**Back Country Horsemen of America-Kansas**

**December 9, 2018**

**Emporia, Pizza Ranch Restaurant**

Attendance: Erin Glassman, Steve Lindsey, Marsha & David Hayes, Cheryl & Jim Thomas, Rick Medlin, Diana Skinner

Minutes were approved from the August 19 board meeting at Kanopolis.

Treasurer’s Report – Balance of $6,906.51. Payment will be made to national BCHA for membership dues before end of year. Income from Dillon’s shopping card is averaging $160-200 per quarter. Cheryl suggesting closing out the trail sharing sign account, since it has been spent down to $4.

Regional reports:

* Rick Medlin, Saddle Ridge Chapter, Hillsdale – lots of trail cleanup going on. The chapter has about 20 members and hosted a fall fundraiser tack auction. Some trail work has been done with a machine leased from Monica Chapman.
* Diana Skinner, Sunflower Chapter – 33 members. Diana shared postcard-sized BCHA promo pieces that can be left on windshields at trailheads or handed out to riders. As these cards are used up, they will be replaced with a business card size, which will be more economical.
* Northeast Region:
	+ Perry Lake – Cheryl reported that the Corps manager at Perry has turned trail maintenance and improvement on federal lands over to the state park manager.
	+ Pomona – Cheryl reported that Pomona State Park will be adding an equestrian campground on the southeast side of the lake for Flint Hills Trail riders. The one-mile access from the FHT to Pomona State Park is on a public roadway. The new campground will have hookups and a pens.
	+ Steve reported on KHC Regional Meeting at Harvey County. He, Jim, and Erin attended the meeting with park manager and others from that area. There was some interest in forming a BCHA chapter in that area.
	+ Steve reminded board of importance of supporting trails in remote areas of the state.
	+ Jim has scheduled a KHC/BCHA promotional ride at Eisenhower State Park, April 27-28. He will create a flyer and start advertising the ride in January.
	+ Marsha Hayes, Big Hill - Closed out last handshake grant with Corps. New open-sided shelter house is up at Cherryvale; trail marker signs are posted every quarter mile. Marsha wants to work on a professional map that would include gps coordinates, legend, campground amenities, parking areas. The map would be downloadable to phones.
	+ Erin Glassman, Kanopolis – a May 11 competitive ride will benefit BCHA-Ks. An August ride is also scheduled at Sand Hills. Cheryl added that Richard & Tracy McIntire have organized two benefit rides at Kanopolis this past year with proceeds going toward the addition of pens at the Rockin’ K Campground. Their goal is to continue with these benefits until there is at least one pen per campsite. Richard & Tracy also donate time, equipment, and manpower to build the pens.

Old Business:

* National Board Meeting, April 18-21.
* Jim and Erin brought the board up-to-date on the MOU between Kansas Horse Council and BCHA-KS, making BCHA-KS the trails branch of the KHC. The MOU states that BCHA-KS will be provided booth space at Equifest of Kansas.
* Benefit Ride Proceeds – Discussion on providing a portion of proceeds from regional chapter fundraising events to BCHA-KS. After discussion of state chapter expenses that benefit all chapters (eg postage of membership renewals, work day insurance), a motion was made to contribute 5% of proceeds from 2019 regional chapter fundraising events to the state chapter. Motion passed. The amount of the contribution will be reviewed following 2019’s Treasurer’s Report.
* Annual Meeting March 16, Salt Creek Ranch. Discussion of activities included a board meeting Friday evening at Lamont Hill. Steve suggested having a program or speaker for Saturday’s general meeting that would draw members. After discussion, a committee of Cheryl (chair), Diana, and Carol Retzer was appointed to plan the annual meeting.
* Website – Erin reported that Saddle Ridge has link on the website. Erin asked for other ideas, suggestions. Cheryl will send her the pdf file of the updated BCHA-KS brochure.

New Business:

* Equifest – BCHA booth will be set up near KHC booth. Volunteers will be needed for helping at the booth. MOU covers BCHA booth at Equifest. Steve asked about the possibility of volunteers working 2 hrs for KHC/1 hr for BCHA to get free pass. (KHC volunteers work 3-hour shift to earn a day’s pass.) Jim will discuss with KHC.
* Membership Renewals – Will be mailed this week. A return envelope is included to encourage members to pay 2019 dues. Cheryl asked if a line could be added to the membership form asking for current email address. Steve will add that.
* Work Dates – Reminder to add work days and other events to website and Facebook.
* Steve suggested a monthly email to members to keep them informed of events and activities. The board will consider an officer or board member to do that.
* Nominations for 2019 officers. A nominations committee was suggested. Look at regional chapter memberships for possible referrals. Each of the current board members can serve one more term.
* Volunteer Hours Worksheet was distributed for 2018. Cheryl will submit to national office before the end of the year. Discussion on how to encourage reporting from under-reported areas.
* Nebraska Trail Riding Expo, March 9-10, Omaha. KHC is interested in sharing booth space with BCHA-KS. A 10 x 10 space is $200. There was enough interest from BCHA board to continue discussion with KHC. Jim will discuss at Tuesday evening’s KHC board meeting.