



EAGLE CAP SHOOTERS

P.O. Box 499
Joseph, OR 97846

www.eaglecapshooters.com

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, August 14, 2023

Status: Draft – Approved

Board Members Present: Bill Oliver, Gary Bethscheider, Dan Piper, John Amond, Dan Moncrief, Dean Brown, Gina Birkmaier, Grady Rawls, Dale Rasmussen

Board Members Absent: None

Members and Guests: Kim Hutchison, Mike Teece

Handouts: August financial statements, August membership report

Meeting called to order at 6:28pm

Flag Salute

Introductions

Last Month's Minutes

The July minutes were read and approved on a motion by John Amond and a second by Kim Hutchison with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was read by John Amond and approved on a motion by Gary Bethscheider and second by Dale Rasmussen. Current checking account balance is \$43,732.36 and current Community Bank CD is \$10,403.44, as reported on the handout. The detail of the Treasurer's Report is available by contacting John Amond.

Regarding the P&L since the Last General Meeting, John Amond explains that donations include another \$5,000 from Charlie Danforth towards Line Power and \$1,000 from the Dollar Stretcher. Gary Bethscheider explains that several employees of the Dollar Stretcher signed up for membership at the same time as the donation. John and Bill Oliver note that they just received an additional donation of \$500 from Joyce Raymond in honor of Floyd McCadden. John will send a thank you letter to Joyce. Bill notes that donations are coming in regularly this year. John further explains that expenses for this period are largely building expenses for the Education Building.

John Amond further explains that ECS has taken the \$100k loan for line power and has spent about \$99k of that loan with approximately \$94k going to Pacific Power and \$5k going to other expenses. John notes that we have now paid our first payment against this loan in the amount of \$1,012. Bill Oliver explains that everything went very smoothly with the loan and the outlook is to pay off the loan early and avoid a certain amount of interest. John Amond notes that extra payments against the loan will likely begin after the end of the year when we will be more certain of our financial situation.



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John Amond notes that the Club has seen about \$57k in total income year-to-date with around \$44k of cash-on-hand and an expected \$7,500 still to come this year in membership dues. With an estimate to complete the Education Building of \$17.2k and other operating and project expenses, this leaves ECS with an excess of \$3,800 in operating funds.

Membership Report

The Membership Report was read by John Amond. John explains that the current membership total for the 2023+ membership year is 319 as of 8/14/23 with two more applications received just before the meeting. This figure includes 243 members that are paying annually.

Law Enforcement Relations Report

No updates were provided at this time.

Old Business

Range Report

Dan Moncrief explains that him and Dean Brown got all cross beams and target backers cut for the new target hangers at the Rifle Range and used Trex boards to sandwich the target boards. All materials were donated by Charlie Danforth. Gary Bethscheider notes that the Rifle Range is looking great.

Gary Bethscheider explains that he talked with RDF&P about coyote targets and the price was estimated at \$2k per target. Gary notes that he believes he has another potential source that can offer two coyote targets for around \$1,400 and there is potential to get extra targets out of any remaining steel. On a motion from John Amond and second from Gina Birkmaier, Gary agrees to reach out to this other source and order targets with a request for donation. Gary proposes offering sponsorship to any organization donating targets, a sentiment agreed by all present.

Bill Oliver explains that the lock on the mobile home at the Range is broken. Dan Moncrief explains that the door is in need of a full doorknob replacement and will work on this.

Dan Moncrief notes that many of the first-aid kits at the Range need to be re-vamped. Gary Bethscheider notes that Lem McBurney was looking into first aid at the Range and will reach out to him for an update.

John Amond explains that weed spraying costs were over \$2k this year but Dean Brown was able to apply for reimbursement from the County. John reports that we have already received \$500 in reimbursement and another \$500 is coming. Dean Brown explains that the County will match 50% of cost for the next 3 years. This cost is expected to decrease year-over-year as weeds become better controlled.

New Education Building Project

Gary Bethscheider explains that the ceiling is about 75% sheetrocked and is hoping to have the ceiling done and part of the walls done before the Open House. Gary notes that he is still looking for volunteers to help with this project.



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Trap & Skeet and Moving Target Range Projects

Gary Bethscheider explains that Donnie Rynearson is planning to coordinate with Gary later this month and will hopefully begin pouring concrete for the Trap & Skeet Range shortly after. Gary notes that the walkways will likely not be poured until next Spring.

Bill Oliver notes that the Wallowa Trap Team performed very well at Nationals, and they have been invited to expand to Enterprise and Joseph.

There is no update on the Moving Target Range at this time.

Line Power for the Range

Bill Oliver explains that all of the power poles are on site to run power to the Range and erecting of the poles is intended to begin within the week. Bill further explains that one of ECS's neighbors to the South does not have power but may be interested in getting hooked up. If they do hookup to power, ECS will get \$25k back on the project cost. The Club is eligible for refunds on up to 3 new hookups to the new line. Bill is actively talking to the neighbors about this opportunity.

Wallowa Ready

Bill Oliver explains that everyone who has opted in to receive communications about Wallowa Ready should be seeing regular emails from Jolene Cox about upcoming classes and those that are being planned.

Gun of Your Dreams Report

Bill Oliver explains that David Workman was happy to receive the gift card and was asked to come to the Grand Opening. Bill explains that David was not notified of the date change from August and David showed up despite the event being postponed, but he was very happy with his prize and all is well.

New Business

2023 Grand Opening/Season Opener Event | Youth Shoot and Hunter Safety Range Day

Bill Oliver thanks Gina Birkmaier for the offer of donation of 2 rifles for the Youth Shoot. Kim Hutchison and Gary Bethscheider explain that Curt White will be the FFL for the event and rifles can be taken to him for transfer to winning participants and parents can take possession of the rifles after background checks etc. Gina Birkmaier explains that Grain Growers is interested in donating fishing poles, ammo, and other items for Youth Shoot prizes.

Bill Oliver explains that the Hunter Safety Field Day is planned for the same day as the Youth Shoot. Bill and Gary Bethscheider note that some coordination will be required but the events might as well coincide. Mike Teece explains that he will use the Pistol Range for this event and will coordinate with whatever else is going on.

Kim Hutchison and John Amond explain that John will work with the older group on pistols and the events will include a Poker Shoot, Bowling Pin Shoot, and a Test Your Limits Shoot.



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Gary Bethscheider explains that he will serve food at the Education Building for the event. Kim Hutchison notes that prizes will be handed out during lunch.

Gary Bethscheider notes that invitees to the event need to include Charlie Danforth, County Commissioners, Law Enforcement, etc. Bill Oliver notes that invitations have gone out to these individuals, but he will follow up.

Gina Birkmaier explains that she is looking into a grant from the City of Enterprise to fund the event and explains that the grant is funded by hotel taxes. Bill Oliver notes that the Range brought in over 40 Oregon State Police this year, all of which stayed in local motels.

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, 8/26: Range Safety Orientation at 10am. Instructor: Dan Piper
- Saturday, 9/2: Cowboy Action Shoot, **rifle range closed 12pm – 4pm**
- Saturday, 9/9: Grand Opening Event and Hunter Safety Field Day

Good of the Order

Calendar Updates

Dan Piper explains that the Club refers members to the Events Calendar on the Eagle Cap Shooters' website to see about any maintenance or other events going on at the Range. There was recently weed spraying occurring at the Rifle Range which was not communicated to Dan to post on the calendar. Dan asks that he be kept apprised of any maintenance occurring at the Range in order to update the Calendar.

Mike Teece mentions that he has had difficulty with getting the website Calendar to work properly, explaining that he could not advance to the next or previous month on multiple attempts. Dan Piper explains that John Amond also experienced these issues, but Dan could not replicate the problem despite using multiple browsers and devices to access the calendar. Dan explains that he recently had to use a different plugin for the calendar due to a compatibility issue and this new plugin may be causing issues with some users. Dan will investigate further and try to remedy the issue.

Day-Use Policy and Fee Discussion

Bill Oliver explains that a gentleman from out of town who was hosted last year is looking to use the range again and reached out with a reasonable amount of notice. The individual made a donation last year. Bill further explains that it is usually not an issue if a non-member reaches out ahead of time and the club handles these requests by searching for a volunteering member to host the individual and request a donation. Bill explains that the Club needs to develop a system or policy for these requests.

John Amond comments that if the club creates a day-use fee, he believes we will lose membership to day-users, even at the local level. John proposes looking at membership data of Wallowa and Union County members for future discussion and proposes requiring at least 24 hours' notice and that individuals must present a valid ID from outside of Union and Wallowa Counties. John further mentions



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that we would need to pursue waiver forms for all day-users.

After some discussion, this topic was postponed for further discussion at the September meeting once data has been compiled.

Other/Miscellaneous

Gary Bethscheider notes that the Friends of the NRA Banquet is coming up on Friday, October 27th, and explains that he would like to reach out to ECS membership for donations, sponsors, and volunteers. Gary will put Dan Piper in contact with Ken Hauxwell for coordination.

Gary further notes that the NRA grant application event is in January or February and explains that ECS should attend the event and show the progress made on Range projects funded by these grants.

Bill Oliver explains that Carl Lincoln reached out looking to donate a firearm to the Range. Bill explains that he will communicate with Carl and Kim Hutchison to determine a reasonable value of the firearm and coordinate an amicable arrangement.

Bill Oliver notes that he still has a large amount of 40 S&W brass for sale that is available for \$0.05/case by reaching out to Bill.

Dean Brown explains that the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation is accepting applications for awarding of an LOP Elk tag on The Nature Conservancy land and applications are due 8/31. Dean further explains that, if selected, RMEF would donate the tag to ECS and we could then raffle the tag as a fund-raising opportunity. Dean explains that the raffle is typically a big success and ECS could raise up to \$9,999 for the raffle. The application includes information about how the organization benefits the community and Dean feels that ECS has a good chance of being awarded the tag. Dean explains that the raffle would need to be held in February or March as the winner's name must be known before April. Dean will work with Bill Oliver on the application and get it submitted before the deadline.

Gary Bethscheider motions to raise membership dues by \$10 for next membership year and to offer an early-bird discount for those paying before April 1st, as was done for the 2023+ membership year. Gary further motions to offer a 5-year membership again this coming year. Gary notes that the \$40 refundable maintenance fee has not been effective to get volunteers at the Range. Dean Brown proposes raising the refund amount for volunteer hours from \$10/hour to \$20/hour and to open it up to be applicable to all dues and fees. John Amond explains that he feels that dues are high enough at this time and notes that other ranges around the Pacific Northwest are running at a similar rate right now.

After some discussion, Gary motions for the following:

- Raise membership fee by \$10 for the 2024+ membership year
- Offer a 5-year membership again next year
- Offer an early-bird special for \$10 off of 2024+ membership if paid before April 1st
- Raise volunteer hour deductions to \$20/hour that can be applied to all dues and fees, effective immediately

The motion was voted on and approved with a single vote in opposition by Dan Piper who explained support of all elements of the proposal with the exception of raising membership fees. The motion



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passed and organization for 2024+ membership year changes will be revisited at the October General Meeting. Dan Piper will notify membership of the adjustment to volunteer hour deductions right away.

This Old Gun

None

Meeting Adjourned: 8:26 pm

Next Meeting: Monday, September 11th, 2023, at 6:30pm at the VFW Hall, Enterprise, Oregon

Submitted: Dan Piper, Secretary