

MINUTES – Last Chance BCH
March MEMBERSHIP MEETING

1 pm March 6, 2021
Renee Pipinich Arena

- Tony welcomed everyone to the meeting; introduced Bill Davis, farrier, for shoeing presentation.
- No new members this meeting.
- Guests: Lisa Donnelley, Katy's sister wintering in Helena

- Take Roll
 - Tony and Lyndsay Smith, Jo Ann Chambers, Bud Criner, Sherri Lionberger, Katy Donnelley, Terry Hutton, Fred Benson, Jim Darfler, Warren Armstrong, Nolan Wanner, Merlyn Huso, Mike Cannon, Kerry Bartlett, Clif Caughron, Neil and Darlene Horne, Lynda Wiles, Jason and Jordan Hughey (Ellery and Brenna Hughey), Connie Cole, Nicole Anderson.

- Bill Davis presented.
 - Discussed winter shoeing and hoof care. Recommended forshners for hoof packing and thrush prevention in transition to spring thaw and increased moisture.
 - Discussed winter feeding and laminitis/founder prevention, recommended feeding 20% more hay rather than oats/barley and removing moldy parts of hay.
 - Laminitis: look for straight mane vs. cresty neck, pockets above eyes being shallow, rain gutter down the hips indicators of overweight.
 - Throwing shoes in the backcountry: recommended easy boot as good option.
 - Tools to have: rasp, hammer, 20 or more nails, extra used or fitted shoes.
 - If able to find thrown shoe flatten on a rock and level the hoof with rasp.
 - Recommended Tom Knight for training if your horse needs foot broke, generally takes him about 2 hours at \$40-\$50/hour charge. Sherri noted good for horses, not for mules.

- Minutes from February:
 - Sherri moved to approve minutes, Katy seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

- Treasurer Report:

Jim Darfler presented on behalf of new treasurer Lynda Wiles
Checking: \$5,650.12
Savings: \$1,689.75
CDs:

\$10,184.11 Matures: 10/01/2021

\$10,469.54 Matures: 10/01/2021

\$10,560.02 Matures: 02/18/2022

Bills: Darlene presented a bill for reimbursement, Jim noted bill needing to be paid for rental at Renee Pippinich's Barn of \$110 for February Meeting (\$55/hour). Fred Benson moved to approve payment of bills, Merlyn seconds. All members in favor, motion passed. Jim reminded members of membership dues needed.

OLD BUSINESS

- Raffle Tickets

Katy reported all raffle tickets have been sold, reminded members to provide payments to her and these will be mailed on March 19th for the raffle drawing on March 27th. Offered to obtain additional tickets for those interested in selling more, no members requested additional tickets.

- Election Delegates

Sherry reported without there being a convention this year at the state level they are unable to do elections by zoom call. This year there are two positions needing election votes: National Director and Alternate National Director. John Chepulis is up for re-election as National Director and Brad Pollman is up for re-election as Alternate National Director. Need 8 delegates for the vote, LC BCH elected the following delegates: Tony Smith, Clif Caughron, Kerry Bartlett, Jason Hughey, Darlene Horne, Merlyn Huso, Fred Benson. A vote was cast and all delegates in favor of electing John Chepulis for National Director and Brad Pollman as Alternate National Director. All LC BCH members present in favor of election.

- Forest Plan

Dennis Milburn not present, communicated with Tony to share that the forest plan has been finalized and allowing for bicycle use in the core of the Elkhorns. Darlene asked if this had been advertised, Sherry shared that if you had submitted an objection you would have received an e-mail notice of updates. Discussion amongst members about clearing in the Elkhorns after this change to allow bicycles in these areas; Neil questioned making a statement as a group to show dissatisfaction with this change. Katy suggested prioritizing other works projects in other areas such as the Gates of the Mountains over the Elkhorns. Discussed sending a letter to Bill Avey to inform the Forest Service that LC BCH will not clear trails in the Elkhorns for 2021 and having Jason sign as Vice President to keep Tony separate from matter due to Forest Service employment. Merlyn inquired about asking the state level to respond, Sherry responded that the state level was

not part of that objection to respond. Fred suggested waiting until asked by the Forest Service to do trails work before declining projects, Neil and Sherri disagreed.

Sherri made a motion for Dennis to write a letter to Bill Avey informing that LCBCCH will decline trails projects in the Elkhorns for the year 2021 and signed by Jason as Vice President. Darlene seconds. All members present in favor of motion.

NEW BUSINESS

- **BMWf packing projects/background checks**
Tony reported the BMWf pack trips are mostly filled; Fred signed up for two trips to Indian Meadows in June. Looking for outriders or other pack supports. Neil pointed out limits on outriders and being insured during trip. The packer gets paid for packing in, it is up to the packer to decide how to use the funds paid to them. Sherri discussed horse safety, no certification with training but recommended to attend course. Fred discussed firearms packing, Sherri discussed process to obtain approval to pack a firearm. Tony will send out e-mail to members for interested members to respond and send it to Forest Service LEO.
- **2021 Training Needs**
Tony requested a list of those who are not current with their training (1st aid/CPR, saw certifications, horse safety). 1st aid/CPR and saw certifications are grandfathered in for those who had these certifications in 2019. If you were current in 2019 and got extended through 2020 you'll be extended again this year per Sherri. Darlene provided training records/list for members to Tony. Tony will ask Marcus about 1st aid/CPR training. Sherri will ask Mark Himmel about saw certifications, training.
- **2021 Work Projects**
Neil reports based on prior discussion the Elkhorns have been decided. Discussed work in the Gates of the Mountains, the Forest Service has not provided information on projects at this time. Katy proposed setting up a camp at Hunter's Gulch for work in the Gates for National Trails Day in June, dates would be the 5th and 6th of June. Present members in favor, ongoing planning.
- **Freeze Branding**
Tony inquired about freeze branding this year. Neil and Darlene open to having this hosted at their place, recommended having more activities to go with the branding such as more packing demos and horse safety, dutch oven cook off. Date set for May 8th.
- **Other Business**

Fred discussed doing MCC training again this year, will talk to Adam to see about this opportunity.

- Adjourn: Fred motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jordan seconds. All members present were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyndsay Smith
(on behalf of Secretary Connie Cole)