



EAGLE CAP SHOOTERS

P.O. Box 499
Joseph, OR 97846

www.eaglecapshooters.com

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, September 11, 2023

Status: Approved

Board Members Present: Bill Oliver, John Amond, Dan Piper, Dan Moncrief, Dean Brown, Gina Birkmaier

Board Members Absent: Gary Bethscheider, Dale Rasmussen, Grady Rawls

Members and Guests: Kim Hutchison

Handouts: September financial statements, September membership report

Meeting called to order at 6:33pm

Flag Salute

Introductions

Last Month's Minutes

The August minutes were read and approved on a motion by John Amond and a second by Dan Moncrief with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was read by John Amond and approved on a motion by Dan Piper and second by Gina Birkmaier. Current checking account balance is \$42,645.91 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 ECS has received \$1,920 in donations and dues. Donations include \$80 in raffle tickets, \$250 from the American Legion, \$50 of cash in the donation jar, and \$50 from an out of town shooter that was hosted by Dan Moncrief. Bill Oliver explains that Carl Lincoln has donated a Japanese military rifle that is being purchased by Kim Hutchison for \$400. These funds will go to ECS. John further explains that expenses include almost \$2,500 towards the Education Building and \$1,012.45 for payment towards the loan for line power. John explains that ECS received a second \$500 check from Wallowa County towards weed spraying.

John Amond explains that year-to-date income is about \$60k while expenses total over \$125k, with most of this expense going to the line power project. With estimated cash from membership for the remainder of the year being reduced to \$2k, ECS maintains about \$7k in available cash on hand. John explains that he would like to retain this cash on hand through the end of the year before potentially putting it towards the line power loan as a lump sum early next year. With a current burn rate of about \$3,200 per month in operating expenses, ECS hopes to put about \$5k per year additional towards the loan.



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Membership Report

The Membership Report was read by John Amond. John explains that the current membership total for the 2023+ membership year is 344 as of 9/11/23. This figure includes 268 members that are paying annually. John points out that this figure is just 10 members short of total membership for the 2022+ membership year.

Law Enforcement Relations Report

Bill Oliver explains that there was at least one law enforcement officer at the Open House and Youth Shoot whose daughter participated in the activities. Kim Hutchison explains that he is trying to organize another work crew to work at the Range before the end of the year.

Old Business

Range Report

Bill Oliver comments that he believes the Range has never looked better and explains that weed spraying activities are lined out for next year. Bill explains that we will target an earlier start for spraying next year.

Education Building Project

Bill Oliver explains that power is being turned on at the building tomorrow, this news was received with a round of applause and appreciation to Bill and Gary Betscheider for their extensive work on this project.

Kim Hutchison notes the need for a gun safe at the building. Bill explains that he would like to have at least 2 safes, one for guns and one for ammo. John Amond notes that we should do a donation drive specific to these safes.

Bill Oliver notes the potential need for security cameras at the building. Kim Hutchison explains that he has been happy with the cameras used at the VFW Hall and will get information about this system for future research at the Range.

Gina Birkmaier asks everyone to keep their eyes open for free furniture to be used at the building. Kim explains that the VFW Hall has some chairs that they may be able to donate. John Amond notes that several shelving racks would be helpful at the building, Bill notes that he may be able to donate some.

Kim Hutchison explains that we still need to get a flagpole at the building and proposes moving the existing flag pole from the Rifle Range to the building. This idea is met with agreement from those present. Bill Oliver will discuss with Gary Betscheider and investigate how to make this move to relocate the flagpole near the West entrance to the building.

Trap & Skeet and Moving Target Range Projects

Bill Oliver explains that Colby and Kenny Knifong were kind enough to join the Open House and Youth Shoot events and speak about the high school trap team in Wallowa. Bill explains that the team is interested in the Trap & Skeet Range and we hope to bring greater opportunity to Wallowa County for



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these sports with the addition of the Trap & Skeet Range.

Bill explains that we are working to add a drain pit and sump pump at the Moving Target Range.

Line Power for the Range

Bill Oliver explains that line power to the Range is now completed and power will be turning on tomorrow.

Wallowa Ready

Bill Oliver commended Jolene Cox for her work developing future programs on food preservation and medication supplies and that there will be more events scheduled later this fall.

2023 Grand Opening/Open House Recap

Bill Oliver explains that Gina Birkmaier has put in a grant application with the City of Enterprise to help fund the Open House. Gina explains that the hearing for the grant is happening tonight, and she applied for \$2k in funds. Kim Hutchison provided ammo costs to Gina to include in event costs.

Bill Oliver extends a thank you to Gina Birkmaier for her work on the Open House event and commends her on pulling it all together despite hurdles and family illness. Further thanks go to Gina for donating 2 rifles as Youth Shoot prizes. Bill further thanks Gary Betscheider for all of his work on the building and for the Stubborn Mule donating lunch for the event. Bill thanks Dan Piper for assisting with registration and setup/cleanup at the event. Bill thanks John Amond and his wife for working with shooters at the event. Bill thanks Dean Brown and Dan Moncrief for their tireless efforts with maintaining the Range. Bill thanks Kim Hutchison and his wife for leading the shooting events and explains that the Youth Shoot had the largest turnout in ECS history.

Kim Hutchison explains that he and his wife are retiring from leadership of the annual Youth Shoot. Kim explains that it has been a pleasure to host for the last 12 years, but it is time to pass the torch. Kim is happy to help with future events but will not lead it. Bill explains that we will be looking for a new host to step up and lead the event next year. Kim notes that he received a few complaints about one of the rifles not being zeroed, would be worth checking before next year.

Bill Oliver explains that the Youth Shoot had 32 shooters and the day saw over 150 attendees in total. In addition to high participation, ECS was able to give away 4 rifles, lots of ammo, fishing rods, and gear thanks to generous donations. Bill expresses that he is very happy with the event and turnout despite there being several other events taking place on the same day throughout the community.

Gina Birkmaier explains that she is disappointed that some people didn't come to the event despite receiving special invitations, including commissioners, state police, county sheriff, etc. Gina hopes that next year's event will be scheduled further in advance with more notice to allow for greater participation from these individuals.

Bill Oliver explains that he had certificates made and printed for all life members and Bill signed them all personally. Bill presented Stephen Wolfe with his certificate at the event.



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Range Fees and Dues for 2024+ Year Discussion Continuation

Bill Oliver explains that Gary Betscheider is not present to discuss fees but told Bill he would like to potentially back off on increasing membership fees for next year but would like to consider increasing the maintenance fee or adding a range fee. Bill asks everyone to think about this structure for discussion at the October meeting.

New Business

Day-Use Policy and Fee Discussion

John Amond explains that at the time of running the report, 33 of the 251 paying members live outside of Wallowa and Union Counties. John explains that he believes many of these 33 members would switch to day-use if we were to offer this option. John believes that ECS would also lose local members to day-use and John notes that he is in favor of keeping the current practice for day-users at the Range. All those present agree with this so no changes will be made to the day-use policy at this time.

Upcoming Events

- Friday, 10/27: Friends of the NRA Banquet at 4pm at the Cloverleaf Hall.
 - For more information, call Ken Hauxwell at (503)970-8899.

Good of the Order

Dean Brown explains that the application has been submitted for the elk tag on The Nature Conservancy property.

Bill Oliver explains that there has been continued interest from membership for a small-bore indoor range. ECS is considering options and ideas for the future. Kim Hutchison explains that stairs or a walking path from the Pistol Range to the Education Building would be a welcome addition.

Bill Oliver presents life membership certificates to Kim and Holly Hutchison and Dan Piper. Bill explains that ECS purchased the Range property for \$60k and was able to pay off the land in 2010 thanks to life member support. Bill further explains that some life members are paid, while others are gifted for incredible donations including construction and labor. Bill notes that we need to organize a mailing party to send certificates to our other life members.

Kim Hutchison draws the winner from the raffle bucket from the Open House. The winner of the membership for the 2024+ year is Cash Tanzey, congratulations to Cash!

This Old Gun

Bill Oliver explains that Kim Hutchison's grandfather purchased a 30-30 from Bill's grandfather many years ago that Kim now owns. Bill was given the opportunity to shoot this rifle over the weekend.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:44 pm

Next Meeting: Monday, October 9th, 2023, at 6:30pm at the VFW Hall, Enterprise, Oregon

Submitted: Dan Piper, Secretary