BCHKS Quarterly Board Meeting  
June 5, 2020  
Randolph State Park, Tuttle Creek

The meeting was called to order by BCHKS Chair Stephanie Huss at 1:41pm. The meeting followed a BCHKS ride at Randolph State Park and lunch with over 40 participants.

Minutes were not available; they had been posted following the previous annual meeting

Dispensed with reading of Treasurer’s Report.

Trails Reports: Stephanie received reports from Eisenhower State Park and Perry State Park:

* Eisenhower State Park, Melvern Lake – It’s been a feeling of déjà vu at Melvern Lake as prolonged heavy rains brought the lake up 10’ above normal pool level mid-May. Consequently, a lot of the Crooked Knee Trail at Eisenhower State Park was under water for several weeks. The first water crossing, which accesses the blue trail to the west, has completely washed out. A temporary fix will repair it once the water recedes; then, a permanent low-water bridge project is planned for later in the summer. The good news is that a new white trail has been added that begins at Cowboy Camp and follows the creek up to the northern park boundary. New BCHKS trail markers have been replacing steel fence post markers along the trail. About 50 steel fence posts have been removed. The steel posts with mileage markers remain in place, as well as those marking the trail in open areas. Once things dry out, the trails will be checked for debris and any damage left behind by the flood waters. Trail work is never done! Trails on the high prairie are still in good shape, and the blue trail can be followed along the northern park boundary around to the west side with lots of riding available. The prairie is always a carpet of wildflowers during the month of June!
* Perry State Park, Perry Lake:  Prior to the rain, the trails were in great shape and we have had lots of riders and campers. Ed Jarvis mowed Rocky Top & Jackalope and cleared downfall along the way. Kenny Patterson cleared the Thompsonville North entrance. Some of Ed's future Perry projects include improving the ditch crossing at the SW corner of the Jackalope; moving Hickory Acres trail portion that skirts the housing property back into the timber; clearing and mowing a small trail spur connecting the Jackalope with the Wild Horse trails; mowing and clearing as needed.

Old Business –

* Stephanie reported on a successful BCHKS booth at Equifest of Kansas in Salina in March. Several people stopped by the booth for information, and new members were gained. The board will be considering ways to streamline the booth transport and setup.
* Diana Skinner, National Director, shared info from the national BCHA office.
  + All members should have received an email blast from the national office regarding National Trails Day, June 5.
  + The national office is encouraging members to join a national committee.
  + There will be a series of webinars in October, and ideas are welcome.
  + The BCHA treasurer reported a balance of over $70,000. There were no travel expenses paid to national conference the past two years, and a change in the administrative management company also resulted in a significant savings.
  + The Recreational Trails Program, funded at the national level by the federal gasoline tax, has been underfunded for several years. The current Congress seems interested in increasing that funding; call your state reps and ask them to support HR1864. Kansas trails have received several grants over the past several years from this program.
  + BCHA is looking at offering a Lifetime Member option.
  + BCHKS is looking for a member to fill a National Director position. Kansas has two National Directors, who serve alternating two-year terms. This first year, the new National Director would shadow Diana Skinner and sit in on monthly video conferences. The state National Directors are the liaison between BCHA and BCHKS.
* Clarification on liability for BCHKS events is needed and will be researched.

New Business:

* Diana displayed a small flashlight from the company that BCHKS pens were purchased from. Cost is $1.59/each and would have BCHKS web address printed on them; these could be used as incentive for getting 2022 dues paid by a specified date. A motion was made and passed to purchase 100 of the flashlights.
* Info was provided on the proposed Tuttle Creek BCHKS Chapter. With all criteria met, a motion was made to accept the new Tuttle Creek BHCKS Chapter to BCHKS! Officers include: President Pattie Stalder; VP Catherine Crites; Secretary Jen Stalder; Treasurer Trish Cleveland.
* Kansas Horse Council Executive Director Justine Staten offered a proposal for a 2022 Trails Advocacy level of KHC membership, which would also include BCHKS membership. Of the $80 individual membership fee, $45 would be returned to BCHKS (which is the current individual BCHKS membership). A dual membership option would benefit both organizations. There are still details to work out.

Meeting adjourned for an afternoon trail ride on the Randolph State Park trails.

Cheryl Thomas, substituting for BCHKS Secretary Erin Glassman