

**Minutes of
The American Civil War Shooting Association, Inc.
Annual Corporate Board Meeting**

Sunday, February 10, 2013
513 Storle Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin 53105

- 1) **Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM. The Board members in attendance were: National Commander & Michigan/Indiana Regional Commander, Dan Gibson, Adjutant, Rob Weber, Judge Advocate General, Dan Graff, Past National Commander & Wisconsin/Illinois Regional Commander, Bob Chabalowski. Others attending were: team commanders Stephen Sherry (15th Wisconsin), Lance Herdegen (6th Wisconsin), Dick Tessmann (8th Wisconsin and ACWSA Deputy Artillery Officer), plus Mary Borsic (of the 15th Wisconsin and WI/IL Regional Quartermaster), Ken Mifflin (of the 66th North Carolina), Wally Gibson (of the 1st South Carolina), and Bob Bucher (of the 56th Virginia and ACWSA Small Arms Committee Chair).

- 2) **Minutes:** The minutes of the September 18, 2012, meeting (as posted on the web site) were approved.

- 3) **Reports:** The **Paymaster** was unable to attend. Her written report was distributed. It was noted that the \$200 expenditure for the promotional video, which was approved at the September meeting, provided the end was changed to include a national ACWSA contact for recruiting, did not appear on the budget. The amount should be paid when the editing of the video is completed and the Paymaster so advised. The **Adjutant** advised that not all teams have reported back on their rosters yet. From information received before, and at the meeting, it appeared there are about 129 individuals on 10 teams in the Michigan/Indiana Region and about 118 individuals on 7 teams in the Wisconsin/Illinois Region, although additional renewals are possible. The **MI/IN Regional Commander** reported that during the past season, the Michigan/Indiana Region had raised \$7,200 for a charity project (Intrepid Fallen Heroes), beginning the total raised for charities during the past three years to about \$20,000. Dan also described working with re-enactors to put on a demonstration of firing muskets and carbines by drum command.

- 4) **Cardboard purchase.** Mary Boric noted that she would no longer be able to buy cardboard sheets at a discount price after she retires in April. She thought she could store about two more bales, which, together with what she had on hand, would supply cardboard targeting for roughly three years. The Board of Directors by consensus asked her to please obtain the additional cardboard and sell it to teams as she has done in the past. Dan Gibson expressed the Board's thanks to Mary for her contributions, which include fronting costs and handing storage.

- 5) **Insurance for ACWSA.** Gary Van Kauwenbergh was unable to attend to present this matter. There was brief discussion and no interest in exploring other insurance options at this time. The insurance bill should be paid immediately upon receipt.

- 6) **Update on 501(c) application status.** JAG Dan Graff shared the January 17, 2013, letter he received from the IRS, acknowledging receipt of ACWSA's application and \$400 fee. IRS advised we should expect to hear from them about April 17, 2013, with either a determination of tax-exempt status or a request for more information.

- 7) **Amendment of the By-Laws.** The by-laws were tentatively amended with the amendments to be effective 30 days after 501(c) status is granted. Although none of the amendments would affect 501(c) criteria, it was felt that corresponding with the IRS about changes to the by-laws ACWSA already sent to the IRS might delay consideration of ACWSA's application. The amendments would allow a director to attend the annual meeting by telephone or other electronic means, not just in person. The position of National Commander would be filled by the Deputy National Commander advancing to the position at the conclusion of his or her two-year term as Deputy. The Deputy will be elected by alternating Regions. Members of the Board may continue to serve even after their term of office expires until their successors are duly elected or appointed and take office. Regions will be expressly permitted to charge regional dues and keep a regional treasury.

- 8) **Office Holders:** The National Commander asked the Paymaster, Adjutant and JAG to continue serving despite the expiration of their terms of office.

- 9) **Safety Issues.** Safety issues raised in Gary Van Kauwenbergh's e-mail dated February 4, 2013, were discussed. The Safety needs to identify all members of the team for which he or she is responsible. Team members must all be checked individually, but the entire team must remain on the line until the Safety advises (loudly and clearly) that **the team** is cleared. Safety is not just the responsibility of the designated "Safeties." Everyone should be alert and call out a problem, such as when someone starts walking downrange while the firing line is still "hot." Shooters are required to have both ear and eye protection. Gary also suggested that a team should assign a mentor or "buddy" to new shooters to educate them in proper skirmish shooting safety. Dan Gibson said he would send a reminder out to teams about such safety concerns.

- 10) **Metal targeting and its usage.** Gary's e-mail also mentioned a report of a round bouncing back from metal targeting. There was discussion. Some such reports were attributed to fixed metal targets (as used by SASS, but not ACWSA) or to shooting at ranges of less than 50 yards. No formal action was taken. Wally Gibson reported that he would be conducting tests to determine whether there is any "bounce back" from the metal targeting. Shooters are also strongly discouraged from picking up lead from downrange and bringing it back towards the firing line. Bullet fragments then abandoned anywhere near or behind the firing line may create a false impression of bounce-back. If a shooter just cannot resist picking up a souvenir from downrange, the shooter must place it in his or her shooting box and then take it off the range property altogether.

- 11) **"First Year Free" Dues Program.** One season of no dues for first-time ACWSA members were continued for the 2013 skirmish season.

12) **2014 Annual Meeting.** Next year's annual corporate board meeting will be held at 10:00 AM on the first Sunday following the Super Bowl at a location to be announced by the National Commander.

13) **Temporary Adjournment.** At 11:37 AM the meeting was temporarily adjourned, to be reconvened at 12:00 Noon at the Bluewater Sportsmen's Club, 4866 Ravenswood Road, Kimball, MI 48074 (near Port Huron, MI) on Saturday, February 16, 2013.

Saturday, February 16th, 2013
Blue Water Sportsman's Association
4866 Ravenswood Rd., Kimball, MI 48074

14) **Meeting Reconvened.** The February 10th, 2013 meeting of the American Civil War Shooting Association, Inc. was temporarily adjourned. On February 16th at 12:05 pm, Dan Gibson called for the meeting to be reconvened.

15) **Roll Call.** The Board members in attendance were: Dan Gibson - National Commander & Michigan/Indiana Regional Commander, Bob Chabalowski - Past National Commander & Wisconsin/Illinois Regional Commander, and Norman Gibson - Artillery Officer. Regional level officers and appointees present were: Jim Bone - Inspector General, Brian Haack – Small Arms Committee, Fritz Brohn - By-Law Committee, Chris Einowski - By-Law Committee, David "Doc" Mandy - By-Law Committee and Medical Officer, and Dianne Gibson – Medical Committee and Newsletter Editor.

Team commanders / representatives were as follows:

1st Michigan – Jan Cross 8th Michigan – Don Koch

1st South Carolina – Sean Buckert 15th Virginia Cav – David "Doc" Mandy

2nd Texas Sharpshooters – Doug Reed Dygert's Sharpshooters – Peter Simpson

7th Wisconsin – Michael Zandarski Loomis Battery – Fritz Brohn

8th Arkansas – Rick Babiszewski Richmond Purcell's Battery – Jim Boeder

Not present was the 4th Michigan and 18th Indiana Battery.

16) **Introduction.** Dan started the meeting off by introducing Bob Chabalowski and explaining the change in leadership roles.

17) **CWSA National event.** Bob briefly discussed this year's CWSA Nationals in Iowa.

18) **Meeting recap.** Dan recapped the reports and topics that were covered during the first part of the meeting held in Wisconsin last weekend (items 3 through 12 of these minutes).

19) **By-Laws Amendment.** Dan called for a vote from each team representative on the motion from the first part of the meeting to approve the By-Laws amendment (item 7 of these minutes). The effective date of the amendment is to be contingent upon receipt of the IRS approval of the organization's 501(c) status.

Motion passed – 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

20) **Meeting Adjournment.** Motion by 1st South Carolina to adjourn the ACWSA organizational meeting at 12:45 pm. Seconded by 7th Wisconsin. Motion passed