

Minutes
General Meeting
January 27, 2015

President Melanie White called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Officers present were President Melanie White, Vice-President Josh House, Treasurer Stephanie House, Secretary Wesley Morris, President-Elect Jimmy Chitwood, Vice-President-Elect Billy White, & Treasurer-Elect Karen Chitwood. Members present as shown on sign in sheets.

Minutes – The meeting minutes for December were submitted for review. Billy White moved to approve the minutes. Karen Chitwood seconded the motion and it passed.

Treasurer's Report – Stephanie House submitted her report from December 23 to January 27. Jimmy Chitwood moved to accept the treasurer's report and John Miller seconded the motion.

Membership – The current club membership figure is **116**. Wes Morris reported that he has a large stack of memberships to add from the banquet and the mail and we should have a more accurate number next month.

Sunshine Report – Nothing to report.

Publicity – The Midway Driller had a nice photo spread and article on our Annual Banquet. We certainly appreciate Matt Henry's coverage of our events.

Trap Report – No one showed up for youth trap in January is because it is too cold and they will be preparing for the fair in February. Jennifer and Mike Liljeroos are going to take over the Thursday evening trap shoots. They will notify Wes Morris when they start up so he can advertise it.

Fireworks – Mike Donnelly asked if we had a spot for the booth and Tom Brown reported we do. Mike Donnelly asked if we wanted to stick with TNT or switch to Phantom. It was decided to stick with TNT.

Junior Pheasant Hunt – Tom Brown reported we have some bird crate boxes we need to replace. He might try and make them last another year so we can try and replace them through an FNRA grant.

Taft Sport Shooters – Wes Morris there were about 27 shooters at the January match. The tactical shotgun match is on Saturday January 31st. They will be having a 3F night match in February for experienced shooters only.

The TSS is also working on a big money match for April and details will be forthcoming. They bought some new timers to make that match run smoother.

.22 Action Shooters – Josh House reported that the .22 action shooters match had 11 shooters and 5 juniors last month and he thanked Jake and Carly Carrasco.

Legislative – The Firearms Safety Certificate system is now in place at gun shops for long guns and costs \$25 for five years. Anyone with a hunting license from any state is exempt, so you can find a non-resident small game license from Alaska online for \$20. Tom Brown reported a Nevada license is only \$16 online.

Correspondence – Taft Chamber of Commerce sent us an invitation to their awards banquet on Thursday February 5th for \$45 per person.

Sporting Clay Shoot – Sandy Ross wanted to pass out some fliers last month to people so they can advertise the shoot. She was a little disappointed no one took any and she would like to see more people step up and help out. She reminded everyone that this event goes to help out for a great cause. Tom Brown reported we are at about 25 teams and if you can sell “need not be present to win” special raffle tickets or safe tickets, he has them to hand out. Wes Morris reported he had two signs available for club use on Highway 33 in two places. Sandy Ross moved to use the signs and Karen Chitwood seconded the motion. It passed.

Game and Cover – Nothing to report.

Awards – Billy White reported he thought the banquet went well and everyone had nice things to say about the banquet.

Committee Reports – Nothing to report.

Old Business – Tom Brown asked about the cameras and the signs that were supposed to go up. Josh House reported he can get them to Billy White so he can start working on it.

New Business – Tom Moore had someone call him and ask about mining the lead at the range. Jimmy Chitwood said he would get in touch with him.

Dr. Ross reported that there is currently some legislation in Congress to turn Crocker Springs and the Carrizo Plain into wilderness area, which would severely limit the mechanized access to these areas. He encouraged people to contact Kevin McCarthy and oppose it. Dr. Ross wanted to entertain a motion that the club oppose creating any new wilderness areas along the Temblor Range and Billy White seconded the motion. Wes Morris stated he will look into drafting a club letter and advertising opposition to it.

Joe Gregory asked if we could get Taft Union High School seniors to come down and volunteer for any of our non-profit events. Wes Morris reported that wouldn't be a problem as long as he has about two weeks advanced notice so he can get it into the daily announcements at school.

Coleen Morris entertained a motion that the Taft Sportsmen's Club sponsor Katie Brown for the Oildorado Queen Contest for \$350 and Chad Miller seconded the motion. Wes Morris asked if anyone else was interested before we approved Katie Brown. There was no one else mentioned so the club nearly unanimously approved the motion.

Wayne White asked about the club buying an air card or its own equipment to run PayPal. The club will start looking into the cost of doing so.

Jimmy Chitwood asked if that you have keys to the sea train he would like to know who had keys to what for a proper inventory next month. Rhonda Blythe reported she gave a post office box update application to Stephanie House and Stephanie reported she would get it to the club.

Wes Morris reported we were approved for our three Friends of NRA grants this year. We must get our two outstanding grant reports in by February 9th. Tom Brown turned in his receipts for the junior pheasant hunt and we are trying to order clay targets for the trap program.

Wes Morris recommended a by-laws change to make an exemption from a 10% gross receipts on approved special events to a 10% net removal. It was generally accepted and the proper procedure to implement such a change will be advertised in the March/April newsletter.

Mark Abrao asked about how awards work. He was pointed towards the www.taftsc.com website for information as well as talk to the individual shooting disciplines for their awards procedures.

Paul Fedewa asked about getting the range rules to new members. Wes Morris said he could start publishing them in the newsletter.

Tom Brown reported that there is evidence people are hopping the fence, so he recommended we get a quote about replacing some of the bad parts of the fence in the front.

Motion to adjourn by Billy White and seconded by Josh House. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.