**Sunflower BCHKS Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2021
Rockhaven Benefit Ride
Rockhaven Campground, Clinton Lake**

Chair Rosie Sweeten brought the meeting to order. A signup sheet was passed around to attendees.

Rosie turned the meeting over to Vice-Chair Tyler Gestl.

Motion passed to dispense with reading of the minutes.

Treasurer Diana Skinner reported a balance of approximately $2,900. About $600 of that amount will be submitted to BCHA for national dues.

Lake Reports:

* Updates to Perry trails can be followed on Let’s Ride—Perry Lake on Facebook.
* Diana reported that Clinton trail work is ongoing. Blue and yellow trails are open; lower orange trail is passable hit/miss in places going west but closed going east. Occupancy at Rockhaven Equestrian Campground must continue to remain above 20% to keep the campground from being closed by the COE. Diana is campground host for 2021 and is planning monthly ‘Fill the Campground’ promotions. Typically, they will be held the last weekend of each month; May 21-23 will be the date for the May event. She is planning a themed weekend each month.
* Pomona – No report.
* Eisenhower State Park, Melvern Lake – Jim & Cheryl Thomas reported on work on ESP trails. The new Teddy Trail has been completed (named for Asst. Park Manager Ted Craig) going north from Cowboy Camp. This trail is marked in white and follows a creek through the woods meeting up with the blue trail on the north park boundary. Jim & Cheryl are removing steel fence post trail markers wherever the new BCHKS trail markers can be put up. They’ve replaced about 40 fence posts.

Report from National Director:

Diana Skinner reported that the BCHA National Convention begins on Sunday evening and continues through Wednesday. This will be a Zoom meeting for the second year in a row, which means the on-site meeting for 2022 will be held in Kansas City. E-bikes continue to be a controversial issue: USFS considers e-bikes motorized vehicles and not allowed on wilderness trails; National Park Service will allow e-bikes on trails open to bicycle use. The issue of non-equestrians using equestrian campgrounds continues to be handled differently by different agencies.

Old Business:

* Diana reviewed the purchase of trail markers with a BCHA grant. Colors available are blue, orange, yellow, white. Additional markers were purchased by BCHKS and may be purchased at half price.
* BCHKS merchandise continues to be available: t-shirts, sweatshirts, license plates.
* Tentative plans for the BCHKS ride to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail were discussed. Riders will meet at Bushong (about 26 miles west of Osage City) and ride the Flint Hills Trail to Council Grove, a distance of approximately 14 miles. Breakfast will be served at the Bushong trailhead, and vehicles/trailers will be transported to Council Grove. Council Grove will be celebrating with a “Voices of the Wind People Pageant” that same weekend with activities, demonstrations, vendors. There will be no charge for the trail ride.

New Business:

* BCHKS will be offering grants in recognition of Steve Lindsey, founder of BCHKS. The grant application period is May 1-31; grant applications should show how the funded project will meet the mission of BCHA. Grants will be awarded in amounts from $100-500.
* The Tuttle Creek BCHKS Chapter is very close to formation. A June 5 trail ride at Randolph State Park will celebrate this new chapter. Find details at Friends of Randolph State Park on Facebook.
* The next Sunflower Chapter meeting will be held at the July ‘Fill the Campground’ event at Rockhaven Park.

Meeting was adjourned.