

FINAL  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL, INC.  
Tuesday, October 12, 2021  
Empire Grange

**Officers:**

President: Bernie Molloy  
Vice President: Jamie Canon  
Secretary: Andi Duncan  
Treasurer: Cathy Scott  
Past President: Helen Harvey

**Board Members:**

Helen Crawford McDermott  
Karen Hayden - Absent

**General Members:**

Cathy Chase  
Laura Duncan

**A. Call to Order and Welcome**

Meeting was called to order by President Bernie Molloy at 7:02 p.m.

**B. Changes or Additions to Agenda** - Additions to Old Business include an updates on Backcountry Horsemen posters for Lone Grave and Trailforks.

**C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting and Special Minutes**

Helen Crawford McDermott made a motion to approve the Minutes for the August 08, 2021 BOD Meeting. The motion was seconded by Cathy Scott and the motion carried.

**D. Approval of Treasurer's Report**

Cathy Scott reported that as of October our balance is \$39,796.80 which includes \$9,571 reserved for Pines to Mines, an equipment trailer purchase and new maps at the GCTC Equestrian Trailhead. Membership dues were \$1,487 which is down by 63%. This drop is due to the change in enrollment year but expected to balance out when annual membership renewal begins in December.

Waste Management charged the club for the Tahoe National Forest Dumpster but that error in billing is being corrected. Last pickup at Skillman is October 27, 2021 and will resume again on May 25, 2022.

Cathy Scott submitted a full financial report consisting of 14 pages. Helen Crawford McDermott motioned to approve and Jamie Canon seconded approval of treasurer's report. Motion passed.

**E. Forest Service Report:**

Mary Johnson was not in attendance. A report will be provided later.

**F. Old Business**

1. **Upcoming Work Days** - Mary Johnson was not in attendance and information will be provided at a later date.

2. **Thanksgiving at Higgins update** - Bernie Malloy reported that the Thanksgiving Dinner at Higgins will not happen due to very strict Covid regulations related to the use of the building. Andi Duncan made a motion to change the venue to Empire Grange and instead of having dinner we would hold an indoor dessert event. In order to attend the event and according to Nevada County Health mandates, members must provide a vaccination card showing that the person is fully vaccinated or they must provide evidence of a negative Covid test within the last 72 hours. Cathy Scott seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Mary Johnson normally does the meet and greet at the door. It was suggested that one additional person help her due to the added requirement of checking vaccination cards and/or negative test results.

The Top Hand Award is usually presented at the November meeting. Laura Duncan was going to remind Jaede Milosovich to send out a nomination form. Voting needs to be concluded by October 30.

3. **Lone Grave Sign Repairs** - Andi Duncan reported that no action has been taken yet. Mary Johnson has confirmed the approved Forest Service colors for the metal frame. This weekend at the BBQ and Trail ride, the wooden sign will be removed and work will begin.
4. **Upcoming Board Elections** - Laura Duncan reported that potential candidates have been identified for primary Officer positions. Several other names were discussed as candidates for Board Members. Again this year, the membership will be able to vote by mail.
5. **Posters** - Andi Duncan reported that Mary Johnson spoke with the Forest Service to determine if we could put the "What a Horse Sees" poster created by Back Country Horsemen on the sign boards at Lone Grave and other locations. According to Mary Johnson, the Forest Service partners with Back Country Horsemen and therefore it is okay to put up the posters. Andi Duncan will take the posters to Walker's in Grass Valley and see if they are able to make the image less fuzzy and how much each poster would cost. If pricing and quality is acceptable, we will need to identify locations where they could be posted and order appropriately.
6. **Trailforks update** - Cathy Scott has applied to be a moderator for Trailforks and the status is pending. It was suggested to add trail building to the activities listed. While looking at Trailforks, Cathy Scott saw that 2 local people had logged horseback activity. She sent them a letter asking about their experience and is awaiting a response.

## **G. New Business**

1. **Letter from USFS RE:E-bikes** - . Bernie Molloy received a letter from the Forest Service but the letter only contained page 2. He has yet to receive page 1. However, based on the limited information contained on page 2 it appears the Forest Service isn't giving up on including E-bikes in the environmental assessment. Helen Harvey said that Randy Rasmussen of Backcountry Horsemen is drafting a letter with relevant NEPA elements in response. Helen Harvey continues to try and engage both the Sierra Club and the Audubon in this concern.

2. **Trailer Backing Class** - Jaeda Milosovich saw on the internet that a horse club in Monterey was offering a trailer backing clinic. She reached out to our membership to see if there was any interest in a similar event. She had 28 positive responses. Based on the positive response Andi Duncan made a motion to allow Jaede to continue to find a location and a certified teacher. A board member raised the question of insurance. That issue must be resolved prior to any definite clinic scheduling. Jamie Canon seconded the motion. The motion was approved for Jaede Milosovich to pursue organizing a trailer backing clinic.
3. **Membership Appreciation Ride Update** - Laura Duncan reported that 44 people have responded that they will attend. Of the 44 approximately 35 are planning to ride. Willie Brusin will handle the parking. Sue Brusin will mark the trails. Debbie Molloy will be the camp cook and Barry Vaccaro will provide the BBQ. This is a members only event. If not on the membership list, riders are not allowed to come unless they join.
4. **Trail Ride Issues** - Jamie Canon made a motion to allow non members on guided trail rides under two conditions. First, they must sign a waiver of liability. Second, members get priority over non members. Cathy Scott seconded the motion. Motion approved.
5. **New Tool Request** - Helen Crawford McDermott made a motion to allocate \$800 for the club to purchase a battery operated chainsaw, hedge trimmer, and 2 additional back up batteries. These tools weigh less and are easier to transport. Andi Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed. The two most liked brands by Officers and Board members are Makita and Ego.
6. **United Trails Day 2022 discussion** - No dates have been set yet. It is hoped that it will not conflict with either the Skillman Workday nor the Poker Ride. Bernie Molloy will check with Mary Johnson to see if she knows more.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.**

***Submitted by Andi Duncan***