

## Minutes – Last Chance Back Country Horsemen, Membership Meeting

February 4, 2026 7:00 p.m. Montana Wild

- President John Pavsek welcomed everyone
  - Take Roll: John Pavsek, Ali Kenny, Terry Hutton, Fred Benson, Neil and Darlene Horne, Bob Tomaskie, Katy Donnelley, Teri Juneau, Anna Pieri, Sherri Lionberger, Merlyn Huso, Denny and Marie Haywood, Mike Layng, Mike Cannon, Tom Weiss, Allen Rowley  
Guests: Wade Murphy, Beth Hess, Gini Austerman, Tom Engle
  - Minutes from January 7, 2026 meeting: Sherri L motioned to approve, Merlyn H seconds. All in favor, motion passed.
  - Treasurer Report February 4, 2026, Ali K reporting:
    - Audit Committee needed for calendar year 2024 & 2025
    - CD renewal: discuss CDs coming due in March; decided to roll them over; good interest rate and have funds available in checking/savings
- Deposits
- 1/26/26 = \$380.00 (2026 membership dues - checks: Hutton (#4880, individual); Haywood (#6733, family); Juneau (#14059, family); Weiss (#1913, individual); Huso (#1713, individual); Pavsek (#1213, individual); Gillispie (#5137, individual); Tomaskie (#4473, individual); Cannon (#1219, individual); and Wanner (#3515, family))
  - 2/26/26 = \$90.00 (2026 membership dues - cash: Hughey (family) and Kenny (family))

### Opportunity Bank

Total account holdings as of 02/04/26: \$55,255.05

Account Type	Current Amount	Amount Last Meeting	Interest Rate	Term	Maturity
Checking	\$19,014.99	\$18,971.86	-	-	-
Savings	\$1,728.64	\$1,728.42	0.05%	-	-
CD1-6738	\$11,688.12	\$11,688.12	5.25%	12 mo.	4/18/26
CD2-3512	\$11,253.94	\$11,253.94	5.25%	12 mo.	3/7/26
CD3-3547	\$11,569.36	\$11,569.36	5.25%	12 mo.	3/7/26

### Bills Presented

- 1/20/26 = \$36.99 (reimbursement for black ink (Terry Hutton, #1351))
- 2/4/26 = \$25.00 (reimbursement for printing brochures (Ali Kenny, #1354))

Treasurer's report: Teri J motioned to approve, Merlyn H seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

Pay bills: Fred B motioned to approve, Katy D seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- 2025 USFS/RAC Reimbursement: mileage and stock rates; pay or donate: Terry H brought up how the money had been distributed/reimbursed in prior years; 2024 work was paid (or donated) at the FS rate on the grant; some discussion; result – offer reimbursement at the FS grant rate of \$0.50 per mile and \$100 per stock day for work done in 2025; Terry will work on sending out an email to members letting them know their reimbursement rate; they may choose to accept some or all of the reimbursement and/or donate it back to the chapter; if a donation is made, a letter of Thank You will be sent for tax purposes
- 2026 Planned Projects: currently have \$23,360 grant money to be used in 2026; expires Feb 2027; John P discussed cancellation of Monarch Bridge project for 2026 as it is not in grant funding area; maybe 2027
  - Eagle Guard Station – Elkhorns, June 5-7; Sherri L and Neil H will be Trail Bosses
  - Thompson Guard Station – Big Belts, July 10-12; need Trail Boss
- 2026 Proposed Projects:
  - Gates of the Mountains – Fred B will be Trail Boss; possibly in May, weather dependent
  - North and South Belts (Boulder Lakes-Belt MTN Divide; possibly late June
  - Other trails in Elkhorns and Big Belts; dates TBD; more trail discussion at March meeting
- 2026 State Back Country Horsemen Rendezvous: June 18-21, Monture Guard Station; everyone welcome; camp, ride, work, etc.; Katy D asked if people prefer the dinner to be Fri or Sat; either is fine; Katy will provide a short video regarding this event at March or April meeting

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- BCHMT State Convention: Bozeman, March 27 – 29, 2026
  - Per chapter by-laws, members to annually vote on reimbursement for up to eight delegates for convention registration, mileage one-way, lodging
    - Discussion held; Mike C motioned to approve reimbursement of registration, mileage one-way and one night of lodging, Sherri L seconds. All in favor, motion passed.
    - Probable Delegates: John P, Ali K, Terry H, Katy D, Sherri L, Fred B. (Mike McDaniel may attend); offered another member to be a delegate, no response at meeting
  - LC BCH chapter to donate auction item, \$100 value; some discussion regarding ideas and items; Allen R offered Saddle Butter; Anna P and Ali K will work on determining item(s)
  - LC BCH chapter to bring chapter display board; discussion regarding if it needs updating; it was updated in 2025 when the convention was held in Helena (by LC BCH chapter); it should be ok
- Executive Board: consists of Pres, Vice Pres, Secretary, Treasurer, 2 State Directors & 1 Alternate, Past Pres
  - John P mentioned possible survey/questionnaire will be worked on by Board and sent to members to learn what members would like for events, projects, presenters at meetings, etc.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- First Aid/CPR certification; chain and crosscut saw certification: Board is working on determining a First Aid/CPR certification course of value to members at a reasonable cost; more to come; saw certification may be available at the Rendezvous at Monture in June; more to come
- Conex (chapter storage unit); need someone to monitor and ensure all saws, chain, crosscut, silkies are maintained and ready for use for the 2026 season; John P volunteered to do this

- May chapter event: Freeze Branding, potluck (maybe dutch oven cookoff) and packing demo; Neil and Darlene Horne generously offered their home for this event; discuss and plan more at March meeting
- Next Meeting: March 4, 2026, Montana Wild
- Adjourn: Sherri L motioned to approve. All in favor, meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted: Terry Hutton, Secretary