



EAGLE CAP SHOOTERS

P.O. Box 499
Joseph, OR 97846

www.eaglecapshooters.com

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, February 10, 2025

Status: Draft – Pending Approval

Board Members Present: Bill Oliver, Gary Bethscheider, John Amond, Gina Birkmaier, Dean Brown, Grady Rawls, Dave Kuhlman, Dan Moncrief

Board Members Absent: Dan Piper

Members and Guests: John Haskett, Dave Haworth, Jane Rushane

Handouts: February financial statements, February membership report

Meeting called to order at 6:35pm

Flag Salute

Introductions

Last Month's Minutes

The January minutes were read and approved on a motion by Dan Moncrief and a second by Dean Brown 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 \$28,828 and current CDs total \$25,403.44, as reported on the handout. The detail of the Treasurer's Report is available by contacting John Amond.

With regard to our overall financial situation, Treasurer Amond noted that income from gifts and memberships is increasing, including a recent donation of \$5,000 from Charlie Danforth. With this and other recent contributions, John has increased his estimate of annual income for 2025 from \$30k to \$50k with the potential for more income coming from the fundraising Banquet in May. John expressed confidence that we will be able to meet or exceed our obligations if the present trend continues or accelerates and urged all to contribute.

Membership Report

The Membership Report was read by John Amond. John explains that the total membership count for the 2025+ membership year is 158 at the time of the meeting, with 83 of those members paying annually. John notes that the rate of membership renewals is rising and he expects 2025 membership to be about the same as 2024 and is budgeting accordingly.



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Law Enforcement Relations Report

Bill Oliver reported that the ODFW training, led by ECS member Ryan Seal, has been successfully conducted and that several other law enforcement training sessions are scheduled for later this year, specifically OSP Sniper/SWAT training and DPSST training for Eastern Oregon law enforcement. All those present expressed satisfaction that these various law enforcement agencies have been pleased with our range facilities and that such training is an important part of the Club's overall mission.

Old Business

Range Report

It was noted that recent heavy snows will necessitate plowing of both the County access road and interior range roads and there was consensus that requests should be made to Carl McFetridge and Mike Musia to plow the roads no later than February 15. It was noted there is a Fire Contract on the property with the City of Enterprise and that, plus the need for member access to the Range, was a compelling reason for immediate clearing of the roads.

Dean Brown is leading efforts to burn the entire range this spring as a joint exercise for local firefighters prior to weed spraying by Casey Crum. Ryan Seal will mow along the fence lines prior to burning to prevent damage to fences and adjoining property. Ryan has also volunteered to repair the welds on the pistol range targets and holders.

Dan Moncrief reported that his request for new steel targets for the pistol range from MGM in Boise had been approved and the targets will soon arrive. The targets are valued at over \$1k. MGM will also provide banners for display at the Banquet in May.

Education Building Project

Work on the Education Building is awaiting better weather and excavation equipment. Plans are in order and progress will resume soon. Shane Langerman and others will be pitching in to complete the interior of the Building.

Trap & Skeet and Moving Target Range Projects

Work is currently on hold awaiting better weather.

Front Gate Project

Work is currently on hold awaiting better weather and equipment to dig the trenches required.

Wallowa Ready

Grady Rawls reported that he has been working with Kaare Tinglestad to schedule at least one session on emergency medicine in late March or early April at either the VFW hall or The Place in Joseph. Grady plans to videotape the session so that it will be available later online, along with other prior Wallowa Ready presentations already recorded. It was noted that two retired pharmacists have expressed a desire to do presentations on medication supplies during an emergency following the emergency medicine presentations.



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TNC Buck Tag

Thanks to the diligence of Dean Brown, ECS was able to receive almost \$10k for the donated Buck Tag. However, we recently discovered that we owed \$2k of those earnings to the Nature Conservancy for guide services. That is apparently a standard requirement but we were not aware. After conversations with Jeff Fields at the Conservancy, we agreed to pay the fee, especially since we would love to be considered for future Elk and Deer tags donated by the Conservancy.

It was further agreed that since the ECS already has a state gaming license, it would be an easy matter to report that we wished to exceed the standard \$10k limit in future tag raffles and request an amended limit so that we could cover the guide fee cost and not lose that amount in contributions. Still and all, ECS gained about \$8k as a result of Dean's work and all those present offered thanks to Dean and encouraged going for future tags.

Life Member Plaques

Bill Oliver reported that an announcement about the purchase of Life Member Plaques has been sent to all members and that Dave Haworth had come to the meeting to be one of the first to purchase. Dave made a generous contribution, giving \$500 rather than the required \$300. Dave is one of the founding members of ECS. Bill explains that there are about 90 members who qualify as Founders – having joined prior to December 31, 2004 – and Dave will have a plaque that acknowledges his status as both a Life Member and a Founding Member. Others who bought plaques at the meeting included Bill Oliver, Gary Bethscheider, and Dan Piper.

Further discussion led to consensus approval that the Wall of Honor where these plaques will be placed at the Education Building should include an American flag with the ECS logo and that this flag should be created by McTee Creations. It was also agreed that we would send an invitation to buy plaques to all living Founding Members and the families of those who have passed on. Bill Oliver will create lists of both Life Members and Founding Members and create a new invitation letter to be sent by email or mail to potential purchasers. Bill will also follow up with personal phone calls to those who have not responded.

Dean Brown reported that he has already created 16 plaques that are ready for application of names of donors. McTee Creations will burn-engrave the names for a cost of \$10 per plaque and there is no charge for the base plaques that Dean is creating as a volunteer.

Sponsor Signs

It was reported that already almost \$1,000 in sign renewal fees had been received and that both former and new donors are requesting signs. Bill Oliver mentioned that the large Community Bank sign near the entry gate to the range was created to acknowledge Community Bank's \$2,500 contribution in 2005 that helped provide the down payment on the range property, which is now paid off. Community Bank is in the process of being acquired by Spokane Teachers Credit Union (STCU) and thus the sign needs to be recreated. Bill has begun the discussion with STCU staff about a contribution at least for the amount of a new sign and perhaps more. Gary Bethscheider suggested that we should invite the Old West Credit Union to support the range since they could reach at least 350 potential customers.



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New Business

Friends of ECS Banquet Planning

Gary Bethscheider reported the work of the Planning Committee which held a meeting just prior to the general meeting and noted that the Cloverleaf Hall is booked for the night of May 17. Gary explained that planning is going well, with more than 10 of the available 30 tables already sold. Auctions of several kinds are planned and sponsor packages at three different financial levels will be offered.

Gina Birkmaier and Dan Piper will produce flyers, posters, and other advertisements including Facebook postings and are awaiting final copy.

Dan Moncrief confirmed that he is offering a \$500 gift certificate for taxidermy services and John Amond offered concealed carry classes for a couple. Dan Moncrief also reported that he is continuing to work with CCI in Lewiston regarding a donation of various calibers of ammunition which would be used for the banquet as well as for competitions at the Range. Others, including Dean Brown, are offering auction items and raffle prizes and members are urged to request support from those in their circle of acquaintances. Other members are urged to join Gary's remarkable efforts to get support. He is already planning several handgun raffles at the Stubborn Mule to raise funds as well as promote the Banquet. Thank you to Gary for the hard and inspiring work to make this first Banquet a great success.

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, 2/15: Range Safety Orientation at 10am. Instructor: Grady Rawls | (541)908-2375
- Saturday, 3/29: Pistol Range Closed 12pm-2pm | Hunter Safety Range Day
- Saturday, 5/17: Friends of Eagle Cap Shooter Banquet | Clover Leaf Hall
- Monday, 6/9 – Tuesday, 6/10: Rifle Range Closed | OSP/Multi-Agency Sniper Training
- Thursday, 6/12: Rifle Range Closed | OSP/Multi-Agency Sniper Training
- Monday, 7/7 – Thursday, 7/10: Pistol and Rifle Ranges Closed | DPSST Training

Good of the Order

Design and feasibility work on a 1,000-yard match facility with target pits and stands is underway and the project will begin soon.

Bill Oliver reported that he carried out the January 18 Range Orientation which was attended by six new members. Several of these new members volunteered to help with Range projects.

The question was raised regarding Range use by visitors to the community. At present, the only way for that to happen is for a current member to act as a host for visitors who just want to use the Range during their vacation or hunting visit. We have done this multiple times, always with a good result for the reputation of our Range and often received significant donations from the visitors as well as their sincere thanks. Dan Piper sends out an email advising members of a guest who is seeking a host to take them to the Range and posts the phone number of the potential guest. Bill Oliver and others reported that they have acted as hosts in the past and that it was worthwhile as a community service and enjoyable. It was agreed to ask Dan Piper to resend a request for volunteers who would be willing, their schedules permitting, to serve as range hosts and to maintain that list for use in response to future



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requests.

This Old Gun

None

Meeting Adjourned: 7:44pm

Next Meeting: Monday, March 10th, 2025, at 6:30pm at the VFW Hall, Enterprise, Oregon

Submitted: Bill Oliver, Acting Secretary