

# SJBCH BOD Meeting Minutes

Date: 7-8-2024 Time: 6:00 PM Place: United Methodist Church

**Board Members in Attendance:** John Nelson, Lisa Nelson, Ron Toland, Donna Fait, Allan Netzer, JoAnn Senzig, Chris Boyd.

**Meeting Called to Order:** John Nelson at 6:01 PM

**Secretary Report:** Ron Toland moved to approve the 6/10/24 BOD minutes; Donna seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer Report: Allan Netzer—**Allan noted income from the rodeo, Treasure Falls cleanup donation and a new membership. He discussed the memberships the chapter provided for the Amish trail-clearing crew, which will be identified on the 501(c) 3 IRS form as “product.” A new category of “trail work” also has been added to the chapter’s financial report.

Allan provided a comparison of the first and second quarters of the financials for 2023 and 2024. He noted that after six months of 2024, we are projecting an increase in income for 2024 from \$9,318 in 2023 to \$15,946 due to an increase in fundraising—collecting over \$6,800 in grants and donations in 2024 so far.

**Trails Committee Report: Ron Toland—**Ron said SJBCH did not have any response from outreach efforts to youth groups inviting their participation in the 30-Mile project July 26-27. Ron said he could use help with logistics of the overnight trail work/camping venture that is being supported by a \$500 grant from Back Country Horsemen of America.

Ron shared updates about the Pagosa Area Trails Council. Larry Smith has volunteered to serve again on the board. John Nelson stressed the need for a good functioning trails group and that SJBCH will support such a group. The board also discussed the concept of a facilitator for organizing an upcoming community planning process for recreation on the Pagosa Ranger District.

Ron shared highlights from the Back Country Horsemen of Colorado state meeting that he attended:

- BCH chapters may use Leave No Trace principles in their communications, but BCH of America’s new Light on the Land principles are more horse oriented.
- BCHCO is looking at a membership dues increase of \$2-\$3 for state and \$5 for national dues. The SJBCH board questioned whether chapter membership dues might need to be increased even more. Treasurer Allan Netzer noted that even a \$10 increase will not cover annual expenses for the chapter. A strong fundraising effort this year has provided significant revenue for the chapter.
- The national board meeting in April will be in Prescott, Ariz., with a possible overnight stay. The board agreed that the chapter should cover travel expenses for authorized attendance at state/national meetings.
- Chapters were encouraged to use the BCHA incident form to report illegal use of E-bikes on trails.

- BCH chapters were encouraged to share more with other area trail groups. The board noted how the SJBCH Treasure Falls cleanup and the forest sign restoration project are good examples of sharing with other groups.

Ron also commented that SJBCH seems to be one of the most active chapters in the state.

Additional updates from Ron included:

- The Wilderness sign on Turkey Creek about five miles up the trail is down and in bad shape.
- Ron sent a notice to members about a chainsaw certification opportunity in Durango.
- A possible future SJBCH general meeting could be devoted to a pack-fitting clinic.
- The Amish crew cleared Fish Lake Trail in two days. SJBCH paid \$1,250 for travel and \$668 for two Silky saws for the crew.

The board also discussed the concept of using outfitters to help clear trails and to further explore the possibility of the Forest Service using a portion of the annual 3 percent assessment outfitters pay to the Forest Service to have the outfitters clear more system trails. A future meeting with identified outfitters will be scheduled.

**Social Committee:** The board noted that Annie Pack has planned the group ride for July 27 at Kenney Flats.

The board also discussed the possibility of using a local restaurant(s) for future general meetings and possibly the Christmas party.

**Volunteer Committee: Donna Fait**—Donna urges volunteers to track costs of such items as chainsaw gas, oil and chain; saw sharpening; etc. on their volunteer reports as these constitute donations because they are not reimbursed. Allan will also track these donations on the financial reports.

**Fund Raising: Ron Tolan**—The rescheduled 19th Hole Concert benefiting SJBCH at the golf course will be July 11.

Jo Ann Senzig shared that the finals of the Burris and Sons Bucking Bulls rodeos will be July 25.

**Communications Report: Lisa Nelson**—Lisa is pursuing updates to the SJBCH website, including replacing about 25 photos, revising some text and changing the “Donate” page to feature current donors.

The board also discussed the possibility of adding contact information on the website, so people can know when meetings are scheduled. It was decided to refer website visitors to the SJBCH Facebook page for current meeting information.

Lisa estimated the cost to be no more than \$200 for the web designer to make the changes. If the designer’s estimate exceeds \$200, Lisa will contact board members for approval. Allan made a motion to approve the \$200 expense; seconded by Jo Ann Senzig. Motion approved unanimously.

**Safety Officer: Chris Boyd**—Chris will review the new “Safety Corner” column for the newsletter. Allan Netzer will add another brief about a close-call situation that he and Colleen experienced.

**Old Business: John Nelson**—John will send an email to members about upcoming board elections, including current nominations for the positions

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn at 8 p.m. by Chris Boyd; seconded by Allan Netzer.