



AMA CHARTER 534

Board Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2021

President Bruce Tharpe opened the meeting at 7:00 PM, at the Senior Center with all board members present.

Old Business

Flight Training Update

Rob Merriman had sent all Board Members an email with a draft copy of a proposed “ground school” training curriculum. The Flight Instructor committee had prepared a written checklist of items to be covered in addition to the actual flight time with new pilots. However, an article just published in the December AMA magazine highlighted the reasons clubs struggle with recruiting and retaining new members, and singled out over-complicating the process for beginners as the biggest culprit. Rob said that the committee agreed with the article and would consider ways to voluntarily offer that training for any who desired it without making it a requirement for new pilots.

Gravel From The County

Jess Walls had requested gravel to be used to mitigate standing pools of water. Scott Hudson said he had spoken with Steve at the County who indicated they were willing to help. A person from the Roads Department will come and evaluate what we need and where to dump it. Scott also asked about possible help with dust abatement on the road for next spring, but Steve indicated that due to changes at the County he did not think that would happen.

NW Scale Event

Eric shared a communication with NWSAM regarding the proposed competition to be hosted by our club next year. They told Eric that while they still wanted an event in Southern Oregon, they were also focusing on starting an event in Wenatchee and decided to make that their priority for next year. However they suggested that they could help put on a seminar this year on how to judge scale events in order to prepare us for having an event of our own (as they consider managing the judging matrix to be the most challenging aspect of putting on such an event). It was suggested that the seminar could be included in our Scale Event scheduled for May 14-15 and John Gaines (CD) said he was open to including that.

Proposed Full Size Glider “Ground Art”

Jay Strickland had made a trip to the County to determine whether the proposed use of the donated glider as a landmark at the entrance to our field would be allowed. He had to meet with several different people in different departments, but learned that in order to minimize the required fees, our best course would be to not build a permanent base (thus triggering a \$96 building permit fee). There would still be a \$75 zoning review fee. Jay had an idea for how to construct a base that would only be staked into the ground, thus meeting the definition of “ground art” as opposed to a structure. Jay is going to confirm with the County that his interpretation is correct before we continue any further.

Rogue Eagle Annual Awards

A REACT was sent to our membership asking for their votes for our annual awards and to date only a small percentage have voted. Since we will be announcing the results at the January membership meeting, it was decided to promote further voting on the day of the Chile Dog Fun Fly. Written ballots will be made available and names will be checked to ensure that no one votes more than once.

Larry Myers Stepping Down

Bruce notified the Board that Larry Myers is stepping down as CD for both the Air Show and the Float Fly. Larry will be sorely missed and the Board appreciates Larry's years of commitment and leadership. Art suggested a committee be formed for the Air Show to consider all that needs to be addressed. John Gaines volunteered to be on that committee and to assume the CD responsibility. Board members will submit suggestions to Bruce for a Committee Chair. There is no replacement for the Float Fly at this time.

New Business

Proposed 2022 Event Calendar

The Board reviewed the draft event calendar and made corrections. Those will be submitted to Sean by Rob, and Sean will then contact any event coordinators on the calendar that are not directly part of our club to confirm their events. The calendar will then be presented to the members at the January meeting for approval.

Treasurer Report

Art shared that we received a registration renewal for our boat in the amount of \$76.40, an annual corporation fee to the state of Oregon for \$50, and the contract renewal with the Senior Center for their facility for 2022 at \$40 per month. Jay thought he recalled a discount for paying the entire year up front and Art will look into that. Art asked for a projection on the large expenses that are anticipated for next year...items expressed were weed control (estimated \$2,500) and re-sealing and striping the runway (estimated \$3,000). Art also said that currently expenses are slightly exceeding income from dues. Suggestions for ways to improve prompt payment of dues were discussed, including the possibility of increasing dues by a token amount that would only take effect after February (so as to not cause an increase for those who pay on time). Eric made a motion to not send out renewal stickers to members in an effort to save the \$70 of postage. There is no change in the combination for the gate lock, so there is no real need to issue a new sticker except the date on the sticker. Eric was confident that renewals could be tracked and nobody ever really checks the stickers on cards anyway. Art seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Wind Socks

Jay purchased three new wind socks for the club (\$18). Someone had already put up a new one, so Jay put the extras in the Con Ex.

LiPo Battery disposal

Sean had brought to our attention a bucket of LiPo batteries that were abandoned at the field and requested we address notifying club members of their responsibility to take care of their own. Sean also shared the policies of those businesses that accept old batteries (Home Depot, Lowes, Batteries Plus, Al's) and clarified that they must be discharged completely first. Methods for discharging were discussed. Eric made a motion to create signage at the field informing members of their responsibilities, Art seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Bruce volunteered to pick up the batteries and dispose of them and a REACT will go out to members informing them of the issue.

Submitted by Rob Merriman