

TOP OF THE STATE UNIT – BCHC
Board of Directors Meeting
Natalee Thai Restaurant, 105 East Miner Street, Yreka
February 1, 2024
6:30 p.m.

President Michele Machado called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Officers/Directors:

Debbie Bacigalupi-	Michele Machado Woods	Sandy Mason	Laurie Robustellini
Robert Robustellini	Janice Rushton	Caralee Scala	Alan Woods
Alternates:	Gail Lyons	Michael Stapleton	Kelly York

Members and Guests: Wes Chancellor

Administrative:

- Establish Quorum/Flag Salute
- Members sign in sheet with miles
- Guest Speakers: None
- Additional agenda items: Audit, when to do?
- Introduction of Guests: Wes Chancellor (said he was going to rejoin after being a member in the past)

Approve Minutes of January 4, 2024 Meeting: Robert moves to approve the minutes and Caralee seconds.
Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- On January 10, BCHC Secretary Susie Patton sent a copy of the 2024 Rendezvous packet to share with members. Michele sent it to Kathryn to add to the website. Michele also posted a link (twice) on our Facebook page.
- On January 13, Michele sent in our 2023 Unit year-end report to BCHC Secretary, Susie Patton.
- On January 14, Michele corresponded via email with Michael Kauffmann, Board President for the Bigfoot Trail Alliance, regarding our Unit's and the Shasta-Trinity Unit's ability to help with trail work and stock packing for any planned projects this summer and beyond. Michele copied Laura Rodger and Larry Shuman on this email exchange. Michael also sent Michele a meeting invite for a January 9, 2025, Wilderness and Primitive Trails Summit in Eureka. This summit meeting was held already in 2024 and BCHC members were not invited. BCHC north state Unit leadership are now on Michael's list of contacts for future summits and gatherings to discuss and coordinate trail work.
- On January 17, Michele emailed Larry Shuman with the Shasta-Trinity Unit to let him know we have the Carter Meadows group campground reserved for June 6-9 for a group work party clearing trails and possible campground clean-up. Will discuss more during Work Party Committee report below.
- On January 18, BCHC Membership VP, Chip Herzig, emailed the 2024 state directory of officers. Michele reviewed our information and emailed Chip to let him know our new website address.
- On January 21, BCHC Secretary, Susie Patton, emailed all state directors with additions to the BCHC Feb. 10 state meeting agenda. Michele will discuss items on the overall agenda, including items added in this email in New Business below. Larry Shuman has agreed to carry our proxy. Michele will send Larry our votes after this February 1 meeting.
- Throughout January, Michele has been copied on emails regarding the Shasta-Trinity Unit/North State Packing Intern for summer 2024. The intern hiring will be managed by the CCC Foundation, with oversight from Shasta-Trinity Unit, Top of the State Unit and High Country Unit Leadership. Michele delivered our Unit's contribution of \$2,000 to Paddy LaRue at the January 20 S-T Unit

fundraiser dinner. Michele will share the flyer and application web page via Facebook and send to Penny for a Unit email to members once all information is finalized.

Treasurer Report: Caralee Scala reported that our Checking balance as of Dec. 31, 2023 was \$19,738.78. Income for January was \$80.40 (\$30.40 for December dues rebate and \$50 for Fort Jones Christmas Parade 1st place prize). Expenses for January were \$2,014.40 (\$14.40 for Christmas dinner supplies and \$2,000 for BCHC North State packing internship via the Shasta-Trinity Unit). The Checking balance as of Jan. 31, 2024 was \$17,804.78. Gail moves to approve the Treasurer report and pay bills. Janice seconds. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- Education: Debbie Bacigalupi has nothing to report.
- Membership: Jennifer Bull reported via email that we have 99 Voting members and 3 Associate members.
- Newsletter: Michele Machado Woods will enter our newsletters for the state journalism award again. Gail offered to send papers copies of the newsletter to those who don't get it by email.
- Insurance: Kelly York not in attendance; nothing to report
- Grants: Joe Croteau not in attendance; nothing to report
- Website: Kathryn Matthews not in attendance; nothing to report
- Adopt-A-Highway: Michael Stapleton not in attendance; nothing to report; he said at a previous meeting that he will schedule a clean-up day later this spring on a Sunday
- Public Lands: Michael Stapleton/Michael Journey not in attendance; nothing to report
- Work Parties: Robert Robustellini, Michele Machado Woods and Michael Stapleton met with Klamath National Forest partners in Yreka on January 29. Plan is in place to get our Volunteer Service Agreement signed by all parties ASAP. We agreed with KNF partners on plans for June 6-9 Carter Meadows trail work and campout. Plan is to do any necessary work to get Hidden Horse and Group Campground ready for the season and log out all campground to trailhead access trails and the PCT northbound with chainsaws (like we did last year). Shasta-Trinity Unit members/sawyers will attend again to help. Michele will get a refund on Group Campground reservation, but the reservation will stay on the calendar for our Unit. Robert Robustellini spoke with Elliott (KNF) regarding the Grider Creek corral build and he'll get back to us about campground work. From our meeting on Jan. 29 with Klamath National Forest partners, the FS asked us for a "wish list" for hitching rails in the wilderness lakes. Also discussed was putting in a few stock corrals at Middle Boulder TH, but there is not good parking. Also talked about putting in steel corrals at Mulebridge TH to replace wooden corrals. FS needs to build new metal corrals because others were used. We were told that an ACE (American Conservation Experience) trail crew is scheduled to start clearing the PCT southbound at Grider Creek TH on June 12. Will do three 8-day hitches and get as far as they can go. Our Unit has volunteered to help with logging out PCT with chainsaws to the Wilderness boundary in March to aid in this work. May also be asked to help resupply these crews and another ACE crew working in the Shasta-Trinity NF PCT sections later in July and August. Alicia (rec director from Happy Camp/Oak Knoll) offer to help with scheduling chainsaw training.
- Fish Plants: Don Menne called Robert on Wednesday (Jan. 31), fish hatchery contacted him and asked for three lakes. It was suggested that we do Syphon Lake, Cliff Lake, Summit Lake. Also discussed Long Gulch/Trail Gulch if those are stocked with horses/mules. Robert talked about getting invited to a meeting at Lake Shastina Golf resort and how the meeting was cancelled because the biologist didn't come to the meeting. Should be another meeting in February. CDFW looking at planting fish by air (plane or helicopter).
- Programs and Events: Debbie Bacigalupi and others spoke about the annual Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. Fort Jones Hall is reserved for March 16; 5:30 happy hour and 6:30 dinner. Keith Thomas will cook the corned beef and cabbage. Will need members to bring potluck dishes for rest of

meal. Michele will send details to Debbie to do a flyer/email information. Raffle, dessert auction, silent auction for trailer.

- Parades: Kelly York not in attendance; nothing to report
- Scholarships: Penny Wells-Thomas worked with Kathryn to get the forms updated and up on the Unit website. Penny reported via email on January 23 that she sent the forms out to all area high schools. She also sent an email out to members and Michele published the information and link on the Unit Facebook page.
- Trail rides: Michele Machado Woods and Laurie Robustellini. Michele talked about riding at Sheep Rock as a possible spring ride. Bacigalupi's Ranch is also an option. Good for Spring and Summer. Laurie will talk to Kim Potts about getting a tune up on the calendar in April or check with Stapletons about a playday at their place.
- Publicity/Social Media: Michele Machado Woods will keep putting items on Facebook.
- Youth Wilderness Program: Caralee Scala and Kelly York nothing to report.
- 2025 Rendezvous organizing committee: Michele Machado Woods received an email on January 25 that the next planning meeting will be February 17 at a place and time to be determined. Michele plans to attend on behalf of our Unit. Robert and Debbie interested in going to Feb. 17. Robert got ahold of Larry S about Cindy Munson with Tractor Supply for being a main corporate sponsor for the 2025 event. She said definitely yes and Robert gave info to Larry.

Unfinished Business:

- At the April 2023 First Aid/CPR class we learned about the importance an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) machine. Prices for a new machine can vary between \$1400 and \$2500. Refurbished versions cost around \$700-\$800. **NEW NEWS in October 2023:** Found out from Chip Herzig that we have \$1,870 in our Unit Education Fund sitting in a BCHC state account. Chip said we can use the money to purchase an AED (or two) as long as we have an "education" event to show all potential users how to use it. This could be accomplished at a monthly meeting or at a special First Aid/CPR event. Michele brought up the topic at the Christmas dinner on December 2 and got some positive feedback and several "yes" replies when she asked the attendees if this would be a good investment for the Unit. **Next steps:** need to research how often an AED may go out of date and check into the age ratings for the used versions. Caralee offered to find out more about the OSHA manufacturer dating. Can't be older than 10 years old. Nothing new to report. Manufacturer date 10 years past and then it expires.
- Kelly sent in our Unit volunteer hours on January 7. No additional action at this time.
- Robert reported at the November 30 (December) meeting that he got the proper paperwork for the salvage title from the DMV. Waiting to see what happens in March to have all the proper paperwork for whoever gets the trailer. Michele agreed to put information in the next newsletter (published on Jan. 1, 2024) that we will open to offers or highest bid. If no interest by March 16 dinner, then we'll offer it as a silent auction item. Michele will correct Caralee's number for email and social media.
- We have at least one Board of Directors spot to fill for 2024. Laurie said she's feeling better and could stay if necessary. Robert would still like to step down. Janice said she talked to Kyle Adkins and he's interested in learning more, but he said he may not be able to come to all meetings. Michele will reach out to Kyle to talk to him about the vacant spot. Caralee asked if Shirley would be interested and Michele said she would ask.
- 2024 BCHC Leadership training for the northern Units has been scheduled for February 24 in Oroville. Michele reached out to Debbie to see if she can go. Gail offered to go as well. Michele has already reserved a hotel room with two queen-size beds in Oroville.
- BCHC awards: Top Hand and Ann Lange award nominations due Feb. 1, 2024. Michele sent in both nominations on January 13.
- 2024 Rendezvous in Ceres: Michele received the following information:

- Your unit is responsible for donating an auction item worth \$2 per unit member at Rendezvous. Michele is planning to go to Rendezvous so she can take an auction item or check. Can also take some local beer for the wine, beer, and cheese tasting. **Need vote for donating both auction item/money and beer.** Caralee makes a motion approve the donation of \$200 and Robert seconds. Motion carried. **Michele will purchase an item to donate at Rendezvous and bring back receipt.**

New Business:

- Unit Financial Reports are due to BCHC by February 28. Caralee reported she sent on Feb. 1
- 2024 Top of the State Unit budget review and discussion. Can vote to approve at this meeting if everyone is in agreement or table for next meeting. Janice makes a motion to approve the budget as-is and Gail seconds. Motion carried.
- BCHC State Board of Directors meeting topics per the agenda sent on January 10. Michele spoke about the items up for voting and all in attendance agreed it was OK to vote “yes” on all items. Michele will communicate this information to Larry Shuman (Shasta-Trinity Unit), who will carry our proxy to the Feb. 10 BCHC state meeting.
- Any ideas for Guest Speakers? Do we want to ask Dr. Essex back to talk about another topic at our March or April meeting? Any other potential topics or speakers to schedule? Michele will ask Dr. Essex for another talk at March or April meeting.
- When to do another audit? Need committee. Janice said she would do it again. Caralee will ask Kathryn. Gail said she could help. Caralee to arrange time and date.

Announcements:

Next Meeting: March 7, 7 p.m., Fort Jones Community Center/City Hall

Adjourn: 7:42 p.m. Gail moves that we adjourn, Robert seconds. Motion carried.