

Arctic Bird Dog Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
1st Quarter 2025
Date: March 4, 2025
Location: Zoom

In Attendance:

President: James Ohlinger
Treasurer: Jessie Chmielowski
Secretary: Dawn Gerety
Bird Program: Chuck Stielstra
Website: Dana Stewart
Membership: Tina Veldkamp

Call to Order

President James Ohlinger called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the November 2024 Board of Directors meeting were reviewed. No corrections were noted, and the minutes were approved as presented.

President's Report

New Trailer: James purchased a new trailer for the Association for \$8,200. The Treasurer will provide reimbursement for the purchase.

Vice President's Report

Long-Term Goals: Need to brainstorm a long-range plan to build and retain Association membership. Consider strategic branding, including leveraging the bird program and implementing aggressive advertising before January.

Gun Safety: Discussion on forming a Gun Safety Committee to enhance gun handler safety during training and events. Research best practices from out-of-state clubs.

Secretary's Report

No report.

Treasurer's Report

Bank Balance: \$28,688 (bird purchases and new memberships not yet accounted for).

Insurance: Successfully adjusted renewal date to January (instead of July) to avoid conflicts with training season.

New Trailer: Treasurer to reimburse James \$8,200 for trailer purchase.

GoDaddy Account: Successfully renewed for two years.

Standing Committee Reports

Bird Program

2025 Roles: Volunteers are needed for bird shipment handling, pen maintenance, and other tasks. James will address this at the upcoming General Membership meeting.

Pen Maintenance: James will compile a list of necessary upgrades and repairs. The Association pays \$2,000 for the pen lease but must maintain the structure.

Bird Orders: Sales are progressing as expected.

Website

Payment Platform: Consider transitioning all membership and bird purchase payments to an online system. Discussion will be brought to the next Membership meeting to gauge reactions from members who prefer check payments.

Sportsman's Clause: Randy will provide Dana with text to upload to the website.

Membership

Membership Data: Tina will gather active membership numbers for the upcoming General Membership meeting.

Individual vs. Family Memberships: Clarification that family memberships are associated with a single email and there are no cost reductions for additional family members.

By-laws

No report.

Events

Pointer Novice Class:

Registration has opened.

Confirm trainers and assistants.

'Paw Room' rental space is limited; consider relocating to Eagle River fields if weather permits.

Chukar Challenge:

New score sheet for flushers; James will bring printouts to the General Meeting.

Pointing Judges: James and Randy to confirm roles are filled.

Family Field Day:

James will be the event lead.

Randy will confirm Bud's availability for assistance.

Discussion on increasing event costs.

Proposal to pre-advertise bird sales and raise day-of purchase price to \$30 per bird (limit of three), contingent on availability.

Need a supervisor for day-of bird handling and payments.

Consider using the Treasurer's personal Venmo account for electronic payments.

Pointing Hunt Test:

James will check if judges traveling to Alaska can arrive earlier to reduce travel costs.

Flushing Hunt Test:

Discussion on increasing the entry fee.

Unfinished Business

Event Signage: Research costs for new signage for Northern events.

New Business

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.