

# The Trailhead News

Back Country Horsemen of Washington

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Cover Photo: Diane McCuin and her Foxtrotter Gelding Crowbar. They are on the Pacific Crest Trail just south of Old Snowy Mt in the Goat Rocks Wilderness!

Photo by Diane McCuin

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Please submit to: [bchwh@wamedia.com](mailto:bchwh@wamedia.com) or mail to: PO Box 7184 • Olympia, WA 98507 • 360.754.4543

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April 1 .....	May/June
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# SADDLE UP YOUR PONY & COME CELEBRATE THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WINERY RIDE!

It's been a long year and we can't think of a better way to say "Goodbye!" to our pandemic blues and "Hello!" to 10 wineries along the trail. Come ride your horse to various Yakima Valley wineries, sampling wines as you go. Transport available for purchases back to camp.

**When - Saturday, October 30, 2021**

**Where - In the Rattle Snake Hills wine growing area of the Yakima Valley**

**Earlybird registration is \$25 or \$35 if postmarked after October 1**

- **Halloween costume contest & raffle prizes**
- **Wine tasting**
- **Catered dinners Friday & Saturday night**
- **Camping available (dry camping - no hookups or amenities)**

**Go to [BCHW.org](http://BCHW.org) or email [BCHWwineryride@gmail.com](mailto:BCHWwineryride@gmail.com) for complete details, including registration, costs, schedule**



A fundraiser for Back Country Horsemen of Washington, a non-profit, statewide organization working to ensure public lands remain open for stock use.

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## Back Country Horsemen of Washington expresses its gratitude to those who contribute to BCHW as "Contributing," "Sustaining," and "Patron," members.

The Optional Membership Program is available to all members for renewal or new membership. Members in this program pay only the optional membership fee, which includes the Family or Single Membership. The optional membership information on this page is provided by the BCHW Membership Committee. **If you have any corrections or questions, please e-mail [membership@bchw.org](mailto:membership@bchw.org).**

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<b>2019 Annual Meeting Head Table</b>		James Miller.....	IND	Jason & Heather Ridlon.....	IND
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### Ken Wilcox BCHW

### *In Memoriam*

BettyRae Shonka

Trygve Culp

Jim Murphy

Teunis Wyers

### A Gift To Honor or In Remembrance

Donate in memory of a friend, family, or loved one. To make a donation in their name to BCHW, please contact

Teri Starke, BCHW Treasurer, at:  
253.709.5052 or  
[tstrk21@msn.com](mailto:tstrk21@msn.com).

### Tax Deduction

Please be informed that membership dues, paid at the state as well as the chapter level, are tax deductible for the calendar year and subsequent years. Deduct your dues as a charitable contribution under authority of IRC Section 170 (assuming the person paying the membership dues itemizes their deductions when computing their federal net taxable income) or as a business deduction under authority of IRC Section 162 (assuming the person paying the membership dues has a "trade or business" and the payment of the membership dues is directly related to this "trade or business"). When making a donation, ask for a receipt.

Your volunteer mileage is also deductible. Make copies of your volunteer hours logs with mileage for your taxes. ➔



# Prez Says



## Are You Excited for Spring?

By Jason Ridlon, BCHW President

**A**t a Crossroads, Are You Ready for a New Direction  
As I sit this morning with a fresh cup of coffee, starting at waist-deep grass across my pasture thinking about the past several months of being your BCHW President during a less than normal time in our nation's history, the one thing that seems to stand consistent and unwavering is the passion and drive of the members of BCHW.

I have put some miles on my car over this past month working with our Awards Chair, Susan Sundahl, to present awards to some very deserving members across our beautiful state. With my friends from Three Peaks Outfitters, Scott and Michelle Montgomery, we made a trip to Republic working with the Ferry County and Okanogan County chapters to provide a packing class that was well attended. During mid-May, our Public Lands Chair Kathy Young and I headed out on some trails to ride to Peoh Point overlooking Cle Elum. Kathy and I took an evening to

visit BBQ Flats where several chapters were camped enjoying the various trails. I just returned from a two-day camping trip to Black Pine Horse Camp where I worked with trail

working experts (the kind of members that live to maintain trails). This trip has special meaning to me because of the past work BCHW has done to bring this horse camp and area trails back from near extinction. Our past work was evident within the horse camp and all trails I rode during the trip.

I just gave a brief view of my last few month's activities, not taking into account meetings with our public land managers, committee meetings, phone calls with membership, and countless emails. You meet a lot of folks when you make yourself available. It is great hear-



*continued on page 5*

### BCHW Mission Statement

**BCHW is affiliated with Back Country Horsemen of America (hereinafter "BCHA") and therefore adopts the BCHA mission statement as follows:** The mission of this organization shall be:

- To perpetuate the common-sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
- To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- To assist the various governmental and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
- To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
- To foster and encourage the formation of new chapters in the state organization.





## Are You Excited for Spring?

*continued from page 4*

ing all the different ideas that float around our BCHW organization. And it's clear the old saying that "history repeats itself" seems to hold true in many ways.

I believe BCHW is at a crossroads. As someone who has participated in leadership roles within Rendezvous, coordinated the fundraiser ride "Joe Watt Canyon", was a national BCHA director, and planned countless trail work events across Washington, it seems often we have a tendency to fall back and repeat ourselves. Maybe this is the natural thing to do (follow our comfort level) or maybe this is driven by the pride of folks that can't let go of old positions and prior successes. I cannot speak for everyone, but I look forward to paving new directions and looking for new trails to follow, trails that might offer a future of sustainability for BCHW and our national trail system.

In looking for new trails to follow and after serving as your BCHW President, I recognize more than ever that I have a very narrow interest in BCHW. I really only have one interest. It is to perform trail work. I had a fellow trail friend and BCHW donor tell me as a non-equine owner and avid trail worker that at times they feel like being a non-stock owner in some circles feels like this membership [non-stock owning] is more of a guest membership within BCHW.

I found this a little troubling as I know it's our trail work that has provided us a place at many tables within government and partnering trail organizations. I know that some of our largest private donations come from non-stock-owning members. And I also know that at every table, these members speak with the volume of the importance of stock access on our national trail system. I had dinner with a retired Forest Service land manager who now is a member of BCHW. This retired land manager ran one of the Forest Service's largest stock programs and is an avid trail worker like no other. This is a person who recognizes the value of stock on our trail

system and recognizes the value in BCHW and fully supports us at every turn. Why do I mention the value and my interest in fully supporting my friends in the non-stock-owning community? It is because they bring an incredible amount of value to my narrow interests of supporting without a doubt the five bullets within our BCHW mission statement. At day's end, I want open trails for all users; and this is going to take all hands on deck.

In ending, I feel some clarification might be needed. I enjoy pleasure rides with members. But I find more meaning in the time spent getting to a project work site by mule or horse. I enjoy the great potlucks; but this, for me, is done at the trailhead the night before or after a work project. I enjoy camping with friends. This can also be done on a work project both at the trailhead and in the back country. I enjoy participating in fundraising events when the funds directly support our trails. And now I leave you all with the encouragement to go participate in a trail project and enjoy the other simple pleasures that go along with our mission of keeping trails open for all. Keep the potato salad on good ice. 🍷

## Thank You!



I was recently awarded the Washington State Award for Camp Cook of 2020. I was surprised and am pleased to receive the recognition, but I feel that most members do this volunteer work, not to be rewarded but because we love our stock, the mission of BCHW and the great outback. Our time, our money, and the companionship of like-minded people doing the work that keeps our wilderness and

forest trails open to us and others is a reward in itself.

Thank you again to the Award committee for the award. I want to share it with our own chapter, because the Northeast Chapter of BCHW lives up to our Mission Statement.

Sincerely, Bob Williams

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## BCHW Public Lands

### USFS Volunteer Service Agreement Finalized

By Kathy Young, BCHW Public Lands

**B**CHW and Pacific NW Region 6 of the US Forest Service finalized a Volunteer Service Agreement OF301a (VSA) on April 20, 2021. The agreement will cover our volunteer work in all of Washington's National Forests and will alleviate the need to complete OF301a VSA documentation at each Forest Service district that we work in. In the future, these documents will be reviewed annually with Pacific NW Region 6 and BCHW to address any changes. (Form OF301b will still need to be signed by volunteers at job sites.)

Each of Washington's National Forests has reviewed and has access to this agreement, including the supporting Risk Analysis'/Job Hazard Analysis' documentation. BCHW members need to become familiar with the agreement and the supporting documents and be able to refer to it when talking with your Forest Service Districts. Any questions that the Forest Service Districts have should be referred back to their Forest Supervisor office. The full VSA and supporting documentation is posted on the BCHW website. [www.bchw.org](http://www.bchw.org). BCHW members working on Forest Service properties need to take the time to review and familiarize themselves with this important documentation. Back Country Horsemen of Washington must contact and is responsible for fully coordinating with the Forest Service liaison for each district to obtain approval for work activity, to schedule actual workdays, as well as to make arrangements to ensure that work is accomplished to the Forest Service safety, COVID phasing and technical standards. Conducting unauthorized work could result in the termination of this agreement. Communication with local Forest Service Districts remains critical.

US Forest Service Region 6 is beginning to roll out a program that will be used to streamline communications and planning when coordinating with volunteer organizations like BCHW. They are moving toward a model that will assign a single point of contact at each National Forest in Washington, to work with our organization for future project planning purposes. The vision is that BCHW will also be able to name a BCHW member as a single point of contact to work with each Forest for future project planning purposes. This model is already being implemented in the Olympic National Forest with BCHW member Mitzi Schindele taking a role that supports the BCHW chapters that are active in that National Forest. Mitzi will regularly meet with Olympic Forest Service Ranger Nicole Lagioia, Natural Resource-Recreation. The Forest Service goal for this program is to reduce redundancy and to support project prioritization.

BCHW will look to its chapters to identify future projects or areas of concern for stock access. The chapters would then elevate those lists to BCHW's designated National Forest contact. That BCHW representative will be meeting regularly with the designated Forest Service contact. This is a developing program and communication about it is still taking place throughout Region 6. At BCHW we will be looking at this as a way to strengthen communication among chapters that work together and that work in the same forests. BCHW will want to identify a member to be the single point of contact to work/communicate with several chapters. As this single point of contact program rolls out it will still be necessary for chapters to work closely with their local districts, those relationships continue to be very important. 🌱

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Add Back Country Horsemen of Washington to your awards account. See the Donate page at [BCHW.org](http://BCHW.org) for more information.





# Trailhead Camping



By Ken Carmichael

I drafted this article in my head as I had a great ride on the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Escure property. What a wonderful way to spend a holiday. It also got me thinking about what we need to do for trailhead camping with our horses.

Trailhead camping is not difficult and does not take a great deal of equipment. You can leave the big rigs at home and go very light. Sleep in the back of the horse trailer, use a sun shower, and cook one-pot meals on a gas stove. I believe in spending the time in the saddle. This greatly expands the locations you can ride.

A bigger factor is how to care for the horse in camp. At Escure, we have ten corrals and highlines for six horses. There are no trees for highlining. Some people use temporary electric fences if there is room, and it does not interfere with other campers. The last resort for me is to tie to the trailer. It is the least comfortable for the horses. We never tie to a tree for long periods of time because of damage to the trees. Whatever we do, please train the horse at home first.

A major factor is the removal of manure and old, uneaten hay. The first choice, for a short stay, is to put it in the back of the trailer and haul it home. Another is to adequately scatter it in an

open field. This can be very limited in heavily used campgrounds. Feeding with a hay bag of some sort and keeping the hay and manure cleaned up will greatly reduce the wasted hay.

The thing we never do is leave the manure and hay in the corral, or highline area. This is what we found at Escure. With eight brand new corrals, someone left four of them full of hay and manure. It took over six wheel barrel loads to clean them out. There is no excuse for this. BCH built a manure bunker, donated a wheel barrel and manure fork. It can only be chalked up to being inconsiderate, lazy, and selfish. Do these people want to come into a camp and find this mess?

The same holds true at day-use trailheads. Pick up the manure. Put it in the trailer. If someone does not carry a manure fork, then buy one.

You may be offended by the content or tone taken here but I do not apologize. Many people work extremely hard to keep our trails open for responsible horsemen. People who do not use common sense should be called out. If you know someone like this, please educate them before we all lose the privilege to ride on public land. 🐾



Please clip out and mail



## Permanent or Temporary Address Change Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Temporary Address for Snow Birds: \_\_\_\_\_

Start date: \_\_\_\_\_ Return Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Dana Chambers, State Membership Chair, 11404 210th Ave Ct E, Bonney Lake, WA 98391

Email to: [membership.bchw@gmail.com](mailto:membership.bchw@gmail.com)

# Celebrate the 20th Anniversary of The Winery Ride!

By Barbara Thomas, Winery Chair


It's been a long, dry year and a half, where we have seen event after event canceled. We are here to tell you that the 2021 BCHW Winery Ride and Halloween Costume Contest event is happening!

Say goodbye to our Pandemic Blues and put October 30th on your calendar to attend or volunteer at this very popular event and let's have us a party.

Now more than ever we need the support of this great organization and all of the chapters. You can do your part by posting this flyer at feed stores, stables,

*We are here to tell you  
that the 2021 BCHW  
Winery Ride and  
Halloween Costume  
Contest event is  
happening!*

on your Facebook page, or anywhere else that will generate interest. And please consider making a prize donation, both items or money to help pay expenses are gladly accepted.

Come out and volunteer by letting Deb Wesselius know. Email her at [wesselius@wildblue.net](mailto:wesselius@wildblue.net). If you have never done this, you have to experience what 600+ riders look like having a great time and dressing up. This will be BCHW's only fundraiser this year so let's all make it a successful one. 

**Our newsletter (Trailhead News) will be electronic to all members in 2021, with the exception of the May-June and Sept-Oct issues, which will be printed and mailed out to all memberships. This is due to the unforeseen reduction in revenue in 2020.**

**Starting in January 2021, please go to [bchw.org](http://bchw.org), Trailhead News, to view your publications.**

**This decision was not made lightly, and we are sorry for any inconvenience it may cause.**

**As always, please continue to send all articles and/or event announcements to:  
[bchw@wamedia.com](mailto:bchw@wamedia.com).**

## BCHW Membership Announcement

**B**CHW Memberships Expired on Dec. 31, 2020. Please go to [BCHW.org](http://BCHW.org) and click on the "Members/join/renew" tab. You can take care of things online or print off a paper application for specific chapters. If you have any questions, issues or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Dana Chambers, your State Membership Chair at [membership.bchw@gmail.com](mailto:membership.bchw@gmail.com) or call 206-498-6952, She is there for you!!

### PRICING FOR OUR MEMBERSHIPS

*In Addition To Chapter Dues*

Single .....	\$41.00
Family .....	\$54.00
Contributing .....	\$75.00
Sustaining .....	\$125.00
Patron .....	\$250.00
Benefactor .....	\$500.00
Lifetime (Single) .....	\$1200.00



# Meeting Minutes

## BCHW Special Board of Directors' Meeting

### March 20, 2021, Held Virtual through Zoom

By Tina Short, BCHW Secretary

Meeting was called to order by President, Jason Ridlon. Roll Call attendance was taken and a quorum was present. The agenda was adopted. Items noted on the agenda were posted for Directors to read prior to the meeting on the BCHW Secure site.

A few things to note were:

The Executive Advisory Committee (EAC) 2020 Action report (Jason Ridlon) indicated the importance of Chapter Directors attendance at BOD meetings. He asked EAC advice regarding attendance concerns regarding Inland Empire Chapter. They recommended he send a letter to the Chapter encouraging action by the Chapter leadership on two issues: #1 attending BCHW BOD meetings and #2 providing the BCHW Treasurer with monthly bank statements. There was discussion regarding Chapter health and ways to reach out to the Chapter membership. Jason did ask if the attendance concern continues for the Directors to take action.

Treasurer Report (Teri Starke) provided updates on the budget versus actuals and answered questions. We have been blessed to have had some sizable donations made to BCHW, which has helped since we were not able to have some of our larger fundraising events due to the pandemic. Every year 3 BCHW Chapters are audited. This year they will be Wenas, Whatcom, and Inland Empire. Teri reminded Directors that Chapters are to send in their bank statements each month.

Nomination Committee (Jason Ridlon/Ken Carmichael) reminded the BOD that the majority of the BCHW head leadership (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) will all be stepping down at the end of 2021. The committee members are Ken Carmichael, Lori Lennox, Dave Jackson, and Barb Thomas. If you are interested in running for one of the positions, please contact these individuals. If you know of someone who is outside the organization who may be a good fit, please have them contact one of the committee members. Please post on your Facebook, social media, Chapter newsletters that these positions are needing applicants.

Legislative Committee (Mitzi Schindele) provided updates regarding the eBike Bill. Contact Kathy Young and/or Mitzi if you have questions about how the eBike committee will continue. To stay in tune, check out the legislative web page on the BCHW website.

Grants Committee (Darrell Wallace) indicated that our current set of grants will wrap up on October 31, 2021. The committee is currently reaching out to grant liaisons to ensure allocations and match requirements can be met due to the impact of the pandemic.

In the fall of 2020, BCHW submitted proposals for 4 RTP (Recreational Trails Program) grants. The preliminary ranks were as follows: #6 of 9 -Tread Lightly for Public Recreation – Education Project (\$17,410 with \$96,120 match) #3 of 49 BCHW – Rehabilitating Olympic Peninsula Trails (\$82,486 with \$207,974 match), #5 of 49 BCHW – Reopening Threatened National Forest Trails (\$117,600 with \$237,200 match), #8 of 49 BCHW – Maintaining Endangered Trails (\$57,817 with \$111,500 match) We will find out more about finalized funding in the late spring. If awarded and funded, these grants will begin in November 2021 and complete by November 2023. We are excited that these grants scored so well.

Public Lands Committee (Kathy Young) updated the board about the work to regionalize BCHW representation across the state. As of the date of there is no one person per region that our land managers can contact. The Olympic National Forest has requested BCHW designate a single point of contact for planning and prioritization of projects across the forest. The opportunity to regionalize will be to incorporate BCHW and stock access priorities into the broad strategic planning of projects across the forest.

Work continues to have a single volunteer agreement with the National Forest Region 6. It is important to familiarize Chapters with the agreement. There will be specific authorizations for projects that will still be required to be obtained at the Forest Service District level to perform work under the agreement. For any questions, contact members of the Public Lands Committee.

*continued on page 10*

## Content Deadline for the September/October 2021 Newsletter is August 1st

Cover Photos can be sent anytime, 8x10 Vertical orientation is best (300 dpi).

**You can send articles, photos and calendar of events early!**

**Please email your articles (700 word maximum) and 3 or 4 photos with caption and photo byline to [thn@bchw.org](mailto:thn@bchw.org) as soon as possible.**

# ATTENTION!

## Meeting Minutes March 20, 2021

*continued from page 9*

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is beginning its Statewide Trails Plan update. It occurs every 5 years and will be collecting data with a survey that will be sent out to a sampling of Washington state residents this summer. This survey data will be compiled and be used to understand trail use in the state. BCHW has a volunteer seated on the advisory committee. The final plan update will be released in 2022.

Kathy requested that BCHW membership send pictures to her if they see non-equestrian use of horse camps during 2021. Please remember to check to see if the campsite is multi-use. The focus is Forest Service campgrounds.

LNT Committee (Louise Caywood) – Opportunity to attend LNT training August 28 and 29 at the Teanaway Campground. Space is limited. Pre-register by emailing [saddldupw@aol.com](mailto:saddldupw@aol.com).

Unfinished Business: Kathy Young was elected the BCHA Alternate Director for the remainder of this year. This position will up for election in December of this year.

### New Business:

BCHW Regional Report (Jason Ridlon) indicated he selected a working committee made up of Chapter Directors and Presidents to research ways BCHW as an overall organization could

improve. Due to technical difficulties, the report was postponed and a special BOD meeting will be scheduled for April for the presentation.

### Good of the Order/Announcements:

Sue Sundahl (BCHW Awards Chair) provided the board with the list of who was awarded per category. Please check out the Awards page on the BCHW website to the list of awardees. Sue indicated that there were nominations for all categories with the exception of the Junior Award. BCHW is fortunate to have such a dedicated group of volunteers who continue to provide inspiration to meet our mission. She and Jason Ridlon will be meeting with awardees across the state this spring and summer to deliver the awards.

Bob Iddins (Trail Dusters) requested if there could be a web page created on the Secure site for BCHW membership. This area would be password protected and host our BCHW bylaws, standing rules, 3 years of BOD minutes, and various other information that would benefit our membership. Ken Carmichael (Ponderosa) also requested that the Membership Development information be also accessible to BCHW membership. This information is extremely beneficial in providing ways to increase our membership. Meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m. 🐾

# Meeting Minutes

## BCHW Special Board of Directors' Meeting

### April 28, 2021, Held Virtual through Zoom

By Tina Short, BCHW Secretary

Meeting was called to order by President, Jason Ridlon. Roll Call attendance was taken and a quorum was present. The agenda was adopted. As is the usual practice, items noted on the agenda were posted for Directors to read prior to the meeting on the BCHW secure site. The single agenda item was the BCHW Reimagined Presentation. A committee consisting of Doug Stewart (Northeast Director), Kathy Iddins (Trail Dusters President), Traci Koch (Oakland Bay Director), Mickey Centeno (Olympic President), and Trevor Stewart presented a PowerPoint and asked BCHW directors to take an open look at our organization and decide how we would like to move the organization into the future as we are currently at a crossroad. They asked the Directors to consider 3 options: 1) do nothing, 2) reorganize to reduce governance structure and establish a smaller central organization, 3) adopt a completely different approach. A motion was made Bob Hoyle (Buckhorn Range) and seconded by Lori Lennox (Grays Harbor) to “proceed with centralized accounting of chapters”. Discussion followed with a second mo-

tion made by Louise Caywood (Pierce County) and seconded by Dan Dosey (Peninsula) to “postpone the motion to proceed with centralized accounting of chapters until the June 19th BOD meeting”.

Directors were asked to go back and discuss these options and the information provided at the meeting to their Chapter membership.

Teri Starke (BCHW Treasurer) will host a Zoom meeting for Treasurers or other interested members regarding the centralized accounting plan prior to the June BOD meeting. There will also be a BCHW Chapter President Zoom meeting for additional discussion regarding this topic.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. 🐾



# BCHW - Board of Directors' Meeting

## 2nd Quarter June 19, 2021

### Ellensburg, WA KVEC, Armory Building

By Tina Short, BCHW Secretary

**M**eeting called to order by President Jason Ridlon at 9:00 a.m.  
 Roll Call: A roll call attendance was taken by BCHW Secretary. Absent, Mount Adams, Wenatchee Valley, and Yakima Valley. Quorum established. Wenatchee Valley representative joined the meeting after roll call.  
 Agenda was adopted.  
 Board of Directors Minutes from March 20, 2021 and April 28, 2021 were approved as published.  
 Officers and Committee Reports - reports were posted

#### EAC 2020 Action Report – Jason Ridlon

Various topics were reviewed in the report. Jen Bond (BCHW Grants and Event Admin) our independent contractor had a 6 month review. There is still evaluation work being done to find a replacement for groupspaces. Discussion about another independent contractor being advertised for Sponsorships. Inland Empire Chapter leadership were contacted about the importance of attendance at BOD meetings.

Motion made by Ken Carmichael (Ponderosa) seconded by Dave Sunde (Okanogan) to accept the EAC decision to have Teri Starke contact the WA state gambling commission regarding RRR request for a gambling license. The commission requested a change to the Articles of Incorporation. The 4th approved version of the BCHW Articles of Incorporation are posted on the Secure site. Motion carried.

Reviewed BCHW Directory and discussed how many open leadership positions including Chapter Director and Alternates. These positions are vital to the health of our organization. There was a document posted regarding the duties of the BCHW Chapter Director. Directors/alternates should be aware of the duties and ask for training if needed. Past directors should help new directors to ensure a successful transition. Discussed the fiduciary responsibility of the BCHW Chapter Director to the state.

#### Grants – Jen Bond

Reviewed a PowerPoint with information on what things that are not so obvious that RTP grants fund: Trailhead News, our BCHW liability insurance, administration of the grants, training costs (such as sawyer certifications, first aid). There is a project template available on the Secure site for Chapter leadership to use to send requests for assistance to Jen. Directors were encouraged to reach out to their Chapters to ask if there is a need that Jen could help with.

Special thanks given by Darrell Wallace to Tina Short for her effort of submitting 2 of grants in the fall of 2020. If the below are awarded, Jen will take over management of the grants.

The proposals for 4 RTP (Recreational Trails Program) grants. The preliminary ranks were as followed: #6 of 9 -Tread Lightly for Public Recreation – Education Project (\$17,410 with \$96,120 match)

#3 of 49 BCHW – Rehabilitating Olympic Peninsula Trails (\$82,486 with \$207,974 match), #5 of 49 BCHW – Reopening Threatened National Forest Trails (\$117,600 with \$237,200 match), #8 of 49 BCHW – Maintaining Endangered Trails (\$57,817 with \$111,500 match) We will find out more about finalized funding in the late spring. If awarded and funded, these grants will begin November 2021 and complete by November 2023.

#### Rendezvous 2022 – Teri Starke/Jen Bond

Teri is working to transition past Rendezvous planning information to Jen Bond (BCHW Events Admin). Clinicians are being identified. The dates set for 2022 are the weekend of March 18 through 20th. Starting to identify vendors. The layout will be similar to past years.

Jen is looking to identify interested Chapters to help with the possible planning efforts of 2022 Joe Watt Canyon Ride. Contact her if you are interested in your Chapter helping coordinate the event.

#### 2021 Treasurer/Budget –Teri Starke

Teri reminded Directors that Chapter Treasurers need to send in their bank statements to her monthly in a timely manner. 7 Chapter currently missing their statements (Crab Creek Riders, Mt Adams, Mt Olympus, NorthEast, Okanogan Valley, Yakima Valley, and Rattlesnake Ridge Riders. No question on audit report.

#### Ways and Means – Teri Starke

2022 Calendars available for purchase. There were 100 less ordered this year. Discussion around saddle raffle. Teri will research more about the saddle raffle and present at September BOD meeting.

#### Education Committee – Jason Ridlon

Kim Merrick (chair) is asking for help for the 2022 Leadership training planning (January 22, 23). One day will be in person at the Ellensburg Armory. Please contact her to volunteer. Trainers are needed for various subjects.

## Meeting Minutes June 19, 2021

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### **Governance and Bylaws – Ken Carmichael**

Directors and BCHW officers were asked to complete Whistle-blower form and yearly Conflict of Interest forms. If you are a director that did not attend the BOD meeting, contact Ken to get your forms signed. If you are a committee chair and were not in attendance, please contact Ken to get your forms signed.

### **Nomination Committee – Ken Carmichael**

Ken asked for the board to communicate with their Chapters about the following positions that will be open at the end of 2021 (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer). If you know someone with in the organization or outside, please encourage them to apply. Promote these positions in your Chapter newsletters, FB, etc.

Nominating Committee for 2021 BCHW Elections –Ken Carmichael, Lori Lennox, Dave Jackson and Barb Thomas.

### **Legislative – Mitzi Schindele**

Updates were provided regarding the eBike Bill and current status of the subject. Mitzi will be providing more details in the coming months about a study regarding this topic. Contact Kathy Young and/or Mitzi if you have questions about how the eBike committee will continue. To stay in tune, check out the legislative web page on the BCHW website.

### **Public Lands –Kathy Young**

BCHW has a signed single volunteer agreement with the National Forest Region 6. There is no end date. This is a long time achievement. It is important to familiarize Chapters with the agreement. There will be specific authorizations for projects that will still be required to be obtained at the Forest Service District level to perform work under the agreement. Details can be found on the BCHW website (Programs, Safety > Forms and Documents). If you have any questions, contact members of the Public Lands Committee or Kathy Young.

Updated the board about the work to regionalize BCHW representation across the state. Chapters should work together to discuss planning efforts. There is still work being done on this effort.

Discussion on manure at campsites. Recommendation is to pack it home with you. Leave no trace.

### **Volunteer Hours – Louise Caywood**

Directors were asked to encourage their chapter members to fill vacant Volunteer Coordinators positions. There is an app for volunteer hours (not for grant hours) that is available to membership. Contact Dana Chambers for instructions to download. It is android/apple friendly.

### **Awards – Susan Sundahl**

Jason Ridlon (BCHW President) and Susan Sundahl (Awards Chair) have spent the last couple of months traveling the state to deliver the 2020 awards in person. Ken Carmichael and Dana Chambers were awarded the 2020 Cinch Award at the meeting. George Young (in attendance) was awarded his 2019 Backbone

award at the meeting. Jason expressed thanks to Susan for her efforts this year as Awards chair given normally these awards would have been presented at Rendezvous but due to COVID the awards were presented differently. Jim Anderson (Mt St Helens) expressed his thanks for Jason and Susan traveling down to his Chapter.

### **Safety – Chuck Regimbal**

Reported one incident this year. Information was presented. Jason thanked Chuck and Dana Chambers for their efforts on the website for safety information and forms.

### **Membership – Dana Chambers**

Provided details on current membership and renewals. Posted report detailed 1,282 current memberships and 1,996 members. 2/3 of membership applications/renewals were done online. The renewal cycle begins in October 1st.

### **LNT – Louise Caywood**

Encouraged board members to let their Chapters know about the opportunity to attend LNT training in August at Teanaway Campground. More information can be found on the website.

### **Publicity/Media Committee – Lori Lennox**

Asked Directors to have their Chapters send links to their FB pages and if they have news or events to communicate them to publicity@bchw.org. It would be helpful to identify 1 person per Chapter that can communicate with this committee. Tina Short emphasized that having no BCHW Chapter Director or alternate can hamper communications that are sent to Directors for their information or information to be provided to their Chapter membership.

### **Website – Scott Lee**

Tina Short and Dana Chambers take care of the overall maintenance of the website. Scott provides assistance as needed.

### **Winery Ride – Barbara Thomas**

Publicity about 10/30/2021 Winery Ride will start in July. There will be a new webpage with registration link available (thanks to Dana Chambers for creating an easy registration process). Deb Wesselius will be coordinating volunteers. Directors were encouraged to ask their members to volunteer. Tie ups will be improved this year based on feedback from past years. Stayed tuned for flyer details in emails and notices on the website.

### **Unfinished Business:**

#### **BCHW Re-imagined Proposal– Doug Stewart**

There were three options brought forth to the BOD at the April Special meeting. One option was to do nothing. The committee presented to various Chapters that requested more information about the proposal. Jason Ridlon asked for the BOD to take a straw vote asking if they wanted to continue to proceed forward

*continued on page 13*



## Meeting Minutes June 19, 2021

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with this topic. The majority raised their hands to indicate they wished to proceed with the effort. Directors were asked to keep an open mind. Questions posed: what happens when current members age out, what do we have to do different today to change, are you willing to try something different, are we doing the same thing over and over but expecting a different outcome, and what is our definition of success?

There will be a special BOD meeting (September 17 Friday) prior to the regular 3rd Quarter BOD meeting. This special BOD meeting will be focused on the BCHW Re-imagined proposal. It will be in person only.

### Centralized Accounting Proposal – Teri Starke

A motion was made by Ken Carmichael (Ponderosa) and seconded by Scott Lee to amend the original motion from the April 2021 Special BOD meeting Bob Hoyle (Buckhorn Range) and seconded by Lori Lennox (Grays Harbor) to “proceed with centralized accounting of chapters”. Discussion followed. Motion carried. 1 opposed vote and 2 abstained.

The motion as amended from Ken Carmichael (Ponderosa) and seconded by Scott Lee (Cascade Horse Club) was, “move that BCHW adopt a Centralized Accounting System that will include:

- All chapter funds be kept in one or more bank or credit union accounts with sub accounts for each chapter managed by BCHW.
- BCHW is responsible for managing all funds for maximum return on investment at no risk.
- Chapters retain the authority to determine how chapter funds are spent within the guidelines of BCHW and 501C3 regulations and policies.
- Other chapters and BCHW cannot spend money from a chapter account.
- BCHW provides the chapter with monthly accounting reports showing chapter expenses, income and account balances.
- Chapter expenditures be processed as follows:
  - Funds transferred between BCHW, and the chapters is done electronically by BCHW
  - Chapter checks are written by BCHW, or an accounting firm, at the written request of the chapter
  - Chapters have limited credit cards issued by BCHW for some chapter expenses
- Chapter income may be deposited at a local branch or sent to BCHW for deposit in the chapter subaccount.
- BCHW accounting staff completes the Chart of Accounts based on the income and expense reports from the chapters.

- BCHW maintains an accounting staff, and hired accounting firm, sufficient to process all accounting transactions on a timely and accurate basis.
- BCHW Treasurer, and staff, provides accounting instructions to Chapter Treasurers with required attendance.
- Chapters continue to create chapter budgets and track income and expenses to ensure that chapter funds are spent according to chapter expectations and not over extended.
- Chapters must control the distribution of credit cards and request changes as appropriate with change in volunteers.
- Chapters must maintain a level of knowledge about government accounting regulations with the assistance of BCHW expertise. (e.g., resell permits, gambling, 501C3, sunshine funds, etc.)
- All chapters will participate in the Centralized Accounting System within three months of successful completion of the pilot program.

### Discussion followed. Motion carried. 4 opposed votes.

A motion was made by Ken Carmichael (Ponderosa) and seconded by Louise Caywood (Pierce County) to “open one checking account and 2 savings accounts at Washington State Employees Credit union in Ellensburg, WA to centralize BCHW accounting. Teri Starke and Dana Chambers will be the signers on these accounts. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

### New Business:

#### Membership Process Proposal – Dana Chambers

Dana provided a quick overview of the posted proposal that was provided on the Secure site prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Bob Iddins (Trail Dusters) and seconded by Ken Carmichael (Ponderosa) to “move to adopt the new process for handling paper membership applications as presented and written by the State Membership Chair. This procedure will be codified by standing rule. Discussion followed. Motion carried. 1 opposed vote. The new process will proceed forward starting July 2021.

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## Meeting Minutes June 19, 2021

*continued from page 13*

### **Dissolving of Yakima Valley Chapter – Ken Carmichael**

Ken indicated the history about Yakima and Wenas Chapters and the desire to consolidate the chapters. Meetings were held and Ken Carmichael (Governance and Bylaws Chair) assisted with the process.

A motion was made by Ken Carmichael (Ponderosa) and seconded by Louise Caywood (Pierce County) move that the BCHW Board accept the Yakima Valley Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington request to dissolve the chapter. At the May 27, 2021 Membership Meeting the Yakima Valley Chapter had a unanimous vote to merge the chapter with Wenas Valley, in effect dissolving the chapter, by July 31, 2021.

Prior to dissolving the chapter Yakima Valley is taking appropriate action to dispose of physical and financial assets through transfer to the Wenas Valley Chapter. BCHW committees have been informed of the dissolution with proper actions being taken. Chapter records are being stored by BCHW until such time as they can be destroyed. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

Recommendation for Directors and Officers Become Familiar with Bylaws and Standing Rules – Rob DeBoer

In order to be effective as a BCHW leader, it is important to have knowledge of current bylaws and standing rules. These can be found on the Secure BCHW website.

Good of the Order/Announcements:

Decisions – Louise Caywood

Complimented BCHW Directors/alternates or Chapter representatives attending the meeting on making decisions at the meeting vs postponing decisions.

### **Donation Forms – Teri Starke**

If you need any donation forms, contact Teri for copies.

### **Grant Reimbursements – Darrell Wallace**

Reminded members that the 2021 approved Accountability Plan should be referenced when reimbursing mileage. The posted plan is on the Leadership page > Treasurer's Section. Chapter Directors/Alternates and Treasurers should reference the approved plan. They should help educate BCHW members to correct reimbursement procedures. Sections of the plan are posted below.

Mileage reimbursements will be at the State of Washington annual published charity rate or actual fuel expense. You must have a legitimate BCHW Business purpose and it must be noted on the reimbursement form. You must attach the documents required in Standing Rule, "Taxable Income Payments to Volunteers" to each reimbursement request. You cannot take a tax deduction for mileage at any rate when you receive reimbursement by BCHW.

If a grant will ultimately reimburse this expense, make sure you note the grant name and number in the explanation section. Grant Administrators have the reimbursement form edited for their specific grant numbers.

### **North Summit Horse Camp (Twisp Area) – DK Williams**

This horse camp opened for use on June 18th. Methow Chapter members are actively involved in the area.

### **Other Updates:**

Darlene Walton (Wenatchee Member) just passed away. She was awarded the Desk Jockey Award in 2020.

Carol Wilcox (Wenatchee Member) is in declining health.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:38 p.m. 🐾



The Trailhead News BCHW  
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Ellensburg, WA 98926-1132

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## FREE Listing on BCHW Chapter Events Calendar

Be sure to: • Contact the ride host to check for updates on the event. • Check to see if dogs are welcome.

Note: The BCHW Trailhead News represents as many events as possible; however, it makes no guarantees an event will be published. The calendar of events is subject to change. Please check with ride contact for most updated information. Please send calendar corrections to: [bchw@wamedia.com](mailto:bchw@wamedia.com).

### Regional Work Party-Gifford Pinchot National Forest Keenes Horse Camp & Surrounding Trails

Thursday-Saturday, July 8, 9, 10, 2021

Location: Keenes Horse Camp

On-line Registration opens June 1st

Pass Required: NWFP

Camping: waiving camping fee

Meals: Register thru On-line Registration

Tony Karniss,

360-520-5697 • [tkarniss@gmail.com](mailto:tkarniss@gmail.com)

*Note: RTP Grant Funding guidelines and documentation will apply.*

### Trail Fund Raiser - Garage Sale

Thursday-Saturday, July 8, 9, 10, 2021

Keenes Horse Camp

Pass Required: NWFP

Deb Wesselius, 360-736-6106

[wesselius@wildblue.net](mailto:wesselius@wildblue.net)

*Note: lots of fun and useful things both new & slightly used, horse tack to household items, bring cash!*

### Ponderosa Chapter Poker Ride

Sunday, July 11, 2021

First rider out 9:00

Raffle

Pre-registration by July 2 \$20

Register at ride \$25

Riverside State Park, Spokane

Camping available

Ken Carmichael 509-466-2225

[Kcarmichael2225@gmail.com](mailto:Kcarmichael2225@gmail.com) • [www.pbchw.com](http://www.pbchw.com)

### The 5th Annual Vicki Gish Memorial Ride

Friday-Sunday, July 23-25, 2021

Calispel Basin in the Colville National Forest out of Chewelah, WA out Sand Canyon Road  
First riders out at 10am.

free camping, port-a-potties and stock water are available.

Saturday night is a potluck so bring your favorite dish to share.

Marian Carson, [mca9590561@msn.com](mailto:mca9590561@msn.com)

509-999-1547.

*Please contact before July 19 as after that she will be up at the Basin and there is very little cell service and no email available.*

### Regional Work Party-Wenatchee N. F., William O. Douglas Wilderness Cowlitz (Soda Springs) & Surrounding Trails

Thursday-Sunday, August 19 thru 22, 2021

Cowlitz Horse Ramp (Soda Springs)

On-line Registration opens July 1st

Pass Required: NWFP

Free, dispersed camping

Meals on your own, wilderness-type setting

Tony Karniss or Slim Mardock,

360-520-5697 (Tony) or 360-520-5588 (Slim)

[tkarniss@gmail.com](mailto:tkarniss@gmail.com) or [Almardock56@gmail.com](mailto:Almardock56@gmail.com)

*Note: RTP Grant Funding guidelines and documentation will apply.*

### 3rd QTR BCHW Board of Directors' Meeting

Saturday, September 18, 2021

Kittitas Valley Event Center

901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA

BCHW President Jason Ridlon

[president@bchw.org](mailto:president@bchw.org) • 509.699.9927

### 20th Anniversary Winery Ride

Saturday, October 30, 2021

Rattlesnake Hills wine growing area of the Yakima Valley

Earlybird registration by September 30th: \$25

Register after October 1st: \$35

Halloween costume contest & Raffle Prizes

Wine tasting

Catered dinners Friday & Saturday night

Camping avail (*dry camping -*

*no hookups or amenities*)

Go to [BCHW.org](http://BCHW.org) or

email [BCHWwineryride@gmail.com](mailto:BCHWwineryride@gmail.com)