

TOP OF THE STATE UNIT – BCHC
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
Fort Jones City/Community Hall
May 1, 2025
7 p.m.

Administrative:

- Establish Quorum/Flag Salute
- Members sign in sheet with miles
- Guest Speaker:
- Additional agenda items:
- Introduction of Guests:

Approve Minutes of March 6, 2025 Meeting and Minutes of April 3, 2025 Meeting.

Correspondence:

- Michele had a chat with Spencer Valenti (PCTA) at Rendezvous regarding PCT work this spring and work. During that discussion Spencer mentioned help needed for log-out work at Cook and Green summit north of Seiad Valley. Ian Nelson reiterated this need for work in an email on April 15. Dates for work are TBD in late May.
- Michele had a short chat with Katy Bartzokis, North Zone packer for the USFS Pack Stock Center of Excellence in Weaverville, at Rendezvous regarding scheduling an event (or events) with youth packers for them to learn about packing opportunities with the Forest Service. Michele followed up with Katy on April 26 to see if we could have a first event at Carter Meadows in June.
- Alicia Deery, Recreation Officer with the KNF Happy Camp/Oak Knoll ranger district, emailed Michele to ask to reschedule our planned April 18-20 log-out work weekend at Grider Creek TH. Will discuss more in Work Party section
- On April 18, Michele had a phone conversation with Shelby Weister, KNF Volunteer Coordinator, regarding upcoming work needs. We can discuss work needs in New Business.
- On April 25, Michele received an email from Cate Bendock, BCHO Sourdough Chapter packer coordinator for pack support for Siskiyou Mountain Club trip on July 6-9. Trip would be into the Tin Cup Peak area of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness in Southern Oregon. SMC will help cover reimbursable costs like mileage, feed, and food for volunteer packers. Michele initially reached out to Jamie and Vose Hayden to see if they would be interested in the trip to take the Youth Packers for continued education.

Treasurer Report: Caralee Scala: Need to approve Treasurer Report from March 6 meeting as well.

Committee Reports:

- Education: Debbie Bacigalupi; need to know if we're invited to the Siskiyou Agriculture Awareness day at the fairgrounds
- Membership: Jennifer Bull
- Newsletter: Michele Machado Woods
- Insurance: Michele Machado Woods
- Grants: Joe Croteau
- Website: Kathryn Matthews
- Adopt-A-Highway: Michael Stapleton
- Public Lands: Michael Stapleton/Michael Journey
- Work Parties: Robert Robustellini; Michele trying to reschedule Grider PCT log-out work for May 16-18
- Fish Plants: Don Menne
- Programs and Events: Debbie Bacigalupi
- Parades: VACANT
- Scholarships: Penny Wells-Thomas
- Trail rides: Michele Machado Woods and Laurie Robustellini
- Publicity/Social Media: Michele Machado Woods

- 2025 Rendezvous organizing committee: Michele Machado Woods and Robert Robustellini give final thoughts on Rendezvous.
 - Announcement of our Unit Top Hand award for 2024.
 - Our Youth Packing teams finished 1st and 2nd in the Youth Packing competition.

Unfinished Business:

- Audit of 2024 financial records: Was this scheduled and completed?
- Board of Directors vacancy: We still have one opening to fill. Consensus at April meeting was that Robert should fill the spot. **Can vote at this meeting to make it official, if Robert agrees.**
- Raffle to raise funds to pay for BCHC North State packing intern for 2025 (Matt Alloway): We voted in March to move forward with printing 300 or 400 tickets for two prizes (\$10 per ticket). The \$3000-\$4000 earned for these ticket sales would pay for the \$2000 for our Unit contribution for the intern, printing costs, etc. **Money could also be used to fund trail work and/or youth packing program.** Prizes will be a \$500 gift card from Shasta Valley Chainsaw and a guided fly-fishing trip (\$800 value) at a Northern California or Southern Oregon location/date agreed upon by the raffle winner and the fishing guide. Per April meeting, we'll put both prizes on one ticket, first prize is the fishing trip and second prize is the \$500 chainsaw in-store gift card. Drawing would be at the October BOD meeting on Oct. 2 or Oct. 4. Caralee asked at April meeting that we check with BCHC about whether there are any special rules for raffles. Michele will report on correspondence with Lynn Joiner, BCHC Treasurer, regarding rules for raffles for Units. **ACTION for this meeting:** Vote to approve cost to order tickets (\$74.41 for 400 tickets; \$69.86 for 300 tickets). Michele needs final details to order raffle tickets, and create a flyer and social media posts to promote the tickets.
- Let's make a final decision to keep or eliminate Parades chair.
- Penny Wells-Thomas is pursuing idea to schedule a rattlesnake avoidance event for dogs in 2025. Penny reported via email that we can get an event scheduled in July or August, just not during the fair. No additional update for this event.
- We learned at the March 15 dinner that Dave Tyler can offer basic farrier lessons to members. Need to know interest so we can get this event (or events) on the schedule.

New Business:

- Our Unit has been asked to donate a sum (at least \$750) to help Youth Packing teams go to Bishop for Mule Days. After the Youth Packers did so well at Rendezvous, the idea was floated by parents, grandparents and supports to try to send the kids to Bishop Mule Days. Jamie Essex has registered a team of at least five of the youth packers for competitions at Mule Days. Jamie believes the youth and their parents (or chaperones) and coaches going to Bishop will need at least \$5000. **Discuss and vote.**
- Michele would like to propose that we offer family or individual memberships (1-year) to Youth Packing coaches Vose and Jamie Hayden, Beau Burton, Randy Shinskie and Amada Ortiz. **Discuss and vote.**
- If we are not going to be able to make a decision about compensating trail work crews for mileage, stock use, chainsaw use, chainsaw fuel, Alan would like to discuss the Unit using some of the 2021 insurance money to purchase at least one new Unit chainsaw so our sawyers don't have to use our personal saws. Alan has a rough estimate of cost of one chainsaw he thinks would be a good investment.
 - From the November 4, 2021 minutes: Insurance claim for and replacement of damaged/burned trail equipment.
 - Need to get a committee to decide if we want to buy new items. We should be able to replace what we need with the **\$2585.78** from insurance claim. Claim money was deposited into bank, but no equipment has been purchased to replace damaged items. At the September meeting Alan proposed we review the list and bring ideas on what we need to replace. Robert said he has a list of items he'd like to replace.
 - Discussion to buy new tools did not continue after Nov. 4, 2021 meeting.
- Carter Meadows "Adopt a Campground" opportunity: In discussions with the Klamath National Forest recreation staff, we have been asked if our Unit would have an interest in "adopting" the Carter Meadows Group Equestrian Campground. **This work is most needed on weekends.** What this means is Unit volunteers would be in charge of unlocking the campground gate the first day of a reservation. When the campers vacate the campground, we would tidy up the restrooms, replenish toilet paper, remove trash bags from the bins and

lock the gate. All supplies will be provided. **First reservation to help with would be clean up and close gate on late afternoon of June 14 (Saturday). Next reservation to help with would be close the gate and clean up on afternoon of Sunday, July 6.** Can ask the KNF if we can get a free camp spot at Hidden Horse for any volunteers who want to stay multiple days to help with this opportunity. KNF does not have funds to reimburse for mileage/time for volunteers who help with this request.

- KNF request to pack in Wilderness signs to Russian Wilderness boundaries on PCT. Per Shelby: We have the larger, wooden Wilderness Boundary signs that would need to be installed at the Wilderness boundaries for the Russians. We have a sign for the boundary North of Carter Meadows Summit and a sign for the boundary south from Etna Summit. From Etna Summit to the Wilderness Boundary, it's about 5 miles and from Carter Meadows Summit to the boundary it's about 6 miles. We have the signs and the bolts we use to install them, and Adam would either go install them with the volunteers or be able to provide volunteers with GPS coordinates and a description of the location where they need to be installed.
- Michele and Alan would like to discuss resigning their Officer roles at the end of this year. Need current board members and other leaders/members to think about who can fill the President and Secretary roles.

Announcements:

Next Meeting: May 29 (June meeting): BOD meeting, 6:30 p.m., location TBD, Yreka

Adjourn: