**BCHKS Quarterly Board Meeting
Eisenhower State Park Benefit Trail Ride
October 8, 2021, 8pm**

Meeting was called to order at 8pm by Chair Stephanie Huss with an explanation of what BCHA does and an introduction to the structure of BCHKS. Those in attendance were invited to find out more on the BCHKS website or Facebook page.

Minutes from the quarterly meeting in June were not available.

Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer Sheila Watkins reviewed recent income and expenses and reported a current balance of $7,188.

**Regional/Chapter Reports –**

* Saddle Ridge, Hillsdale Lake work days have been spent clearing brush and working on muddy spots on the trails. There has been some rerouting around chronic muddy places. Trail maps are in the process of being updated and will show location coordinates for faster response in event of accidents.
* Sunflower:
	+ The annual Meals on Wheels ride was recently held on the Blackhawk Trails at Pomona Lake. Several work days preceded this event.
	+ Eisenhower State Park, Melvern Lake – A new low water bridge was recently completed at the first water crossing on the blue trail. The old crossing had to be repaired annually following heavy spring rains, when high water would wash it out. A new white trail has been completed and marked from Cowboy Camp to the north park boundary. All pens at West Point Campground have new screenings.
	+ Rockhaven Trails, Clinton Lake – Several big trees have been cleared recently. The lower orange trail continues to need much work.

**Old Business –**

BCHKS sponsored a trail ride, Sept. 18, to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail. After a year of planning, the event was a great success with over 50 riders on the Flint Hills Trail traveling from Bushong to Allegawaho Kaw Nation Park, just east of Council Grove. There was no charge for the ride; all participants were fed breakfast at the Bushong park before having trailers shuttled to trail’s end. A large part of the success of the ride was due the support and cooperation of Kansas Wildlife & Parks, the City of Bushong, the City of Council Grove, the Kaw Nation, and a whole posse of volunteers.

Cheryl Thomas, BCHKS Volunteer Hours Coordinator, reviewed the total volunteer hours from 2020. Over 3,300 volunteer hours on Kansas public trails were counted, with a dollar equivalency of $230,000. Continue submitting volunteer hours to Cheryl through the end of December for 2021.

**New Business –**

2022 Dues Updates:

* 2022 Dues Payment Incentive – All BCHKS members who pay 2022 dues by a published deadline will receive a BCHKS LED flashlight. Deadline for payment to receive award will be determined soon.
* When current members recruit new members to BCHKS, they become eligible for an end-of-the-year drawing.
* BCHKS is the official trails division of the Kansas Horse Council, and KHC is proposing a combo dues package that would include dues for KHC and BCHKS. Details will be provided soon.

The vendor application for the BCHKS booth at Equifest of Kansas has been turned in for 2022. Equifest dates are March 18-20, 2022, in Salina.

The BCHA Annual Meeting is scheduled for April in Kansas City, MO. Dates and schedule of activities will be posted soon.

BCHKS members are encouraged to step up and volunteer for a state office for 2022. Elections will take place at the annual meeting. Date and place will be advertised once it is finalized; Council Grove is the likely location of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm.

Minutes recorded by Cheryl Thomas.