW.org and join or renew online. If online is not an option, please fill out this paper application and sign, (all members 18 and over must sign) enclose your cash or check made out to BCHW and mail to:

BCHW Membership Chair
 11404 210th Ave Ct E
 Bonney Lake, WA 98391



Methow Valley

Member Info

Check One: New Member Renewal Secondary Chapter Application Only

Adult's name(s): _____

Children's name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

Legislative district (if known): _____ County: _____

National and State Newsletters are viewable online at BCHA.org/BCHW.org or Please mail a hard copy of Newsletters
 (Check Boxes) BCHA Newsletter BCHW (Trailhead News) Chapter Newsletter (If available to mail)

STATE MEMBERSHIP

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Basic Memberships

- Single \$41.00
- Family \$54.00

Levels below include Single and Family

- Contributing \$75.00
- Sustaining \$125.00
- Patron \$250.00
- Benefactor \$500.00
- Lifetime (Single) \$1200.00

All chapter members must also be a member of BCHW. However, BCHW dues only need to be paid **once** each year. Joining additional (secondary) chapters only requires paying chapter dues.

Chapter Name (or Independent):
Methow Valley

If joining a secondary Chapter, provide the Chapter name where BCHW State dues have been paid for 2021:

Chapter Dues \$10.00

Please consider making a Chapter donation: \$

Please consider making a State donation: \$

Chapter Subtotal \$

State Subtotal \$

Grand Total (State+Chapter) \$

NOTICES

By signing this membership application, you will agree to the terms of our Liability Release. You can read it on our website at bchw.org, under the Join tab. You also agree to receive notices from BCHW/BCHA by electronic transmission at the above email address.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a public charity as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c) (3). Accordingly, membership dues paid to BCHW may be treated as deductions characterized as "charitable contributions" when computing federal and state income tax obligations.

Signature: _____ **Date** _____

Signature: _____ **Date** _____

Signature: _____ **Date** _____

Linda Seaman
1709 134th Ave SE #14
Bellevue, WA 98005



Mask up when
inside
TwispWorks!

February Agenda

Spring Ride—planning
2022 Calendar
Rendezvous
First aid/Sawyer training

(Contact Cathy Upper if
you wish to add a topic)

Note
the
time!

Thursday, February 3rd, 2022

5 pm Business Meeting

@ TwispWorks Conference Room

502 S Glover St, Twisp, WA