

**LAST CHANCE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN
November 5, 2019 7:00 P.M.
Montana Wild, Helena, MT**

Members present:

Fred Benson, Jeff Brandt, Joann Chambers, Clif Caughron, Bud Criner, Jim Darfler, Neil and Darlene Horne, Merlyn Huso, Don Kristenson, Mike Laying, Dennis and Debbie Milburn, Sue Mohr, David Pool, Howard Reid, Tom Weiss

Sue opened the meeting.

Guests: None

Business meeting:

October Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes was made by Fred and seconded by Merlyn. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report.

Jim made the report.

Checking: \$6168.55
Savings: \$1688.55
2nd CD: \$10,000 2.65% matures 8/28/2020.
CD: \$10,208.66 2.4% matures 11/11/20
CD: \$10,000 2% matures 9/1/2020

Bills: None

Motion to approve Treasurers report: Neil moved; Howard second. Unanimous approval.

Grant Proposal Committee and US FS: Discussion : Darlene

RAC

RTP

Certifications

Marcus spoke with Darlene on the phone. He hopes to meet with the group soon. In the meantime he wanted to let us know about projects he is hoping we can address next season as follows:

1. Elkhorn post project
2. Need to schedule two pack trips for MCC and CDT groups into the Little Blackfoot area.

This would be in addition to our regular work of maintaining the Gates of the Mountains trails.

The group discussed scheduling and other demands on our resources for the 2020 season. It is important for us to be cognizant of not just scheduled work but other needs that always come up later into the season that need to be addressed.

Dennis suggests that, given a lack of information from the Forest Service currently, we should consider not applying for the RTP grant which is due next month. These grants have always been difficult to complete and require quite a bit of paperwork.

Rather our efforts would be better directed toward a RAC grant which is something that can be worked on after January 1. We could apply for our Gates of the Mountains work in that grant and also perhaps by then receive input from the Forest Service for any other work they might be wanting.

This will be the direction the committee will take until further notice.

With respect to certifications, Darlene spoke with Marcus about our first aid certifications and Marcus said he would look into it. Merlyn did say that he has his certification from earlier this year and said that he was able to download it

online. Darlene also reminded Marcus about making sure we are set up for certifications in 2020.

State Directors' meeting: Howard

- a. Howard read a handwritten note from Governor Bullock thanking the group for their volunteer work.
- b. The Website committee reviewed all local chapter websites. Our website has a new site with current information and is doing well.
THANKS Lyndsay: good work! Website upgrades coming from the state group.
- c. Nationwide information: Central Cascades has gone to limited entry permits for livestock use on the PCT. This is an extension of the trend in the Sierras in banning livestock. These are both troubling for the future of livestock in the backcountry. There is discussion regarding filing suit against these bans.
- d. Ebikes continue to be an issue and something to stay on top of as we are aware that federal agencies are contemplating issuing policies around use of these new motorized wheeled vehicles.
- e. Mountain bikers in Canada have been harassing livestock on the trails. It has gotten to the point where backcountry users in Canada

our using our trail systems in the wilderness so as to avoid harassment by mountain bikers. Here in Montana, our partnerships with the mountain bikers has helped our relationships with them. We are grateful we are not having these problems here. Good job everyone!

- f. The state organization has offered to list and use the calendars from local BCH's to coordinate activities in 2020.
- g. The Bitterroot chapter is having success with expansion of their membership through coordination with 4H and other youth organizations.
- h. Next meeting December 7.

Christmas Party: Darlene

VFW hall is set up to do our party Jan 10.
Committee: Darlene, Jim Darfler, Ed Darfler, Nicole

New Business

A Nominating Committee for officers was established: Clif and Dave Pool.

Next meeting December 4 at Montana Wild.

Motion to adjourn.

Clif moved and Merlyn seconded.
Unanimous approval.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Sue Mohr
LCBCH