

Minutes – Last Chance Back Country Horsemen, Membership Meeting

June 5, 2024 7:00 p.m. Montana Wild Conference Room

- President Jason Hughey welcomed everyone
- Guests: Mandi Alvino, USFS
- Take Roll:

Jason Hughey, Terry Hutton, Fred Benson, Katy Donnelley, Jordan, Ellery & Brenna Hughey, Taylor and Nick Patterson, Merlyn Huso, Cathy Lay, Mike Layng, Mike Cannon, Allen Rowley, Darlene and Neil Horne, Nicole Anderson, John Pavsek, Nolan and Sheila Wanner, Cari, Jason, Haylee & Hannah Funkhouser, Ali Kenny, Mandy Alvino

- Minutes from May 2024 meeting: Fred B motioned to approve, Nick P seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

- Treasurer’s Report: Presented by Jason H.

Account Type	Amount	Interest Rate	Term	Maturity
Checking	\$10,080.77	-	-	-
Savings	\$1,727.11	0.05%	-	-
CD1-6738	\$11,147.25	5.25% variable	12 mo	4/18/25
CD2-3512	\$10,721.40	5.25% variable	12 mo	3/7/25
CD3-3547	\$11,021.89	5.25% variable	12 mo	3/7/25

Expenses & Deposits: due to recent treasurer resignation, the duties have been temporarily assigned to the President; this info will be picked up again once the chapter has a treasurer

- Discussion regarding bills: Fred B - for saw handles, 1x6 lumber to secure crosses for transport to Mann Gulch, food for the (Mann Gulch) trail clearing and packing in crosses and supplies; Jason H – York Bar dinner for National Trails day, LC BCH trail clearing in Gates of the Mountains \$301.92
- Treasurer’s report and pay bills: Katy D motioned to approve, Jason F seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

2025 State Convention (March 15, 16, 17) update: Sherri L/Katy D co-chairs

- Katy D reporting; Theme: Gold Rush; ongoing meetings being held for planning purposes; raffle tickets currently will include – Seek Outside 8 man tepee tent with stove, handcrafted knife, \$250 Visa Card; John Axline to be a speaker; committee working on breakout sessions, auctioneer, and other event planning; Fred B asked if the chapter has a 501c3 IRS letter to present as needed for donations (such as for silent auction), Katy D reported we do have a donation thank you letter

OLD BUSINESS

- State Board Meeting update: Katy D attended and reported; Katy is co-chair of Education Committee with Cathy Huntley; committee is working on improving certification process (ex. Crosscut and chainsaw, defensive horsemanship); committee will also work on a listing of trails that are mainly used by stock users, focus to be on areas located in BCHMT Chapters, trails with trailheads that can accommodate horse trailers; info will eventually be posted on the BCHMT web site; 2026 State Convention will be in Bozeman; Upper Clark Fork chapter merged with Mile High chapter (no more Upper Clark Fork); annual BCHMT Rendezvous will be in Blackfoot/Clearwater Game Range area, June 21-23
- Hush of the Land book signing event held May 30 in Helena; partially funded by LC BCH; members attending this meeting did not attend the event

2024 Project Updates **Reminder:** Current RAC funding of approx. \$10,000 for USFS projects to be used by Oct 1, 2024

- Mann Gulch Project – Monuments; Fred Benson, Trail Boss
Trail clearing/reconnaissance May 17; crosses, quikcrete and water packed in to Mann Gulch memorial site by LC BCH members May 21
- Gates of the Mountain – Trail Clearing, Fred Benson, Trail Boss
LC BCH to clear from Refrigerator to Upper Kennedy Springs and/or from Hunters Gulch on National Trails day June 1st; good turnout and most trails(s) cleared; members enjoyed dinner at York Bar after work day
 - Fred B reported value of recent LC BCH events: MCC crew leader training (held in May) \$1,550; Mann Gulch trail clearing \$2,670; packing crosses and supplies to Mann Gulch \$2,675; Gates of the Mountain trail clearing \$7,644
- Townsend trails – Cathy L Trail Boss
 1. Cathy L sent email to chapter members with potential dates to meet for trail clearing; June 10, July 6&7, July 27 currently planned; work will be done on trails 117, 116 and 115 in the Elkhorns from the Pole Creek trailhead as requested by Lucas P of USFS
 2. Tizer Guard Station – per Lucas P this is a secondary project; MCC crew will be doing some clearing in the area in July/August; they will need pack support to haul tools, chain saws and gas
 - a. Adam H (MCC) reached out to Fred B – MCC request help getting a spike camp in July 16, Mandy A suggested going up trail 112; Aug 13-14 camp will need to be resupplied; Aug 20 take camp out; more info to come
- Eagle Guard Station/Elkhorns/Crow Creek – Jordan H, Taylor and Nick P Trail Boss
Eagle Guard Station/cabin will be available to use August 8 through August 12 (Thur -Mon)

- Cub Scouts event at Fairgrounds, June 13, 9:30 – 3:15 – LCBCH may have a station or at least a packing demo; Sherri L and Jason H could use some help with this

NEW BUSINESS

- Treasurer – Ali Kenny volunteered to be the LCBCH chapter treasurer; Jason H and Terry H will assist getting her the information she'll need; welcome Ali & thank you!
 - Fill treasurer position, Ali Kenney: Fred B motioned to approve, Merlyn H seconds. All in favor, motion passed.
- Certifications: Saw and 1st Aid/CPR, chapter is working on additional opportunities for certifications; 1st Aid/CPR is required for saw certification; Terry H will track chapter member certifications
- First Aid Kits: chapter has multiple first aid kits (both people and equine); stored in conex at Horne's; use them as needed; remember to check it out and back in; check out/in sheet in conex

OTHER BUSINESS

- Chapter Freeze Branding – this has been rescheduled at Horne's, Monday, June 10, 5:00
- RAC Grant Application – Allen R reported on the 2025-2026 year grant; award committee will meet June 26th, need 9 of 12 members present to come to decision; if awarded the grant, funds of approx. \$27,000 will be for projects; project areas to include Elkhorns and Gates of the Mountain; initially had proposed Upper Little Blackfoot River area however this is not within the correct district; other projects as needed in the Helena-Townsend Ranger Districts.
- Mandy A has been very helpful with the grant application; she also offered to help with completing the 'volunteer' mileage, hours, stock use, etc. to apply for RAC funds
- Neil H brought up the need for more spools of rope for member purchase; 1 each of 1/2 " and 3/8"; both spools will total \$265; Terry H motioned to approve purchase, Merlyn H seconds. All in favor, motion passed.
- Discuss the need for either sharpening or purchasing of Katana Boy blades; decision to purchase two new blades; Fred B will order them. Fred B motioned to approve purchase, Merlyn H seconds. All in favor, motion passed.
- Next Meeting: July 3, Wed
- Adjourn: Fred B motioned to approve. All in favor, meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted: Terry Hutton, Secretary