



**Executive Committee Minutes**  
**Tuesday, July 23, 2019**

**Members attending:** Darrell Wallace, Sherry Copeland, Mark Himmel, Mike McGlenn, Tif Rodriguez, Dennis Serpa, Ginny Grulke

**Staff:** Randy Rasmussen, Erica Fearn

**Absent:** Freddy Dunn, Brad Pollman

**Actions taken:**

- ✓ Motion to approve the consent agenda and reports, less the Donation Report. APPROVED.
- ✓ Motion to no longer provide the Donation Report to the executive committee. APPROVED.
- ✓ Motion to receive and file the financial report. APPROVED.

**Action items:**

- ✓ Headquarters will send out a link to the member benefits.
- ✓ Mark Himmell will reach out to the newsletter to make space for member benefits to be listed.
- ✓ Chairman Wallace to reach out to the Public Lands Committee regarding the Oregon chainsaw. (190723)
- ✓ Chairman Wallace has appointed a task force charged with making an investment policy recommendation to the executive committee. (190625)
- ✓ Erica to review the certified receipt to confirm IRS received the 990.(190528) Confirmed delivered. Waiting on certified receipt.
- ✓ Kim to send treasurer notes to Sherry for review. (190528)
- ✓ Mark to go over Financial Policy in later EC Call. (190528)
- ✓ HQ to create the application and send it to Freddy Dunn to be reviewed. It will then be discussed at the next meeting.(190528)

Topic	Accountable	Discussion
Welcome	Darrell Wallace, Chairman	Changes & additions to the agenda
	Darrell Wallace	Consent agenda: Minutes of the June Meeting Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Public Lands &amp; Recreation Report</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Headquarters Report</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Committee Chair Call Notes</a></li> </ul>
Treasurer Report	Mark Himmel, Treasurer	Treasurer's Report June 2019 Chairman's letter had just been delivered.
Strategic Agenda	Darrell Wallace	Discussion on the Donation Report not being tied out to end of month financials.

	<p>Mark Himmel</p> <p>Randy Rasmussen, Director, Public Lands &amp; Recreation</p> <p>Mike McGlenn</p>	<p>Investment Policy Development Taskforce members are Nick Martinez, Dick Cocheran, Steve Lindsey, Joanne Mitchell, Mike Bagwell. Committee chair update - ●Tif Rodriguez - co-chair Fundraising ●Dennis Serpa - Membership</p> <p>Budget call planned with Darrell, Sherry, Mark, and Erica</p> <p>Governance Policies Stipulated Policy Review Financial policies. Policies can be found on the chapter resources, Governance Policies.</p> <p>Public Lands Update: Rumors proved true regarding the NPS and USFS discussing policy changes that would declassify electric bikes (e-Bikes) as motorized uses on trails. Representatives of The Wilderness Society met last week with the USFS Director of Recreation who acknowledged these discussions, including its consultation with agency lawyers regarding options for a policy change.</p> <p>Preparing a BCHA response to a rulemaking proposal by the USFS to adopt a number of categorical exclusions from NEPA analyses. The biggest issue/concern appears to be the degree to which public notification and public comment would be absent from a large number of agency management actions. Darrell hopes the Public Lands Committee will work to shape BCHA’s comments; Sherry, Mark and Darrell are interested in reviewing BCHA’s draft comment letter.</p> <p>Action alerts - what role does the EC play? Randy is happy to notify EC members in advance of the release of key action alerts.</p> <p>Member benefits should be in the newsletter.</p>
Parking lot		Next meeting date: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 8 PM ET.

**Headquarters Report:**

Assisted Public Lands Advisor in sending action alerts

Met via phone with Chairman

Reviewed financial reports with vice chairman and treasurer

Committees:

Participated in the committee chairs call, introduced Mary Ann Turner new headquarters staff

Participated in the Legacy Committee call

Mailed donation request letter RE: Legacy Fund to non donors - national board member and At Large members.

Assisted set up of conference call number with investment committee chair

Liaised with new committee chairs

Membership:

Updated member lists, prepped newsletter mailing list

Reviewed membership numbers

Created “how to” presentation on the members only website for Tennessee

## **Public Lands & Recreation Update**

### **Pending Policy Changes to Allow E-Bikes on Trails –**

- Received tips and confirmed rumors that each of the federal land management agencies—NPS, BLM, USFS and US Fish & Wildlife—were considering a policy change that would no longer treat electric bicycles (e-Bikes) as a “motorized” use on trails.
- *Note:* This change could come in the form of directives to field offices and, therefore, would skirt the standard rulemaking process and its requirement of public notice and comment. In other words, the public would have no voice and all trails currently open to mountain bike use would instantly be designated open to all three classes of e-Bikes (Class 1, 2 and 3; see descriptions at the bottom of this report).
- Brought this pending policy change to the attention of allies American Hiking Society (AHS) and The Wilderness Society (TWS), which also independently confirmed that these changes could be forthcoming.
- Briefed and received the full support of BCHA’s Public Lands Committee Regional Co-Chairs on the need to take proactive action to prevent the agencies from changing policy without adequate public notification and comment.
- Shaped a national sign-on letter to federal agency leaders from the trails and recreation community that expresses opposition to any policy change that would authorize motorized vehicles (e-Bikes) on non-motorized trails.
- Obtained BCHA’s Chairman approval to automatically sign-on all 30 BCH states and 196 chapters to the letter, then crafted an action alert circulated by BCHA to state leaders informing them of the e-Bike issue and their ability to opt-out from the national sign-on letter.

### **US Forest Service Proposed NEPA Rule –**

- Reviewed in detail the U.S. Forest Service’s June 2019 proposal to revise its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations.
- *Note:* The agency claims the proposal is intended to add flexibility, tailor necessary environmental analysis to fit conditions, and reduce redundancy in analysis. The agency would do so primarily by adding new categorical exclusions (CEs) that would negate the need for analysis of many projects that currently require an Environmental Assessment (EA) accompanied by public review and comment. Several new or expanded CEs are proposed, including those for trail and recreation-related facilities construction, as well as those for road and trail closures.

- Shared preliminary findings with BCHA's Chairman; public comment letters are due by August 12.

#### Current e-Bike Classification System

- Class 1: e-Bikes that are pedal-assist only, with no throttle, and have a maximum "motor-assisted" speed of 20 mph, yet are capable of greater speeds depending on variables such as slope, tread/surface and rider fitness.
- Class 2: e-Bikes that are throttle-assisted and have a maximum "motor-assisted" speed of 20 mph (yet are capable of greater speeds depending on variables such as slope, tread/surface and rider fitness).
- Class 3: e-Bikes that are pedal-assist, with no throttle, and a have maximum "assisted" speed of 28 mph (yet are capable of greater speeds depending on variables such as slope, tread/surface and rider fitness).

Classes 1 through 3 limit the motor's power to 1 horsepower (750W), but some e-Bikes and bike conversion kits on the market have much higher wattage, currently ranging from 5,000 to 7,000W.