

3/31/2026 Minutes from BCA BOD Meeting (Special Budget Meeting)

Jerry Courson Call to order: in attendance were BOD members : Jerry Courson, Bob Starzyk, Melanie Mauser, Jack Welch, Sid Meyer, Bill Gorman, Tim Turvey, and Michael Meyer . (Ajesh joined the meeting later)

Also in attendance were incoming Board members. Adam Martin and Tom Parker as well as Mark Wheeler

Jack Welch indicated we had a quorum.

Secretary Report: Jack indicate the minutes from the previous meeting had been approved, posted on the BCA web site and archived by Cornerstone.

Treasurer Report: Michael Meyer: Jerry Courson explained that there were issues with accruals not being properly recorded in financial statements, which affected accuracy and timing, particularly affecting profit and loss figures. He mentioned they would need to implement accruals to improve the financial statements throughout the year.

Members discussed comparing dues structures with other clubs, including AACA and Auburn Cord Duesenberg Club, which both offer bi-monthly printed magazines with digital versions in between. Tim suggested reviewing expenses before making decisions about dues, particularly focusing on the significant postage costs of \$57,000. The discussion highlighted that while membership is the primary source of income, investment income is expected to decline, and there was consideration of potentially adjusting dues differently for digital versus printed versions of their publication.

The Board also discussed Tim and Jerry discussed the balance between printed and digital versions of the Bugle newsletter. Jerry presented data showing 515 digital members versus 4,400 printed subscribers and suggested reducing the digital version while increasing the print version. Tim expressed concerns about the club's demographics not being conducive to digital adoption and argued that printed copies remain important for member engagement. They concluded that reducing the number of Bugle issues or raising dues are the most viable short-term solutions for improving revenue. Pete Phillips will be tasked with using his judgement to edit and condense long articles in the Bugle as needed, ensuring efficient use of pages., especially in light of potential combined / consolidated issues. Pete will also be empowered to edit down long articles.

The Board discussed options for the club's newsletter, including switching to bi-monthly publication and increasing page count while maintaining the current \$50 annual dues. Melanie raised concerns about member affordability based on a previous survey, while Tim and others argued that \$50 remains minimal given inflation over the past five years. The team agreed to research the cost savings from reducing print frequency and explore alternative pricing options like multi-year discounts before making any decisions about changes to the newsletter or membership fees.

The group discussed a \$45,000 funding gap and debated membership fee increases. They agreed to consider a \$5 annual increase rather than \$10 to avoid alienating members, though the exact amount remains undecided. The discussion also covered reducing travel expenses to \$700 per member for national meets only, with other events potentially being cut back.

The Board discussed potential cost-saving measures for the Bugle, focusing on combining issues to reduce expenses. Tim estimated that combining the September-October issues could save \$10,000-\$12,000, along with additional savings from \$5 dues increase and board expense reductions. The group considered making these changes around the National Meet issue, which typically appears in October, though Jerry noted that implementing changes would take time to see full benefits in 2027.

The board discussed two key motions regarding dues and travel reimbursement. They voted to raise printed copy Bugle dues by \$5 while maintaining the e-version at current levels, and to rework the 2- and 3-year renewal discounts for consistency. This will be brought to the Board for final approval. The board approved reverting to previous levels of Board of Director travel reimbursement, limiting it to one meeting per year at \$700 maximum. Bill will rewrite an SOP reverting back to the original one regarding travel allowance.

National Meet Director Position.

The National Meet Director position: The board approved creating the National Meet Director position contingent on the personnel committee developing a detailed statement of work, with a report back scheduled for the next meeting on April 21st.

BHA Donations and Event Planning

The group discussed BHA (Buick Heritage Alliance) donations, confirming that funds are collected from donations and distributed dollar-for-dollar. They clarified that while the Tar Heel chapter's \$4,240 allocation was discussed, there was uncertainty about whether Sioux Falls or Spearfish events would have sponsoring chapters to claim portions of income. Melanie noted that having Mark handle food and beverage arrangements could potentially save money compared to previous national meet costs, which often reached around \$20,000, as he could work with local chambers of commerce rather than being dependent on hotel requirements.