



## EAGLE CAP SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 928  
Joseph, OR 97846

[www.eaglecapshooters.com](http://www.eaglecapshooters.com)

### General Meeting Minutes

Date: April 20, 2021

Status: Approved

**Board Members Present:** Bill Oliver, Gary Bethscheider, John Straughan, John Amond, Adam Saxton, Dave Kuhlman.

**Board Members Absent:** Ken Hauxwell, MJ Van Dine

**Members & Guest(s):** Kim Hutchison, Mike Teece, Joe Neveau, Dale Rasmussen, Dan Moncrief, Andrew Sinclair and by phone: Steve Wolfe

**Handouts:** March 2021 minutes, ECSA March financial statements, Current membership list, and Tom Clevenger's report on the 4/10 & 4/11 Range University Handgun class (see Appendix A)

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm

### Last Month's Minutes

The March minutes were read and approved on a motion by John Amond and seconded by Gary Bethscheider.

### Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was read and approved on a motion by John Straughan and seconded by Adam Saxton. The detail of the Treasurer's report is available by contacting John Amond.

### Membership Report

The Treasurer shared a list of 192 non-current members. Gary Bethscheider recommended calling each person on the list. The Treasurer then asked for volunteers to call the 48 members on each of the four pages of the list as follows:

Page 1 – John Straughan

Page 2 – Dave Kuhlman

Page 3 – Joe Neveau

Page 4 – Andrew Sinclair

Joe Neveau then expressed his views regarding people who have not renewed, stating that he feels the annual dues are too high for Wallowa County. A discussion began and Gary Bethscheider said he disagrees. Gary feels the ECSA has the nicest long-range facility in eastern Oregon and many new members and visitors from outside the county agree and feel the price is fair if not cheap. The consensus among attendees was that dues are appropriate for what the ECSA facilities offer and the ECSA Board is more than willing to work with any member who has a true financial hardship.



## **Old Business**

### **Hunter Safety Field Day – April 3, 2021**

Mike Teece provided an update on the 4/3 event, stating he had good attendance with 15 students, most of them scoring high. This was the last class Keith Newburn will teach as he is retiring and turning over the reins to Mike.

Mike still needs more volunteer instructors. Those wishing to volunteer should contact Mike ASAP at (541) 426-0304. Mike said there will be another Hunter Education class this Fall.

Mike said he needs storage space for teaching materials, guns, etc. Gary Bethscheider said the Conex container on the left, near the competition bays is empty and could be a solution. Bill Oliver advised against storing the guns there and to find a more secure storage location.

### **Range University – Defensive Handgun classes 4/10 & 4/11**

Bill Oliver read a detailed report on the classes which was provided by Tom Clevenger (see Appendix A). Bill expressed his thanks to Tom for serving as RSO for both days, and in bad weather. Bill said he would speak to MJ Van Dine to collect the fees due ECSA for the classes.

### **New Education Building Project**

Bill Oliver recapped the Construction Committee meeting held 3/30 at 10:00 am at the stubborn Mule in Joseph.

Regarding the NRA grant funds, Steve Wolfe said the NRA just needs to get the Trustees to sign off on the release of the funds. Steve is still awaiting a response to several phone inquiries and he will try again tomorrow to contact them.

Bill stated the total cost of the building project will likely be around \$100,000.00. The ECSEA currently has \$47,500.00 now, plus the \$50,000.00 in grant funds coming soon from the NRA. Bill said approval has been granted to Gary Bethscheider for materials purchases up to \$40,000.00. The general liability insurance policy for the building project has will be paid by the ECSEA.

Gary Bethscheider stated he has purchased the trusses at a cost of \$14,000.00 as the price was on the increase again. Kevin, the new owner of 1917 Lumber in Joseph, is very willing to work with us on materials prices. Gary said Steve Wolfe wrote a letter to Boise Cascade requesting reduced prices on plywood. Steve is awaiting a response.

Gary said the ECSEA plans to hold an invitation-only fundraiser dinner at Stein Distillery in Joseph, the date of which has not been set. The goal is to raise large individual donations of \$1,000.00 and up.



### **New 100-yard sight-in bays**

Gary Bethscheider reported the excavation of the first 100-yard bay is complete. The concrete pad needs to be poured, the shooting bench needs to be built and the structure covering the pad and bench needs to be constructed. The second sight-in bay will be built later, hopefully yet this year. Gary requested all of us to be sure and thank Keith Wellens for the donation of equipment and labor.

Steve Wolfe commented on his desire to apply for ODFW grant funds which could be used to add handicap provisions and asphalt parking areas. Steve was not certain of the amount of funds available currently.

Gary discussed long-term goals for the range facilities which include line power to the property, a security camera system, electric gate access with card reader, and a target camera system.

### **ECSA Liability and Property Insurance**

Bill Oliver announced the ECSA liability and property insurance premiums have been paid.

### **Restroom facilities**

Bill Oliver stated CB Portable Restroom and Septic Services has serviced the pit toilet and porta-potties.

### **Weed Control**

Bill Oliver reported per Bill Botelho: *"I am unable to make tonight's meeting. Gary gave me the go ahead to get the chemicals for spraying. Once I have them, I will begin spraying the 3rd of May. The metal donation boxes are coming along nicely. Will have them done by next meeting. The shooting stand for the 100-yard sight-in bay shall be installed upon completion of the bay being rocked. It shall not be using the stands installed on the Rifle range. I also have roofing materials and uprights for the sight-in bay. Will need to coordinate with Gary to get concrete poured for the shooting table pad. Have the forms to make the pad. The shooting table can be mounted on the dirt but shall be fully secured to the ground to prevent movement. If there are any questions, please let me know...I shall be out of town beginning 23 April thru May 2<sup>nd</sup>."*

### **Range Safety Orientations**

Bill Oliver discussed the process for range orientations and the need for sharing the workload. John Straughan is assembling membership/orientation "kits" for each board member and he will bring them to the next meeting. John will add one designated orientation day per month to the ECSA web calendar. In addition, orientations could be given on any day of an ECSA scheduled event. John will add the ECSA Range Safety Orientation document to the membership page on the ECSA website. Kim Hutchison volunteered to help give orientations.

### **New Business**

#### **Youth Shoot – Saturday April 24, 2021**

Bill Oliver, Kim Hutchison and MJ Van Dine will all be out of town. In addition, the weather forecast does not look favorable for the event. A discussion began about postponing or canceling the April Youth



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Shoot. The consensus was it would be best to cancel it and have just the September 18<sup>th</sup> Youth Shoot in the Fall. This would allow plenty of time for planning, obtaining prizes and getting volunteers so it would be a well-organized event. Adam Saxton made a motion to cancel the 4/24/2021 Youth Shoot, the motion was seconded by Kim Hutchison and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Promotion of ECSA Events**

John Straughan is creating a poster of all 2021 ECSA events. Jack James volunteered to help with this and other promotional advertising. John will bring the printed event schedule posters to the next meeting.

### **Good of the Order**

John Straughan provided an update on Doug Wickre's health from Doug's wife Gail.

Gary Betscheider proposed the ECSA purchase two semi-automatic pistols for Keith Wellens and his wife as a thank you for the labor and equipment Keith donated in building the first 100-yard sight-in bay. Suggested price was in the \$600.00 range for each gun. Adam Saxton made a motion to purchase the pistols; John Amond seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

### **This Old Gun**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm**

**Next Meeting:** June 15, 2021 at 6:30 pm at the VFW Hall Enterprise, OR



## Appendix A

April 20, 2021

Bill Oliver,

As you requested, I have put together a brief overview of the Defensive Handgun Class put on by Range University on April 10 and April 11, 2021. I attended both training days as RSO and spent approximately 20 total hours at the range setting up, assisting and cleanup. Attached is a roster (pdf) of the class for both days.

Range University Instructor, Michael (Mickey) Banks met me at 0730, Saturday and we discussed his needs for the next two days. He said he needed the trailer as a classroom, for a couple hours each day and target backers and stands for 16 students on Saturday and 5 students on Sunday. Michael Banks is former Marine Force Recon and said he had combat experience in Iraq.

From an RSO/safety viewpoint, I felt the class was handled very well and would highly recommend Range University and Michael Banks be able to rent the range again for future classes. No negligent discharges or injuries occurred during either day of training. Approximately 5000-6000 rounds of 9mm ammunition were fired during the class and students were required to unholster and holster loaded weapons numerous times throughout different training scenarios.

I did receive many compliments on the range and all the students were from the Union County area. Many said they would like to become members and would have no problem driving the distance to the facility.

Saturday, April 10, 2021, the total class count was 16. I set up and students/instructor used 10 target stands with new cardboard backers from the Conex container.

Sunday, April 11, 2021, the total class count was 5. I set up and students/instructor used 6 target stands with new cardboard backers from the Conex container.

From a safety as well as a defensive handgun perspective, the class was highly informative. I was able to glean some exceptionally good information and techniques from the instructor. It was my intention to attend the April 20, 2021 board meeting but was exposed to COVID a few days ago and am self-quarantining for the safety of others.

I would like to further assist as RSO or any other aspect at the range. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Tom Clevenger  
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