

**DRAFT Minutes of**  
**The American Civil War Shooting Association, Inc.**  
**Annual Corporate Board Meeting**  
February 9, 2013  
513 Storle Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin

1. **Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM and roll call taken. A quorum was present.
  - (a) The Board members in attendance were Dan Gibson (National Commander & Michigan/Indiana Regional Commander) attending via Skype, and Bob Chabalowski (National Deputy Commander & Wisconsin/Illinois Regional Commander), Robert Weber (Adjutant), Darlene Van Kauwenbergh (Paymaster), Dan Graff (Judge Advocate General), all present in person. Les Knutsen (Inspector General) was absent.
  - (b) Team commanders attending were Pat Kaboskey (1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Sharpshooters), Stephen Sherry (15<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin), Dick Tessmann (8<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin and ACWSA Deputy Artillery Officer), Gary Van Kauwenbergh (2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin) and Lance Herdegen (6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin).
  - (c) Also present were Dan Christiansen (of the 15<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin), Mary Borsic (of the 15<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin and WI/IL Regional Quartermaster), Bob Bucher (of the 56<sup>th</sup> Virginia and ACWSA Small Arms Committee Chair) and Karen Gibson (of the 1<sup>st</sup> South Carolina) via Skype.
2. **Minutes.** The Board approved the minutes of the February 10, 2013, meeting as posted on the ACWSA web site.
3. **Reports.**
  - (a) The Paymaster distributed a written report that was subsequently posted to the web site. See < [http://www.acwsa.org/Documents/Meeting\\_Minutes/TreasurerReports/acwsapaymaster2013.pdf](http://www.acwsa.org/Documents/Meeting_Minutes/TreasurerReports/acwsapaymaster2013.pdf)>
  - (b) The Adjutant reported that roster information as of the end of 2012 has been sent out with a request for corrections, updates and new member information so that the roster can provide an accurate count for the insurance for the 2014 season.
  - (c) The Judge Advocate General report concerned the corporation's application for §501(c) status. The December 2012 application has still not been addressed by the IRS, which apparently is not unusual. However, JAG Graff was informed by IRS staff that ACWSA failed to file required tax forms since 2008. A federal law passed in 2006 required non-profits not previously required to file tax returns to begin making informational returns starting with

the 2007 tax year. Gary Van Kauwenbergh volunteered to assist JAG Graff in complying with any required reporting and with attempting to reinstate ACWSA's previous standing with the IRS while continuing to pursue §501(c) status.

4. **Insurance.** After brief discussion, it was determined that no outstanding insurance questions remained. Rob Weber reiterated information previously received from the insurance company that the premium is determined by multiplying an individual rate times the number of people on the Master Roster. There are no brackets or steps in setting the premium. However, if the number of people on the roster changes during the year by less than 10-13 people, it is not administratively cost effective for the insurer to recalculate the premium due.
  
5. **Amendments to the ACWSA By-Laws.**
  - (a) The Board previously approved and adopted amendments to the by-laws but originally provided that the effective date of those amendments would be delayed until 30 days after IRS approval of §501(c) status. The Board voted to instead make the February 2013 amendments effective upon the conclusion of the Board meeting. The amendments will therefore effect the elections for corporate board directors to be held in August 2014.
  
  - (b) The Board also approved an amendment to the by-laws (as amended by the February 2013 amendments) to remove the prohibition against the position of Immediate Past Commander being held by someone who is also the National Commander, National Deputy Commander, Adjutant or Paymaster. Effective at the conclusion of the Board meeting, Article Four, Section 3, paragraph 5, of the By-Laws is amended to read:

5. HOLDING MORE THAN ONE NATIONAL OFFICE. The same person may not hold any of the offices referred to in ~~paragraphs paragraph 1 and 2~~ of this section at the same time. The same person may hold any of the other offices referred to in the section at the same time, but, in that event, the person is entitled to only one vote as an ACWSA director.
  
6. **2014 National Elections.** There was discussion of election procedures. A Deputy National Commander, Adjutant and Paymaster are to be elected in 2014 to take office in January 2015. Each of these positions is a member of the corporation's board of directors. The Adjutant will send out reminders to team captain's after May 1 reminding them that 2014 is an election year and describing the procedure for making a nomination. The deadline for nominations will be August 15, 2014. Ballots for any needed election will be sent out August 31 and must be returned by September 30, 2014, to be counted. The notices and ballots will be sent electronically.

7. **Promoting ACWSA to increase public awareness and membership.** There was discussion involving sharing of experiences and various new ideas. These included posting signage on roads near skirmish events that describe and point towards a Civil War event, as used in the Michigan Region. Lance Herdegen described his contacts with re-enactors interested in experiencing live fire events who might possibly become an ACWSA team. He suggested that ACWSA cannot keep on doing only the same things and expect any increase in membership. Rather, the organization should be open to staging different kinds of shooting events and making changes such as larger targets or shooting events at ranges of less than 50 yards that would encourage new shooters. There was general consensus that regional commanders and skirmish directors should explore options and try out new ideas. In particular, there was agreement that the set up at skirmishes should allow spectators to stand immediate behind the firing line to be able to get the best possible view.
8. **Artillery Registration Form.** Dan Gibson raised the issue of the new artillery registration form and asked how they were working. He particularly wondered if all completed registration forms had been returned to Norman Gibson, the National Artillery Officer, who is setting up a database. Gary Van Kauwenbergh advised that all artillery pieces in the Wisconsin/Illinois region had been registered prior to the 2012 Boscobel skirmish. He advised that the region had only one cannon and some mortars and offered to make sure that Norman Gibson had the information.
9. **Recess.** At 11:30 AM, the meeting was temporarily adjourned, to reconvene at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 22, 2014, at the Bluewater Sportsmen's Club, 4866 Ravenswood Road, Kimball, MI 48074 (near Port Huron, MI).