

**ETRC Board Meeting, Wednesday, 3/16/22**  
**Pegasus Technologies Building, Lenoir City, TN**

**Present from the Board:** Mike Smith, J. Michael Evans, Alan Bruhin, Karen Edwards, Michele Fletcher, Jim Pearce, Denise Chambers

**Absent, excused:** Luke McCoy, Jeff McNutt, Cory Smith, Peter Torok

**Others Members Present:** None

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present with 7 people present. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports**

***President's Report:***

***Secretary's Report.*** Karen Edwards.

- **Minutes:** Last meeting was 2/18/22 (Banquet); minutes approved by a majority of Board members and sent to the club website on 2/22/22. Alan moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval. J. Michael seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- **Correspondence:** Insurance renewal received and paid for, covering club liability. Also requested insurance certificates for various landowners; have received one for Cory's farm for the judges seminar but no others yet; Equisure says they will send them along with the new policy.
- **Membership:** Membership at the end of December was 58. 28 people so far have renewed or joined for 2022, including one who paid twice last year and asked for his check to be carried over for this year, and two free comped memberships. Denise Chambers renewed at the meeting, so now we're at 29. The membership year started March 1; people are dropped off the rolls if not renewed by June 1. Will send out individual email reminders before the first of April.

***Treasurer's Report:*** Current balance is \$32,307.65 after paying for duck pen & before depositing Denise's membership money & repaying Alan for expenses due for the judging seminar. Have refunded all registration money received for the Judges seminar. Still owe myself \$2,698.59 for the new ribbon order, plus \$125.57 for non-perishable groceries for seminar / hunt test lunches, ~\$40 for perishable groceries for seminar (which we are eating tonight); plus refund for stamps for mailing 5 refunds, construction & insurance checks.

**Old Business**

1. ***Judges Seminar, March 12-13:*** Canceled because of weather. Karen emailed membership plus all non –members who had registered, and Jim called all the out-of-area registrants.

We ended up with 15 registrants in all, including both Vencilles and 3 other non-member judges. All registration fees have been returned.

- a. Reschedule dates: After some discussion, we decided to try rescheduling this for June 25-26, 2022. Earlier dates won't work as they are right in the middle of the hunt test season. Alan will call AKC and then the motel to see if these dates will work, and if so, will re-book the seminar for those dates.
- b. Hotel reservation fee: we paid \$250 to reserve the room. Alan will ask the hotel if this will carry over, but it is unlikely that it will. We will probably have to pay another \$250 to reserve the room for the new date.
- c. MNRC Grant: Alan called MNRC about our \$600 grant. They told him it will still be good for when we have rescheduled.

## 2. **Duck Pen:**

- a. Concrete base poured inside Cory's little barn by Alguire Construction 3/11/22, \$5,318, invoice has been paid. There was some discussion about this being poured the Friday before a major snowstorm, and whether it would hold up as a result. Mike Smith traveled to Cory's and tarped the exterior portion, which is the duck pond, and said when he went back on Monday to retrieve his tarps, it all looked good with no cracks. Hopefully it will be fine.
- b. Now we need to build a pen around it. Two ideas were discussed:
  - i. An inexpensive pen (probably around \$200-300) built out of 6' tall chicken wire, using existing posts and some additional wooden framing for top and bottom for stability, also using the existing walls of the barn for part of the pen.  
**Advantages:** cheaper. Bigger (would use all 30' of the concrete base).  
**Disadvantages:** More work to put it up, possible issues with varmints unless we also install an electric wire around it. Not portable.
  - ii. Use snap-together 6' x10' chain link 'dog panels'. We would need 5 plain panels at \$100 each, plus one gate panel at \$110 from Rural King, plus something for a top. After discussion, decided the best option is to use a tarp with some 2x4's under it for support. This pen would not use the back 10' of the concrete pad, the part which is walled on 3 sides, and would only be 20' x 10'. The back 10' could be used for storing duck feed, duck crates and other supplies needed. **Advantages:** Sturdier. Easier to construct. Can be easily expanded to 30' for another \$200 if we decide we need more room. Can be dismantled and taken away for use elsewhere if Cory decides to move or if we otherwise lose access to his property. **Disadvantages:** More expensive, probably around \$700-\$800 total, on top of the \$5,318 we have already spent. Smaller.

After some discussion, Michele moved that we go with the panels and authorize Mike to buy what he needs to finish the pen with a tarped top. However, Mike will delay a day in purchasing the panels to give Denise time to contact her family connection at a co-op to see if we can get the panels at a lower price. Alan seconded the motion, which passed with five Ayes and one Nay (the President can only vote in case of a tie). Once he has the panels, Mike S will contact people for help in putting the pen together.

3. ***April 19-20 Hunt Test: Tuesday/Wednesday: Double Junior / Senior, Brian Caldwell's***
- a. AKC fees paid, events #2022-3528-13&14. Judges approved, open now for entries, not many yet (6 as of the time of the meeting).
  - b. Club volunteers: Cory will bring the big trailer over to Brian's at some point in the next several weeks. Mike Smith will bring the small trailer.
  - c. Motel reservations have been made for judges at the Dayton Best Western; Queen rooms, non-smoking. Karen will write emails to the judges confirming the arrangements before the end of the month.
  - d. Bird techs: Caldwell is supplying Bob Smith & Ryan Campbell. We need another one but may have to just rotate club members around to cover a third station.
  - e. Ducks: Mike Evans says ducks will be received by April 10 from Kiley.
  - f. Lunches: J & K will do, have purchased the necessary long-lasting supplies already so just meat, bread, cheese, tomatoes and lettuce are remaining to buy.
  - g. Marshals: need to check with Lois to see if she will be coming.
  - h. Entry Express has decided not to supply printed catalogs any more, and any printing to be done will be up to us based on e-catalogs they will supply. EE has not mentioned anything about not charging us for catalogs which they have in the past; it will be interesting to see if we are still paying last year's printer prices for an e-catalog. We will probably need to print out several copies to have on hand, and are concerned that this is going to be a bit of a disaster. Marshaling will be more important than ever as a result of this switch.

4. ***Other Hunt Tests in 2022.*** we have the following dates and locations:

- a. May 28-29, Saturday/Sunday: 1 flight Master, double Junior, double Senior at Hiwassee, plus a second flight of Master at Brian's. AKC fees paid, events #2022-3528-06 & 07. On Entry Express. Caldwell is OK with us using his farm for one flight Master; Michele has gotten approval for Hiwassee.
  - i. Need one more JH / SH judge. Alan is working with AKC and disapproved judge Wes Bowman to see if we can get him cleared to judge JH only. If so, the current plan is to have him judge Junior both days, and see if Mike Sales will do Senior both days. The other two will rotate.
  - ii. After some discussion, we decided to have Master B at Caldwell's with judges Ethan Corkren and Daniel Overstreet; Master A would be at Hiwassee with Robby Griffin and Laurice Williams Sr.
  - iii. Ducks: we are good with getting ducks from Kiley once we know the numbers we need. We will also order an addition 6-10 ducks for use at the Judges Seminar at the end of June, assuming that is the date that is approved; asking Cory to take care of a fairly small number of ducks for 3 weeks shouldn't be too onerous unless he will be gone for much of that time on vacation.
  - iv. Bird techs: Alan has contacted the Wildlife Association coordinator, Robert Brewer, who says he is interested in providing bird techs for the Hiwassee site. We will need 16-20 but can get by with as few as 12. Caldwell has been asked to supply 4 for Master B at his property.
  - v. Other volunteers needed, will need to get commitments as time goes on.

- b.* September 20-21, Tuesday / Wednesday: Midweek Master Only (66 dogs), Brian Caldwell's. On Entry Express, Caldwell is OK with using his farm, AKC application OK pending judges. Judges not yet selected.
  - c.* October 22-23, Saturday / Sunday, 2 flights Master, double Junior, double Senior. On Entry Express, AKC application not yet completed pending info on location. Location not yet pinned down -- possibly at Ken Campbell's, possibly somewhere else. J. Michael reported that Ken says he's OK with it but can't yet commit this far in advance. Hiwassee won't set their schedule until early July, but we should try to get a word into them that we are interested in that weekend to try to see if they will save room for us if things are looking iffy with Campbell by then. Other places discussed: We could use Brady Collins Dogtown property for a single flight of Master, especially if we decide to have an owner / handler qual on Friday. It's not big enough for more than one test setup, though. Other possibilities: use Caldwell's for one Master flight, plus a Junior on Saturday and a Senior on Sunday. That would knock out having another Master flight or a second Junior and Senior. If we could find another place to have two master flights, we could do a double JH / SH at Caldwell's. No judges yet.
  - d.* November 1-2, Tuesday / Wednesday, single flight Master, Brian Caldwell's. On Entry Express, Caldwell is OK with using his farm, AKC is OK with dates, no judges yet.
5. **Equipment:** any repair or equipment issues unresolved from the fall test? Mike Smith reported that one of the Thunder sticks has a stripped end where the gas canister screws into the housing. Jim says that's just a blowtorch that can be gotten from Home Depot, and he will get it Sunday and see about fixing it. There are several others that don't work well and we need to check them out, see if they also need new blowtorches. Jim was able to get pins for the wingers, and we have extra rubber if needed.
  6. **Ribbons:** Ordered, will be received on or before April 10.
  7. **Club Trial:** We have one scheduled at Cory's on April 2, but no one has yet expressed interest in coming. Jim and Karen will be in Oregon; Luke is working nonstop; Mike Evans has a judging assignment; Michele is judging agility. We need to discuss with the people who come to the training session this coming Sunday how many of them are planning to come, and also Karen will send out an email to the membership on Monday asking for RSVPs, so we know whether we should go ahead and plan on it, or whether we need to cancel.

**New Business:**

1. **New Members:** None for first reading
2. **Any other new business?** Banquet 2022: Karen suggested that we try to pin down the Bearden Banquet Hall for next February's banquet, and try to get a Saturday night this time. We looked at dates, and decided the two best are February 18 or February 25, with

the 25<sup>th</sup> being preferred. Alan volunteered to call the Banquet Hall and try to get this pinned down.

**Adjourn:** There being no other new business, Michele moved that we adjourn. Jim seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Karen Edwards, Secretary

Changes:

1. Luke did not make the motion to adjourn since he wasn't here. Mike Smith, 3/17/22.
2. Peter Torok – changed incorrect dates for October test, 3/17/22

Approvals:

1. Jim Pearce
2. Peter Torok
3. Mike Evans
4. Michele Fletcher
5. Jeff McNutt
6. Karen Edwards