

## Minutes of the White Mountain Shooters Association Board Meeting August 11, 2021

1. **Call to Order:** A quorum of Board members being present (9 of 11), the monthly meeting of the White Mountain Shooters Association (WMSA) Board of Directors was called to order by the Board President, Brenda Sylva at 6:00 PM. Vice-President Dwight Yochem, Treasurer Vesta Melcher and Secretary Don Childers were also present, as were Board members Sam Underwood, Jeff Wall, Manuel Tavares, George Butcher, and Dee White. WMSA members Robert Johnson, Mike Melcher, Deborha Childers, Susie Underwood, John Kuehn, Charles DeSalme, Tony Silva, Howard Faltz, Mary Faltz, Chris Wall, Tony Sanchez, Judy Sanchez, Fred Parry, Larry Kennedy, Chris Wall, and Dale Kalchert were present.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Immediately following the pledge, President Brenda Silva announced appointment of the new Board representative for the White Mountain Practical Shooters, Robert Johnson. Robert gave a short report on his experience with “practical shooting” activity. Sam Underwood moved to approve Robert Johnson as the new WMPS representative, Vice President Dwight Yochem second. Motion passed by voice vote with one opposed.
3. **Secretary’s Report.** President Brenda Silva noted that the Minutes from the July 14, 2021 Board Meeting and the July 16, 2021 Annual Meeting were published on the website. A motion to approve both the July and Annual Meeting Minutes was made by Sam Underwood and second by Robert Johnson. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.
4. **Treasurer’s Reports.** Treasurer Vesta Melcher provided the Treasurer’s Report for the calendar month of July 2021.
  - a. Highlights of the report included total income of \$6,037.00, resulting from new memberships and renewals, Range fees and donations from Range jar, sale of WMSA polo shirts and towels as well as income from sale of raffle tickets; routine expenses totaled \$4,680.01 for website maintenance, printing expense, porta-potties, garbage pick-up, Range phone, Range supplies, flood repairs, materials for new shooting benches and advertising in Outdoor SW magazine. There was a net gain of \$1,356.99 for the month of July and an ending checking account balance of \$87,386.40. A copy of the detailed Treasurer’s Report is maintained in the Secretary’s files. Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report was made by Sam Underwood and second by Dee White; the motion passed by voice vote with none opposed
  - b. Vesta further advised that unreimbursed receipts were presented for payment by Board members: Dwight Yochem requested reimbursement of \$73.47 for range supplies and hardware, supplies for re-tiling the Bays office and tools and supplies to repair Range perimeter fencing; Brenda Silva requested reimbursement of \$20.82 for supplies for the 50 yd range and postage; Tony Silva requested reimbursement of \$55.00 for postage stamps. A motion to approve payment of outstanding reimbursement requests was made by Jeff Wall and second by Sam Underwood. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.
  - c. Monthly Shooter Days for July totaled 330 with 7 visitors despite the Range being closed several days during the month due to weather and storm damage.
5. **Membership Report.** Membership chairman Tony Silva reported that, as of July 31st, there were 262 active memberships; composed of 118 family and 144 individual memberships with 162 dependent members for a total of 424 current WMSA members, including 44 juniors. A copy of

the Membership Report was provided to the Secretary following the meeting to be filed in the Secretary's records.

- 6. Publicity Secretary Report.** Publicity Secretary Linda Gilbertson was not present at the meeting; the Publicity Report was given by Treasurer Vesta Melcher. A copy of the written report is filed in the Secretary's permanent file.

- a. **The Dillon Raffle is extended until September 8, 2021.** The winner's name will be drawn at the Board meeting on that date.
- b. **Outdoors SW Magazine Article.** A two page spread in the July issue highlighted all the Shooting Clubs. The August issue will report on future development of the Range and will be the last paid advertising for 2021.
- c. **The White Mountain Independent (WMI)** printed an article detailing the storm damage to the Range and cleanup work by WMSA member volunteers.
- d. **There are two articles about the Range in the works for the WMI;** one about this year's raffle and the other about the 18 year development process to make the Range a reality. Discussion ensued regarding publications announcing the Navajo and Apache County fairs may be a good opportunity to advertise WMSA and the Second Knoll Target Range.

- 7. Range Update.** President Brenda Silva reported on the following topics.

- a. **Activity – Storm Damage and Cleanup.** Brenda reviewed the damage to the Range from the storm and highlighted the extensive erosion to the 50 and 100 yd ranges and the competition bays.
  1. Damage and runoff, west hill toward handicapped area of 100 yd range; the west porta-pottie had significant mud build-up inside.
  2. Secondary berm damage on the 100 yd range, and runoff from south hill toward the impact berm is still to be addressed, but enough of the berm was pushed back up to give shooters a full 100 yards shooting distance.
  3. Secondary berm damage and runoff from the south hill in Bay 1 collapsed the upper portion of the south impact berm. Bay 1 is closed until repaired.
  4. Upper berm damage and runoff from the south hill in Bay 4, at the SE corner of the impact berm. Bay 4 is useable.
  5. Thanks to Vice President Dwight Yochem and his "staff" (Jim Aylor, Dan Carey, Sam Underwood and Tim Johnson) that brought tractors to move dirt back into place and a trailer to spread cinders in eroded areas. Many WMSA volunteers participated in the range clean up. President Brenda Silva hosted Matt Schwartzkopf for an inspection of the Range during the cleanup; it is likely that any repair work done by AZGFD will be delayed as they prioritize repairs to Second Knoll with other ranges across the State that have also experienced damage this monsoon season.
  6. Entrance road (FS 206) and range road at the base of the turn toward the main ranges sustained erosion damage and was repaired.
  7. Bay 1 is closed and will remain closed until AZGFD can make repairs. Dirt from the berm must be returned to the berm and not distributed across the Range because of lead contamination.
- b. **Review of Special Use Permit; our responsibilities and limitations.** Brenda reviewed the basics of the Special Use Permit that controls the use of the Range. The USFS and Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest use permit is directed to the AZGFD and the Range Operations Plan from the AZGFD authorizes WMSA to operate the Second Knoll Target Range and outlines the requirements for Range activity.

1. Discussion and question about the timing for lead assessment and remediation – this is an AZGFD issue and not a requirement for WMSA.
  2. Discussion ensued on the timing for construction of the 300 yd range and who makes the decision to begin construction. Concern and frustration was expressed by Board and general members on the construction delay and the expectations of WMSA members for this improvement. Many members commented on the quality of the facilities already completed. Brenda promised to invite Matt Schwartzkopf to a meeting to respond to this issue and the overall development plan.
  3. Discussion on the advantages of Range volunteer hour reporting; Brenda explained that an annual report is prepared by AZGFD to document WMSA participation and compliance with the Range Operations Plan. Volunteer hours provides some level of “credit” toward allocation of Pittman-Robertson funds for Range capital improvements.
- c. **First Tuesday workday for weed and general upkeep starting on September 7, 2021**  
Vice president Dwight Yochem will send a general membership email if the workday will be conducted.
  - d. **Perimeter fence inspection** was completed by Brenda and Dwight on August 4<sup>th</sup>; several warning signs were missing and a few fence posts need repair. Dwight will accomplish and/or coordinate the repairs.

#### 8. Old Business.

- a. **Steel benches – materials purchased.** Material for the steel shooting benches was purchased in the amount of \$3,170; additional expenditures will be necessary. The initial design prototype has been constructed and some adjustments made. Vice President Dwight Yochem will salvage and repair the bench tops from the current benches for use on the steel benches. A short discussion ensued on the economics of repair vs purchase of new bench tops.
- b. **New sign and information board at gate.** No update at this time; working on how best to mount the sign.
- c. **Vinyl floor tile for Bay office and 100 yd office.** Brenda announced that the installation has been completed for the Bay office, although the baseboards haven’t yet been installed. The office for the 100 yd range will be retiled next.
- d. **Is there a need for a designated parliamentarian for BOD meetings?** Discussion on this issue included comments by Jeff Wall that the purpose of Roberts Rules is to ensure fairness and equity in meetings. Jeff believes that the need for a parliamentarian will increase as WMSA grows and more members are added to the BOD. Jeff moved to postpone consideration of this issue for one year, Sam Underwood second. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.

#### 9. New Business.

- a. **Solar power on the 100 yd range.** WMSA member Doug Hill was not present and his anticipated presentation was postponed. Discussion on the power available from the solar system on the 50 yd range, including power for automated target system, the PA system and limited use electrical outlets in the office. President Brenda Silva briefly reviewed an offer by White Mountain Solar for a solar equipment package costing less than \$1,000. Vice President Dwight Yochem and Doug Hill have agreed to install the system if purchased. Discussion continued regarding the relative advantages and disadvantages of gasoline generator vs solar power for computer and other uses. Jeff Wall moved to continue discussion on this issue to the September meeting; Sam Underwood second. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.

- b. **AZ Short Course for Bullseye August 21 and 22.** Anyone interested in participating should contact Tony Silva.
  - c. **Night shoot completed by NCSO.** President Brenda Silva reported that the process for approving a night shoot is a request from AZGFD to USFS who acts on the request. NCSO night shoot at the Range was approved and conducted with no issues and no WMSA representative on site. Discussion ensued on any lessons learned for WMSA following the NCSO night shoot. Brenda will follow up with NCSO.
  - d. **Change in Board representation for the White Mountain Practical Shooters – Robert Johnson.** This issue was addressed immediately following the Pledge of Allegiance.
  - e. **Vacancy of Member at Large position – appointment.** Brenda announced the appointment of Linda Gilbertson to fill the Board’s Member at Large vacancy and gave a brief review of her experience with WMSA. Linda accepted the appointment via an email to Brenda earlier in the day. George Butcher moved to approve the appointment and Sam Underwood second. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.
  - f. **President out of town for Paralympics (August 22-September 7).** Brenda will monitor email while gone and will be back for the September BOD meeting; Dwight will deal with any urgent issues.
  - g. **Non-Agenda item:** There will be no Range Fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Anniversary activity due to COVID.
  - h. **Good of the Order.** Fred Parry reported that the “Wall that Heals”, a replica of the Viet Nam Memorial Wall, will be in Pinetop from October 28 through 31. Anyone interested in assisting the VFW with overnight security should contact Fred. More information is available at [www.pltwth.com](http://www.pltwth.com).
- 10. Motion to Adjourn.** Motion by Sam Underwood to adjourn and second by Jeff Wall at 7:10 PM. Motion passed by voice vote with one opposed.