

Minutes of the White Mountain Shooters Association Board Meeting March 10, 2021

1. **Call to Order:** The monthly meeting of the White Mountain Shooters Association (WMSA) Board of Directors was called to order by the Board President, Brenda Silva at 6:00 PM. Vice President Dwight Yochem, Treasurer Vesta Melcher, Secretary Don Childers and Chief RSO Seth Nadel were all present as well as Board Members, Brian Moffatt, Sam Underwood, Jeff Wall, Dee White, Dan Fondren, Manuel Tavares and George Butcher. WMSA members Linda Gilbertson, John Kuehn, Mike Melcher, Deborha Childers, Tony Silva, Dale Kalchert, Chuck Desalme, Joe Darbyshire, Sheila Moffatt, Sarah Fox, Richard Smith, Chris Wall and Clay Howard were also present.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.**
3. **Secretary's Report.** President Brenda Silva noted that the Minutes from the February 10, 2021 Board Meeting were completed and published on the website, however an error was noted with regard to the inquiry into a new range phone that inferred investigation of an alternative vendor to Verizon was approved by the Board. A motion to approve the February Minutes was made by Sam Underwood with clarification of item 9.f. (Range Phone) that discussion on a new range phone would be conducted **with** Verizon. This motion was second by Dee White and passed by voice vote with one objection. The Secretary will make the correction in the archived Minutes.
4. **Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Vesta Melcher provided the Treasurer's Report for the calendar month of February 2021.
 - a. Highlights of the report included total income of \$886.00, resulting from New Memberships and Renewals, Range Fees, donations from Range jar and two sponsorship renewals (Team Impact and A&B Home Improvements); routine expenses totaled \$974.60 for website maintenance, cell phone, porta-potties, garbage pick-up and range supplies. There was a net loss of \$88.60 for the month of February and an ending checking account balance of \$79,612.04. A copy of the detailed Treasurer's Report is maintained in the Secretary's files.
 - b. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made Jeff Wall and second by Sam Underwood; the motion passed by voice vote with none opposed
 - c. Vesta further advised that unreimbursed receipts were presented for payment by Board members: Seth Nadel requested reimbursement of \$30.32, Dwight Yochem requested reimbursement of \$92.46 and Don Childers requested reimbursement of \$6.48, all for range supplies. A motion to approve payment of outstanding reimbursements was made by Sam Underwood and second by Dan Fondren. The motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.
 - d. February Monthly Shooter Days totaled 144 with 6 visitors. Vesta noted that the range was closed for three days due to weather in February.
5. **Membership Report.** Membership Chairman, Tony Silva, reported 410 active memberships as of March 10, 2021; composed of 184 family and 226 individual memberships with 244 dependent members for a total of 654 current WMSA members, including 60 juniors.
6. **Publicity Secretary Report.** Publicity Secretary Linda Gilbertson reported on the following activity:
 - a. The ADOT Hwy 60 cleanup is scheduled for March 24, 2021 at 1:00, contact Linda to sign up; an accurate list of participants is necessary to ensure sufficient safety vests and trash bags are on hand.

- b. Two articles related to the Second Knoll Target Range are currently awaiting publication by the White Mountain Independent. Vicki Matsumonji submitted an article on the Benchrest Club and Linda Gilbertson submitted an article on the restrictions imposed by the USFS on Range operations during the COVID lockdown. (Note: the COVID article was published on March 12, 2021.)
 - c. A raffle will be held in May and June of this year to raise funds for the Range. A donated Dillon 550 reloading machine will be the grand prize with 500 tickets sold at \$10 each. More information to follow as it becomes available.
 - d. Show Low TV Channel 4 is scheduled to broadcast Bret Halfpup's video on the Range this summer. Linda noted that the video includes exceptional aerial drone footage provided by visiting Bullseye shooter Jon Milan.
 - e. Discussions are continuing with the Arizona Tourism Board to include a Second Knoll Target Range ad and update their Tourism Map with the Range location in the Fall 2021 publication.
7. **Range Update.** Chief RSO Seth Nadel provided a range status report on Range Activity. Range use has continued slow during February due to winter weather and the ammunition shortage. George Butcher initiated a short discussion on whether there was a need to schedule three RSOs in April given the ongoing ammunition shortage. No action was taken by the Board on this issue.
8. **Old Business.**
- a. **COVID 19 Update** –President Brenda Silva reported that she recently spoke with Matt Schwartzkopf regarding borrowing a handicapped parking stencil for the Range and the degrading concrete for the handicapped parking spaces. Seth offered to get a bid to repair the concrete handicapped parking spaces. Updated COVID mitigation guidance from AZGFD was not discussed during their conversation. Pending further information, the use of facemasks when indoors or when social distancing cannot be maintained will continue at the Range.
 - b. **Steel Base Shooting Benches with Wheels Update.** Vice President Dwight Yochem has placed two prototype shooting benches (one with wheels) on the 100 yd. Range and they will be in place until Friday, March 19th for evaluation –. Dwight is still looking for input from RSOs; Brenda will send out an email to all RSOs soliciting input on the steel shooting benches. A discussion ensued on the weight of the benches and the potential difficulty of moving either bench design as well as the advantage of the heavier bench for benchrest shooting; a suggestion was made to allow the public to actually use the benches and provide comments. Brian Moffatt proposed a working group be assembled to resolve these issues. Anyone interested in participating in the working group should contact Dwight.
 - c. **New Benches for 100 Yard Range.** Jeff Wall reported that the construction of additional observer benches for the 100 yd range was delayed by recent inclement weather but should be completed by April 30th.
 - d. **Snow Removal.** Brenda reported that FS Road 206, the road to the range complex, as well as the parking areas for the 100 and 50 yd ranges, was plowed after the February snowstorm. Overall, Brenda felt they did a pretty good job.
 - e. **Range Phone.** Brenda presented Verizon's proposal for a new range phone; a new Android phone for \$200 and a plan that provides unlimited talk and text for \$40/month with a prepaid plan. Jeff Wall moved to accept the offer and second by Sam Underwood. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.

- f. Policy Manual completion, discussion and vote.** Brenda reported that the final draft version of the Range Policy Manual was completed and sent to the Board via email. She also commended Secretary Don Childers for his work on the Policies, completing them in much less time than anticipated. Don thanked the Board for their Policy input and acknowledged that several changes and clarifications had been made to the initial draft based on input received. Several issues were presented to the Board for approval and discussion ensued on the following topics:
- i. Whether to allow non-shooting (non-paying) adults to supervise one or more non-paying juniors. A brief discussion ensued; Dwight Yochem moved to maintain the current procedure where juniors do not pay regardless of whether the accompanying adult shoots and/or pays, second by Sam Underwood. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.
 - ii. Whether to allow fully automatic or burst type firearms on the range and whether to require shooters with automatic firearms to advise the RSO prior to shooting. Don reported that the NRA Sample Range Policies suggested that shooters with automatic firearms notify the RSO prior to shooting and present their Federal NFA authorization paperwork for review. Brenda commented on her website survey of other Arizona ranges and reported that two of the six ranges surveyed did not allow automatic firearms and the ones that did had no requirement for a shooter to provide paperwork for inspection. CRSO Seth Nadel moved to delete that portion of the Policy that placed any restrictions on the use of automatic firearms and/or required shooters to provide documentation of proper NFA registration of same, second by Sam Underwood. Motion passed by voice vote with one opposed. Dwight moved to require notification of automatic firearms use to the RSO prior to shooting, second by Dan Fondren. Discussion on this issue regarding how the shooter would know to notify the RSO. Suggestions that the requirement could be added to the RSO training, a sign could be posted in the parking lot of the 100 yd range and the requirement could be added to the Range Rules handout were all discussed. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.
 - iii. Whether to permit .338 Lapua firearms on the Range. Brenda reported that none of the other ranges she surveyed restricted .338 Lapua firearms. Seth commented on other caliber firearms that are loud and ultimately moved to permit .338 Lapua firearms, second by Sam Underwood. Motion passed by voice vote with one opposed.
 - iv. Whether to permit personal target stands on the 100 yd range during public shooting. Brenda commented on the potential hazards of personal metal stands and Seth recounted instances where shooters had used short wire stands that were very close to the ground. There was discussion about Mountain Shooters and Benchrest Shooters special stands that eliminate wind induced target movement; Brenda emphasized that this Policy restriction is not applicable to the Clubs. Jeff Wall moved to maintain the Policy restriction on use of personal target stands during public shooting, Seth Nadel second. Motion passed by voice vote with one opposed.
 - v. The procedure for scheduling a fourth shooting bay as outlined in Policy 4.0 Club Operations was discussed and clarification of the procedure requested. George Butcher moved to amend the procedure as outlined in the noted Policy and

replace with language on the WMSA website, Dan Fondren second and motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.

Brenda asked for a motion to approve the Policy manual with the changes noted above. Seth Nadel moved to approve the Policy manual pursuant to the Board approved changes and Sam Underwood second. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed. Don will make the required changes and Seth will prepare a copy for use at the Range.

- 9. New Business. April meeting date.** President Brenda Silva advised the board that she will be out of the country and Vice President Dwight Yochem will not be available on April 14th, the scheduled date for the next monthly board meeting and noted the difficulty for other executive board members to reschedule to another date in April. After a short discussion noting that the WMSA By Laws do not require monthly Board meetings, Seth Nadel moved to cancel the April meeting and resume in May, Vesta Melcher second. Motion passed by voice vote with two opposed.
- 10. Motion to Adjourn.** Motion by Sam Underwood to adjourn and second by Seth Nadel at 7:14 PM. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.