

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL, INC.  
Tuesday, April 13, 2021  
Helen Crawford's Home - Nevada City

**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  
Greg Sherr

**General Members:**

Mary Johnson, FS Liaison

**A. Call to Order and Welcome**

Meeting was called to order by President Bernie Molloy at 7:15 p.m.

**B. Changes or Additions to Agenda**

There were no changes or additions to the Agenda but there was one question regarding GCTC's interest in the display board that was being offered for free. Mary Johnson was interested in acquiring the board. No one volunteered to pick it up or store it. The board agreed it should be offered to Backcountry Horsemen.

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

Helen Crawford McDermott made a motion to approve the Minutes for the February 9 BOD Meeting, Special Minutes for the March 2 and March 9 Meetings regarding E-bikes as well as the April 6 Meeting regarding the Poker Ride. The motion was seconded by Greg Sherr and the motion carried.

**D. Approval of Treasurer's Report - Cathy Scott**

As of April 13, 2021 the checkbook balance is \$43,776.64 which includes \$3,571.17 in reserve for Pines to Mines. Membership Dues FYTD are \$7,886 which is a 32 percent increase over last year at this time. February Donations of \$71.77 from Amazon Smile as well as a \$200 donation from Teri Personeni via our website.

A full financial report, copy of checking and credit card account statements, reconciliation and activity reports, and membership PayPal report (total 23 pages) was provided by Cathy Scott.

Jamie Canon motioned to approve and Andi Duncan seconded approval of treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Cathy Scott reported that she has been searching for either a new or used Cargo Trailer but has not been successful to find a used one locally. There are new ones locally should we decide to go that route.

Cathy Scott also did some research on a Membership Application called Wild Apricot. It would cost several hundred dollars a year and would be an all encompassing application that would do more

than we need. The board agreed that it was too expensive. Cathy Chase has also been looking at other programs but has nothing to report yet.

**E. Forest Service Report:** Mary Johnson reported on five separate items. A summary of each item is listed below.

1. **Lone Grave Map** - is near completion and down to final edits. GCTC has money allocated for a map at the large Kiosk maps at Harmony Market and at the GCETH. Also the Forest Service has allocated \$5,000 for printing handout maps. Maps will also be available on Avenza and the GCTC website.
2. **Gravel for Gold Country Equestrian Trail Head** - the road into the trailhead is in serious need of gravel and grading. TNF does not have funds for this. GCTC is approved to conduct work on the trailhead through our Cost Share agreement with TNF. See Proposal under New Business. The Forest Service may have funds available for gravel for Skillman campground loop through OHV funds.
3. **April and May Work Days** - Forest Service has been notified of the GCTC work days on April 17 (Lone Grave) and May 19 (Skillman). Mary is meeting with Paul from the forest service to reroute a section of Dascombe that is eroded. The Lone Grave workday includes trail reroute at Harmony market, bush clearing on the Harmony trail, tree clearing on the Meyer trail.
4. **Trail Maintenance** - The NCWR (Nevada County Woods Riders) have been working on the motorized trails on the Burlington motorized section below Chalk Bluff. Those trails have been cleared. NCWR members will check and clear the Pioneer and Hallelujah trail in the next couple of weeks. They are authorized by the forest service to ride their motorcycles on the non motorized trails for trail maintenance. When we get a work date, Mary will let Jaede know so that a notification to members can be sent.
5. **Little Lasier Meadow** - The Sierraville District Range has approved GCTC's work weekend at Little Lasier Meadow scheduled for June 25-27, 2021. Arrangements have been made to reserve the campground for GCTC and the District Ranger's office will put up reserve signs.

**F. Old Business**

1. **Effect of COVID-19** - Based on Nevada Country's current tier, the Board decided to hold the May general membership meeting. Cathy Scott will contact the Empire Grange to see if we can conduct the meeting in either the parking lot or depending on attendance in the building itself. Normally, Helen Crawford McDermott would find a speaker but Cathy Scott has agreed to do a presentation on using GPS and an Avenza update.

**G. New Business**

1. **Paving Lone Grave Staging Area Road** - The need for work at the trailhead was reviewed by Willie and Sue Brusin, Barry and Suzanne Vacarro and Mary Johnson on March 28. It was agreed that the road is in need of substantial grading and additional gravel. Mader's Grading and Paving was contacted to review the site and give a proposal to conduct the work. The proposal from Al Mader to do the work is \$3000. In addition, the road will need 1 to 3 loads (truck and transfer) of appropriate gravel at approximately \$900 per load. The work includes: correcting the

drainage on the road from the parking area to Conservation Road, grade and place 1 ½ inch AB base rock as needed and compact with a smooth drum roller, grade and compact parking area, No additional base rock to be added in the parking area. Equipment to be used includes: 305 excavator, 260 skid steer, 2,000 gallon water truck, steel drum roller, traffic cones and signage. Parking areas and access roads need to be closed for three days. The work would be done mid week in early May. Jamie Canon made a motion to approve the proposal. Helen Crawford McDermott seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. **Work Day Resumption April 17** - We are expecting a good turn out for the first work day as 20 plus people have RSVP'd so far.
3. **Poker Ride** - Bernie Molloy said that the NCWR cancelled their annual ride. They have not been able to obtain a permit from TNF. Additionally, there is a 50 person cap on social gatherings. After much discussion, the BOD felt that a 50 person cap does not allow for the kind of event we want to achieve for the Poker Ride and decided to cancel the June event. It was suggested that we might move the date to August assuming we could get the campground. Unfortunately, August is wasp season at Skillman and the start of fire season. The Board agreed that August was not a good alternative. Another suggestion was to change the Poker Ride into a work day(s) with a modified use of the campground. Mary Johnson was going to check with Heather about this possibility.
4. **Conflict Reporting Changes** - Recently there has been an increase of e-bikes and other incidents on the trails. Per Helen Harvey no report equals no problem. We need an efficient and effective way to report issues to the Forest Service. Greg Sherr will call and find out if there is a dispatch number where all incidents can be reported.
5. **Harmony Trail Reroute** - covered by Mary Johnson in the forest service report. .
6. **Trail Patrol Update Training** - Helen Harvey reported that it is time to kick start the program. We need to update the trail patrol documents, handbook, application, and organize a trail patrol checkout clinic. In addition, we need to verify who is still in the program and encourage new volunteers.
7. **Celebration of Trails** - Bear Yuba Land Trust holds this event every year and it is typically on the same day as the Poker Ride. GCTC typically sponsors a booth, organizes both a hike and a trail ride. Bernie Molloy has volunteered to contact Erin and determine what needs to be done.
8. **Possible GCTC Historian** - Ana Mae Starkey has expressed interest in taking over the GCTC Historian position. Bernie Molloy will contact her to see if she is still interested. If she agrees, Mary Johnson will contact Mary London who has all the historical data.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.**

***Submitted by Andi Duncan***

