



EAGLE CAP SHOOTERS

P.O. Box 499
Joseph, OR 97846

www.eaglecapshooters.com

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, November 11, 2024

Status: Approved

Board Members Present: Bill Oliver, Gary Bethscheider, John Amond, Dan Piper, Gina Birkmaier

Board Members Absent: Dean Brown, Grady Rawls, Dale Rasmussen, Dan Moncrief

Members and Guests: Dave Kuhlman, Josh Kesecker, Jane Rushane

Handouts: November financial statements, November membership report

Meeting called to order at 6:31pm

Flag Salute

Introductions

Last Month's Minutes

The October minutes were read and approved on a motion by John Amond and a second by Dave Kuhlman with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was read by John Amond and approved on a motion by Gina Birkmaier and second by Dave Kuhlman. Current checking account balance is \$14,703.18 and current CDs total \$35,403.44, as reported on the handout. The detail of the Treasurer's Report is available by contacting John Amond.

John explains that the total income year-to-date has been \$30.6k while total expenses have been \$53.3k. John explains that the primary short fall is a lack of donations coming in this year when compared to previous years along with a small drop in membership fees/dues, both from fewer memberships and more individual memberships than family memberships.

Regarding the P&L statement since the last General Meeting, John explains that we paid \$630 for annual property taxes, \$1,730 for weed control, \$1,800 towards the front gate project, and \$366 towards the skeet and trap range. Bill Oliver notes that the cost for weed control should be expected twice annually but we should be able to get a partial match from the County.

John explains that he estimates we will only see about another \$500 in membership fees before year end. There is an estimated remaining out of pocket expense of \$10k and \$20k for the Education Building and Shotgun Ranges, respectively, but John does not expect to see these large expenses this year. John notes that he has not liquidated any more of our reserve CDs as he believes we have enough cash on hand to carry us until 2025+ membership applications start rolling in.



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John further explains that he is more concerned with the forecasted \$22k shortfall in operating funds for next year. Gina Birkmaier proposes offering an early bird discount again this year for Christmas gifts, Dan Piper will send out email. John notes that we have traditionally only seen a couple of memberships given as Christmas gifts, but the Gun of Your Dreams raffle always brings some attention.

Gary Bethscheider proposes reaching out to lifetime members for donations and writing membership about end-of-year tax deductible donations. Dan and Bill Oliver will work on an email/letter for membership. Gary further notes that we may still see a \$5k donation from Charlie Danforth this year. Gary explains that he has a couple of handguns that he could raffle off as a fundraiser. Dan and Gary will work on handgun raffles.

Membership Report

The Membership Report was read by John Amond. John explains that the total membership count for the 2024+ membership year is 331 as of the meeting date, with a total of 265 of these members paying annually. John notes that we have gained 3 members since the last meeting and doubts that we will make it to the total membership of 361 that we had by the end of the 2023+ year. Dan Piper mentions that he has an application from a member he forgot to bring to the meeting.

Law Enforcement Relations Report

No update was given.

Old Business

Range Report

Bill Oliver explains that the silhouette targets have been repaired and returned to the Pistol Range but it is yet unknown who performed the work. Bill asked RDF&P who said they had not done the work but would be happy to help. Thank you to whomever did these repairs!

Bill further explains that we recently had weed spraying performed and noted that Kim Hutchison plans to burn the berms in Spring before spraying again.

Bill explains that we are currently having an issue with the float switch on the cistern at the Range. Currently, if you turn on the pump switch, it will fill the cistern and overflow it and keep pumping forever. Gary Bethscheider explains that he has talked with a plumber and they are working on a game plan. They will run new wire through the existing conduit. Gary notes that the water line is already ran to the building but it is not yet tied in to the well. He will replace the valve so we are able to fill the cistern and have water tied to the frost free spigots on site.

Dave Kuhlman recommends that after water on site is fully operational, we create some maps and instructions on the system. Josh Kesecker volunteers to run his drone for aerial imagery and is also willing to create promotional videos for the Range.



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Education Building Project

Gary Bethscheider explains that he has been busy elsewhere but is gearing up to start working on the building again.

Trap & Skeet and Moving Target Range Projects

Gary Bethscheider explains that the skeet houses are almost done and he plans to build the roofs inside the Education Building. Gary notes that the contractor for this project has an abundance of equipment and personal items on site that needs to be cleaned up. Gary and Bill Oliver will make contact with the contractor and ask him to have everything removed from the inside of the Education Building by Thanksgiving. They will also re-address his contract as what was supposed to be a 3-month project has dragged out for many months.

Bill Oliver explains that the SWAT sniper school will be out again in June of next year and want to use the Moving Target Range. Gary explains that the culvert is in but they still have work to do. Gary notes that one of our new members, Eddy Kilner, has volunteered to help with concrete work for this as well as at the Trap & Skeet Range.

Front Gate Project

Josh Kesecker explains that all cardlock software is operational and the internet is working at the Education Building. Nothing is powered yet and we still need to run conduit at the gate. Gary Bethscheider explains that the same contractor will be used for this that is performing the work at the Moving Target Range. Josh notes that there is still some work to be done with the man door at the Education Building to get the card reader operational. Josh notes that we have 500 cards on hand and we can bulk buy additional cards for about \$2 per card. Dan Piper will go ahead and order gate opener equipment in preparation for running power.

Wallowa Ready

Bill Oliver explains that the First Aid and Pharmaceutical classes are still being planned by Grady Rawls.

New Business

Spring Fundraiser Planning

Bill Oliver explains that there will not be a Friends of the NRA Banquet this coming Spring as the regional rep was not on top of things. Bill, John Amond, and Gary Bethscheider propose considering doing a Friends of Eagle Cap Shooters Banquet in its place and pattern it after the NRA banquet. Bill further explains that we have several firearms that could be used for prizes at the banquet already.

After some discussion, it is decided that if we were to hold such a banquet, we would need a committee and chair of volunteers. It is also decided that the Clover Leaf Hall would be the best venue and May 17th is set as a tentative date. Gina Birkmaier notes that we should apply for a City Grant for this banquet.

Josh Kesecker explains that fundraising events are difficult for him and many others to attend. Josh recommends doing a fundraiser towards specific projects including donor plaques at the Education Building or Trap & Skeet Range. Gary Bethscheider will speak with a vendor about options for plaques.



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Community Service and Contributions

Bill Oliver explains that we recently donated a membership to the 4-H auction that sold for nearly the cost of the membership. Bill further explains that last year we donated a membership to the PEO Dinner and asks about donating again this year. This was approved on a motion by Dan Piper and a second by Gary Bethscheider.

Discussion of Board Member Nominations and Vacancies

Dan Piper explains that 5 board positions are up for re-election at the end of this year. The following positions have terms ending 12/31/24:

- President | Incumbent: Bill Oliver
- Secretary | Incumbent: Dan Piper
- Board Member | Incumbent: Gina Birkmaier
- Board Member | Incumbent: Dan Moncrief
- Board Member | Incumbent: Dale Rasmussen

Bill Oliver, Dan Piper, and Gina Birkmaier all agree to run for another term. Bill will check with Dale Rasmussen and Dan Moncrief regarding their willingness to run for another term. Elections will be held at the January General Election on 1/13/25.

Upcoming Events

Dave Kuhlman will be hosting this month's orientation, Bill Oliver will provide printed materials and orientation packet for Dave.

- Saturday, 11/16: Range Safety Orientation at 10am. Instructor: Dave Kuhlman | (541)398-8328
- Saturday and Sunday, 12/7 and 12/8: PEO Scholarship Fundraising Dinner. Festive Holiday Gathering at Wallowa Lake Lodge. Call for reservations (541)432-9821
- Monday, 1/13/25: General Meeting and Board Elections

Good of the Order

Bill Oliver notes that the VFW Hall Veteran's Day Breakfast looked like a big success.

Gary Bethscheider asks if we invoiced our sponsors this year. John Amond explains that since some of the signs were not hung and we hadn't set a regular sponsorship period we did not invoice anyone this year, though some paid regardless. It is confirmed that the sponsor year will correspond with the membership year of April 1st through March 31st. John will reach out to sponsors for next year and will handle all renewals. Dan Piper will handle all ordering and mounting of signs.

Gary Bethscheider moved that we raise the maintenance fee by \$10 for the 2025+ membership year but still offer the early bird discount of \$10 for anyone who pays before 4/1/25. Included with the motion was to increase the hourly payback for hours worked from \$10/hour to \$15/hour to hopefully encourage more members to help. This motion was seconded by John Amond and approved by all present.

Bill Oliver asks if we want to offer any 5-year or 10-year memberships this year. Dan Piper asks about



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whether we should keep the lifetime membership option either. It is agreed that the lifetime membership will be offered in 2025 but not 5- or 10-year memberships.

Gary Bethscheider moved that we increase lifetime membership fees by \$100 for both individual and lifetime memberships and that we keep the annual Gun of Your Dreams raffle but lower the amount to \$600. This motion was seconded by John Amond and approved by all present.

This Old Gun

None

Meeting Adjourned: 8:11pm

Next Meeting: Monday, December 9th, 2024, at 6:30pm at the VFW Hall, Enterprise, Oregon

Submitted: Dan Piper, Secretary