

Minutes of the White Mountain Shooters Association Board Meeting September 8, 2021

- 1. Call to Order:** A quorum of Board members being present (8 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. Secretary Don Childers and Treasurer Vesta Melcher were also present, as were Board members Linda Gilbertson, George Butcher, Robert Johnson, Manny Tavares, Sam Underwood, and Dee White. WMSA members Mike Melcher, Deborha Childers, Tony Sanchez, Judy Sanchez, John Kuehn, Tony Silva, Jim Aylor, Charles DeSalme, Fred Bridges, Doug Hill, Dale Kalchert, Susie Underwood, James Button, Larry Kennedy, and Clay Howard.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance.**
 - a.** Immediately following the pledge, President Brenda Silva led a moment of silence in memory of Vice President Dwight Yochem; Secretary Don Childers and Sam Underwood commented on the loss of Dwight, both personally and as WMSA Board member and officer.
 - b.** Brenda announced that Linda Gilbertson had been appointed to fill Dwight's remaining term as Vice President. Sam Underwood moved to approve the appointment and Vesta Melcher second. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.
 - c.** Brenda also announced that Jim Aylor had been selected by the Second Knoll Benchrest Club as the Board representative. Sam Underwood moved to approve the selection and Manny Tavares second. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.
- 3. Secretary's Report.** President Brenda Silva noted that the Minutes from the August 11, 2021 Board Meeting were published August 24th on the website. A motion to approve both August Minutes was made by Manny Tavares and second by Sam Underwood. 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 August 2021.
 - a.** Highlights of the report included total income of \$3,324.00, resulting from new memberships and renewals, Range fees and donations from Range jar, sale of WMSA polo shirts, towels and raffle tickets, Range bay rental and a special donation in memory of Seth Nadel; routine expenses totaled \$1,485.69 for website maintenance, office supplies, 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 \$1,838.31 for the

insurance company and the contractor that did the original Range construction for an estimate on the repairs.

2. Matt responded to a question about the weeds and sunflowers growing on the berms. Any growth on the floor of the bays/ranges may be removed. Additionally, weeds and sunflowers may be cut down from the side and impact berms, but personnel must not climb on the berms to weed or perform other maintenance. It is permissible to return eroded soil back onto the berms from the bay/range floor.
 3. Matt will consider the addition of “waddle” to the berms to control erosion. Waddle is the bundle of straw and other materials that is used by ADOT to control erosion along highways.
 4. Matt responded to a question about extending the depth of the bays from current 25 yards to 40 yards. This improvement would not be possible without an approved change to the Phase 1 plan for the Range.
 5. Currently there are no funds budgeted for completion of Range improvements outlined in the Phase 1 development plan. In past years, Matt’s department had a budget that could be used at his discretion for improvement of the Ranges in the State. Now, those discretionary budget funds have been eliminated and any expenditure of funds must go through a budget proposal and approval process at the State level. The current priority for expenditures is to the eight (8) older Ranges that must upgrade to Federal EPA standards. Matt promised to continue to submit annual proposals for upgrade of Second Knoll facilities.
- b. **Volunteer to coordinate targets and Range maintenance.** Brenda reported on her intent to move target construction and repair to the Range and identified the need for a volunteer (or group) to build and maintain target stands and frames. The person or group assuming this responsibility would need to undergo RSO training, but would be given “RSO type” range access as compensation for maintaining the target frames and stands. Brenda will make an appeal to the general membership for this need.
 - c. **Perimeter fence inspection** was completed by Brenda and Dwight on August 4th; several warning signs were missing, and a few fence posts need repair. Brenda and Tony Silva will replace the missing signs and make necessary repairs.

8. **Old Business.**

- a. **Steel benches – Jim Aylor update.** - Welding on all 20 benches has been completed, some wheels still need to be attached and some painting still needs to

be completed. Members of the Benchrest Club have volunteered to remove the tops from current benches and refurbish for use on the metal framed benches. Jim will pick up the metal bench frames that had been at Dwight's home. President Brenda Silva suggested the purchase of material to prepare new tops for the new benches.

- b. **New sign and information board at gate.** No update at this time.
- c. **Vinyl floor tile for Bay office and 100 yd office.** No update at this time.
- d. **Church group to use range on September 11th.** The group of approximately 50 men will be using the 50-yard range; Brenda and John Kuehn will RSO this group.
- e. Brenda is coordinating with Dwight's family for the recovery of WMSA property and records from his residence.
- f. **After action report from NCSO night shoot.** No response yet to Brenda's request for a written report. Matt Schwarzkopf requested a copy of any response from NCSO.
- g. **Solar power on the 100 yd range.**
 - 1. Doug Hill gave a short presentation on the proposal to add solar power to the 100 yard range and reviewed the offer from White Mountain Solar (WMS) for a plug and play system. The primary use for the system would be to power tools necessary to construct and repair target frames and stands at the range. Additionally, a solar system would provide power for the PA system, lights inside the office, charging devices and possibly a heater for the office as well as other uses yet to be determined.
 - 2. Discussion. Permission to mount the collector on the roof of the office would likely be needed from AZGFD – Matt granted permission to mount the collector. The WMS advertising flyer claimed a tax rebate which is likely unavailable to WMSA, a 501.c.(3) organization.
 - 3. Motion. Sam Underwood moved to purchase the WMS system at the approximate price of \$1,693 for installation at the 100 yard range; Vesta Melcher second. A vote by show of hands resulted in six (6) for, two (2) against and one abstention. The motion carried.

9. **New Business.**

- a. **Change in Board representation for the Second Knoll Benchrest Club – Jim Aylor.** This issue was addressed immediately following the Pledge of Allegiance.

- b. President Brenda Silva reported on a written request from the Show Low Company of the Arizona Rangers for use of the Range at no charge for training and Police Officer Standardized Training (POST) firearms qualification. Secretary Don Childers spoke to that request and noted that the Rangers are a 501.c.(3) organization whose mission is to support Local, State and/or Federal Law Enforcement when requested. Discussion: the request was referred to Matt Schwarzkopf who recommended that the BOD decide. As the Range is on Forest Service (USFS) land and operates under a USFS permit, a requirement that any activity on the Range produce income was asserted. George Butcher moved to allow the Rangers to use the Range at a charge of \$2 per person for structured firearms training and POST qualification. Linda Gilbertson second. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.

10. **Motion to Adjourn.** Motion by Sam Underwood to adjourn and second by George Butcher at 7:41 PM. Motion passed by voice vote with none opposed.