EAGLE CAP SHOOTERS
P.O. Box 499
Joseph, OR 97846
www.eaglecapshooters.com

General Meeting Minutes
Date: Monday, September 14, 2026
Status: Approved

Board Members Present: Bill Oliver, Gary Bethscheider, John Amond, Dan Piper, Gina Birkmaier, Bo Cambern, Dave Kuhlman, Grady Rawls, Jane Rushane

Board Members Absent: none

Members and Guests: Joe Basile, John Haskett

Handouts: September financial statements, September membership report

Meeting called to order at 6:31pm

Flag Salute

Introductions

Last Month's Minutes
The August minutes were read and approved on a motion by John Amond and a second by Jane Rushane with a spelling correction on the last page.

Treasurer's Report
The Treasurer's Report was read by John Amond. Current primary checking account balances combined are $50,614, short-term CDs total $10,403, and long-term CDs total $45,000, as reported on the handout. The Treasurer's Report was approved on a motion by Gina Birkmaier and a second by Dan Piper. The detail of the Treasurer's Report is available by contacting John Amond.

Regarding the P&L statement for August, John explains that we have received about $2.3k from membership while spending over $600 on the building, mostly on paint. Year-to-date, John explains that we have received about $25.7k from membership for a total income of $71.5k with expenses totaling $50.8k. John further explains that the Wolfe Loan balance is at $79.4k currently but will drop under $70k at year-end. John believes we have enough cash on hand to complete current projects and feels that the club is sitting in a good spot financially.

Membership Report
The Membership Report was read by John Amond. John explains that we have 358 members for the 2026+ membership year with 271 of those members paying annually. This exceeds the final membership count of 343 for the 2025+ membership year. John notes that he expects a few more memberships to trickle in, but expects it to slow down as we near the end of the calendar year. John further notes that he attributes the uptick this year largely to the addition of the front gate which has encouraged people to renew. John expects the gate to pay for itself in the next membership year.

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Law Enforcement Relations Report
Bill Oliver explains that the Oregon State Police representative for SWAT that we have worked with for years has now retired. However, his replacement is currently in town for the training taking place at the Range. Bill further explains that SWAT is doing a proof-of-concept test for a motorized mechanism at the moving target range. Bill will report back on effectiveness.

The Sheriff's Department is doing a low light training soon at the Range, Bill notes that they are now paid up on their corporate membership.

Old Business

Range Report
Bill Oliver explains that the new neighbors to the South of the Range, the Stangel Bison Ranch, will have buffalo adjacent to our facilities soon. If any members spot buffalo on the wrong side of the fence or notice any other issues, they should notify the Board right away.

Bill notes that he has found the manual for the old trap thrower near the rifle house. Bo Cambern will troubleshoot the thrower and try to do repairs.

Jane Rushane notes that there have been no Range issues reported to her and everything is generally looking good.

John Amand explains that he was contacted by a member trying to access the Range the morning that power was out county-wide. John explained the situation to him and he was happy to return the next day. Dan Piper reminds the Board that they all have instruction packets covering what to do in case of a power failure and someone being trapped inside the gate. There is a contact sheet for all board members in the kiosk near the front gate.

Bill explains that he spoke with Casey Crum who reported that weeds look generally good at the Range. Bill will apply for reimbursement from the County for 50% of $600 spraying cost.

Range Host Report
Bill Oliver explains that he has received multiple inquiries recently, but they haven't followed up so nothing is confirmed.

Education Building Project
Gary Bethscheider explains that he has re-worked some of the sheetrock seems in the ceiling, so some touch up paint is needed. Gary thanks all of the volunteers who have helped with painting.

Gary further explains that prices have dropped recently for soffit board and thinks we should take advantage. This was agreed by all present and Gary was given approval to proceed with purchase. Gary notes that this will likely be a winter project.

Gary notes that we recently purchased a pallet jack from Ace Hardware for use at the building and shotgun ranges. An anonymous donor paid most of our Ace bill towards the pallet jack.

Trap & Skeet Range Projects
Gary Bethscheider explains that he is going to place rock for pads and walkways soon and is hoping to have these all poured before winter. Bo Cambern recently painted the shoot houses with a sealant below dirt lines.

1,000-yard Competition Target Facility
Gary Bethscheider explains that this project is on hold until the Education Building and shotgun ranges are completed and until interest in long range competition increases.

New Business

Discussion and Vote for Long-term Membership
The pros and cons of long-term memberships, including lifetime memberships, were discussed by the group. After discussion, Gary Bethscheider moved to eliminate lifetime memberships but instead offer a 5-year membership beginning at the start of the 2027+ membership year. This motion was seconded by Dan Piper and approved by all present.

Volunteer Hours for Future Membership Years
How to handle volunteer hours and maintenance fees were discussed by the group. After discussion, Gary Bethscheider moved to combine all membership fees and dues into a single category to cover dues, maintenance, operations, and range development. The motion also included an increase in membership costs for the 2027+ membership year while allowing members to continue to work off costs through volunteer hours – final rates to be decided at the October General Meeting. This motion was seconded by John Amond and approved by all present.

Upcoming Events
- Monday, 9/14/26: Pistol and Rifle Range Closed 12pm-6pm | OSP SWAT Training
- Wednesday, 9/16/26: Pistol and Rifle Range Closed 8am-6pm | OSP SWAT Training
- Thursday, 9/17/26: Pistol and Rifle Range Closed 8am-12pm | OSP SWAT Training
- Saturday, 9/19/26: Range Safety Orientation - 10am | Instructor: Grady Rawls – (541)908-2375
- Thursday, 10/15/26: Pistol and Rifle Range Closed 5pm-8pm | Sheriff's Department Training

Good of the Order
Bill Oliver explains that the South arm of the front gate is currently locked in a closed position and non-operational. Bill explains that Grady Rawls reported the issue and Dan Piper placed the temporary lock and ordered replacement parts. Dan will repair the gate as soon as possible.

John Amond notes that the electronic membership card system is working well and next year should be easier since most of the cards will already be issued.

Bill notes that he is speaking with the Stangels now about utilizing the line power ECS brought down Ant

Flat. If they hook up to line power, ECS will get a partial reimbursement.

Bill explains that we were recently contacted by a gentleman who builds membership systems. Bill, John, and Dan Piper feel that the current system is working well and there is no need to invest in an additional system at this time. We will keep his contact information for future reference.

Bill explains that Mike Teece has cancelled the tentatively scheduled September Hunter Safety event and is planning to retire from hosting Hunter Safety. Anyone interested in helping with Hunter Safety should contact Mike Teece or the ECS board. Bill explains that he would like the board to review our membership list this winter to identify potential volunteers for many items, including Hunter Safety and the Youth Shoot. Bill further explains that he would like to do a plaque in the Education Building commemorating Mike's many years of service – he has been hosting Hunter Safety since 1992. This was agreed by all present.

Gary Bethscheider explains that he has dug holes along the rifle range at multiple distances for poles for windsocks/flags. We need to decide how many we want to install, Gary notes he is planning a few for now but we could certainly add more later. He is getting the poles prepared now.

Gary notes that his skid steer is needing new injectors and is out of commission for the moment. John Amond moves to have ECS pay for repairs on the skid steer rather than renting equipment. Bo Cambern seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously by all present.

Bill explains that last year ECS donated a membership to the PEO Dinner and asks if we would like to donate again. It was agreed unanimously to donate a membership again. Bill explains that the application deadline for a TNC tag is 9/15/26 and notes that we have a low likelihood of being chosen again, so we are not applying. However, PEO has applied for a tag and approached Bill about doing a partnership with ECS to sell raffle tickets if they are selected. Details to be decided if PEO is selected, but the partnership would include financial gain for ECS. This proposition was approved on a motion by Gina Birkmaier and second by John Amond with unanimous consent.

Gary notes that we should consider better management of membership cards and not issuing them until after new members complete orientation. John Amond explains that membership cards are mailed after payment is received and it is the honor system as to whether new members attend orientation. The board will consider how to manage this better in the future.

Grady Rawls explains that Elkhorn Media has recently started an FM radio station 98.7 in Wallowa County. ECS can consider running radio ads on the station in the future.

This Old Gun
None

Meeting Adjourned: 8:13pm
Next Meeting: Monday, October 12th, 2026, at 6:30pm at the VFW Hall, Enterprise, Oregon
Submitted: Dan Piper, Secretary