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**ACWSA MICHIGAN REGION  
SPRING COMMANDERS MEETING MINUTES  
RICHMOND HISTORICAL SCHOOLHOUSE  
MARCH 17, 2019**

Meeting called to order at 10:07 a.m. Teams present: 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan, 1<sup>st</sup> South Carolina, 13<sup>th</sup> Michigan, 15<sup>th</sup> Virginia, 2<sup>nd</sup> Texas, 7<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin, 9<sup>th</sup> Kentucky, Richmond Purcell Battery.

Not present: 18<sup>th</sup> Indiana Battery, CSS Neuse, 8<sup>th</sup> Arkansas

- Review of minutes from meeting November 10, 2018. Motion to accept by Commander Paul, seconded by 15<sup>th</sup> Virginia.
- **OFFICERS REPORT**
- **Commander's Report** Items that would like to be brought forth at the meeting that involve bylaws or rule changes must be submitted prior to the commanders meeting in order to be included on the agenda. Failure to do so may result in the item being tabled until next meeting. Paul passed out a packet containing the current ACWSA rules and bylaws to each team representative for their reference.
- **Adjutant's Report** 86 members registered for 2019 season.
- **Paymaster Report** Balance sheet is in order, everything looks good.
- **Inspector General Report** No report.
- **Small Arms** Need volunteer
- **Artillery** Grayling will be held on Range 8, not Range 35 as in the past. Mike Z. will post a map with directions on Facebook. Mortars at Ashley, Richmond, and Blue Water. Big Guns at Blue Water.
- **Medical Committee** Dave asked that if anything is used from either medical kits please leave a plain note stating what was consumed in the kit so they may be replaced. Chris passed on the new cardiac boards to Diane Gibson to be placed at Blue Water and Richmond with the defibulator units.
- **Recruiting** Lapeer show lots of interest, many people stopped by to talk to Cal and Sherry. Sherry's picture was taken by the local newspaper for an article to be published. Cal was enthusiastic about their efforts and vowed to keep trying.
- **By Laws Committee** Paul discussed the proposed changes to the ACWSA by-laws made by the Western Region. Referring to the handout Paul stated that most of the changes have to do with the election of National Officers. Paul did draw our attention to a proposed change having to do with "joint skirmishes". (Page 3, Part 6) The discussion ensued that the change in wording would effectively limit a skirmish with the N-SSA to a separate skirmish, each organization following its own rules, separate skirmish director, and separate targeting. The only thing in common would be it would occur on the same range at the same time as an ACWSA Skirmish. This is not the intent that the Michigan Region has in holding a skirmish with the N-SSA. The regional commanders present were not in favor of this passage.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Metal targets** Mike brought in scaled photos of two possible target sizes. Both were acorn shaped, one was comparable in size to the rectangular "can" targets we use, the second comparable in size to the 4 x 4 diamonds. Motion by Jim Boeder to have the new target be the larger acorn. Motion passed.

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- **NRA Grant** Still have not heard of anything, may be a few more weeks before we get any feedback from NRA.
- **Jewell Shoot** It has been scheduled for May 3-5, 2019. Boy Scouts will provide concessions. Cal to visit range in the near future and will send out pictures to regional officers to get an idea of what the range looks like. Commander Paul pointed out that per the Fall meeting minutes “(The Jewell Shoot) to be revisited at the spring commanders meeting” for the purpose of the team Commanders having a chance to poll their teams to determine any interest in attending. A commitment had been made to hold the event prior to the spring commanders meeting without gauging the results of the team participation interest level.
- **Examine Rule 3.1 that was used to support motion at fall meeting to change the time of the revolver event** “Unit commanders are asked to make the revolver matches at 90 seconds per event, per ACWSA rules. Unnoticed that previously we have been using 180 seconds per event per pistol” per Fall meeting minutes. The reading of Rule 3.1 states *Target elimination events are events which require the competing teams break, puncture, or knock down the assigned targets as rapidly as possible, with a set maximum time in which to fire, GENERALLY 5 minutes for musket, carbines, and single shot breechloaders, 90-seconds for revolver, and 3 minutes for smoothbores and breechloader repeaters.* The word “generally” was overlooked when the when the motion to change the rule was presented, partially because we did not have the rule book present at the time the motion was made. The rule as written allows at the discretion of the skirmish director to set the maximum times of all events. Therefore, the motion passed at the Fall meeting is voided and reverts back to Rule 3.1 as written.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **National Board Meeting** Much of the meeting covered very general topics. Our discussion turned to insurance coverage – what kind of coverage we have, what is covered, what is not covered, are we covered for allowing walk on spectators to try out our firearms at a skirmish, will the NSSA teams be covered at our skirmishes if they participate. These questions will need to be answered before we can hold a skirmish with NSSA teams.
- **NWT Participation at Richmond Skirmish** Bruce Miller discussed sending invites. At this time this is only an ACWSA skirmish until it has been determined if the NSSA member teams can participate with insurance coverage.
- **Proposal- Select a NWT Skirmish for the ACWSA to participate in as a group** The current ACWSA insurance allows us to participate as long as the skirmish is listed on the official schedule. The NWT's first Maybee skirmish (August 16-18) was suggested as a good skirmish to choose due to the accessibility of the range. Team commanders will poll their teams and we will revisit the topic again at the first Blue Water skirmish June 8-9.
- **Proposal- Standard operating procedure for Schedule of Events program** It has been adopted as standard operating procedure (SOP) that all skirmish schedule of events are to be submitted to the regional commander by the designated skirmish director for approval

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prior to publication for submission to Gary Van Kauwenbergh for inclusion on the ACWSA website. The regional commander or his designate only will submit the final approved version to Gary and can then be disbursed through normal media means.

- **Lapeer Gun Show recruiting efforts** Previously discussed earlier by Cal.
- **Range Supplies** Paul will procure wire at the NSSA Spring Nationals. Dave Mandy has paper targeting he will pass on to use at the Jewell Skirmish and whenever needed. Paul has replaced all the frames at Richmond with the new designed trialed last year. The ends of the uprights are color coded red and are 7.5' tall and the cross beams are 8' in length. He also has the lumber ready to replace Blue Water once the width of the posts are determined.
- **Newsletter** Norm is doing an excellent job on publishing an e- monthly newsletter for the region. He has asked for submission of articles, photos, etc. of general interest to help make this effort an even greater success. Several members have already made submissions, so share your knowledge or photos with the region through this format. The newsletter will be distributed on the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month for so watch your mailboxes.

**WALK IN ITEMS**

- **Motion by Cal** to create a regional quartermaster position to keep at this time an inventory of supplies designated for use (loan) to new shooters. An inventory list will be made and kept in order by the quartermaster and submitted to the regional officers at the beginning and end of each skirmish season. This will include condition of the articles as well as approximate value.

After discussion, the motion to create the quartermaster position was passed, and it was agreed that the position shall be a non- elected post to be appointed by the regional commander.

Sherry Macgregor was appointed by Commander Paul as the first quartermaster of the region.

- **Awards** Possible new design for awards. Submit ideas to Norm. A minie ball design was suggested.
- **Blue Water waiver** Mike discussed a new format for Blue Water – each individual will be issued a card with a waiver number which you will keep and the number will be recorded on file at Blue Water to eliminate the need to repeatedly sign waivers. Mike will handle the details of getting the ACWSA members on board.
- **Discussed creating an ACWSA membership I.D. Card** To identify members who may participate in an NWT skirmish as ACWSA members.
- **Closing remarks** Paul pointed out that the commanders position and the treasure position are up for election at the end of the year. Start your plotting now.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 12:05 P.M.**

**Respectfully Submitted  
Chris Einowski  
Michigan Region Adjutant  
13<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry**

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