

The Richland County Fish & Game Protective Association Inc.
MEMBER MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 4, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Joe Tucker. Ron Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance and Hank Webb spoke an opening prayer.

1. Ron Robinson then read the roll call:
 - Joe Tucker, President - Present
 - Mike Hoffman, Vice-President - Present
 - Cory Clark, Treasurer - Present
 - Ron Robinson, Secretary - Present
 - Misti Clark, Membership Secretary - Present
 - Matt Carey, Board Member - Absent
 - Steve Chambers, Board Member - Present
 - Dan Kardasz, Board Member - Present
 - Jan Koon, Board Member - Present
 - Tim Maust, Board Member - Absent
 - Hank Webb, Board Member - Present
 - Jeff Williams, Board Member – Absent

There were 17 other members present.

2. Ron Robinson then read the minutes from the August 15th, 2024, Board Meeting. There was one change noted to the date on the Treasurers report from June to July. There was a motion from James Tucker to accept the report with noted change. It was seconded by Ron Muth. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

3. Cory Clark then gave the treasurer's report:

There were no additions or corrections noted. Gerry miller made a motion to accept the report as given. It was seconded by Rick Miller. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

4. Misti Clark then gave the membership secretary report. All good.

5. Joe then moved to committee reports:
 - Archery – Dan, nothing new.

Building/Grounds – Steve, going to try and get picnic tables stained before end of season. Need to spray mildew on siding on the clubhouse. He has obtained some spray and will get done.

Farm – Mike, It's dry. Mowed fire lanes around fields. Removed widow maker branches along fields. Mowed paths in fields for hunting about a foot tall and the edges at 45-degree angle. Would like feedback from hunters as they get into fields. Going to try and finish the push back on field 13 before pheasant season starts. Won't start anymore until after hunting season ends. Culvert in driveway replaced and looks great. Culvert west of driveway in power line replaced. Sprayed for briars in most fields.

Lake – Jeff absent nothing to report.

Pheasants – Joe, all seems to be moving along on track.

Rifle/Pistol Ranges – Hank, all done on pistol range. Will work on rifle range next season.

Sporting Clays – Jan, 49 shooters last shoot. Still need help it is all they can do to keep up on shoot days. All members are asked to provide any help they can.

Sportsmanship – Ron, reminded everyone to read the standing rules again as hunting season has started. It is recommended that people wear orange when in woods and fields during hunting seasons.

Trap – Joe, Matt is absent, but the special shoot last Monday went very well.

Next on the agenda was old business. Joe asked to move to new business first then come back to old business.

6. Now that we discussed the new business lets get into old business:
 - A. Possible funding for new Club House – Since the federal government has us listed as a 501 (c) (4) we cannot currently provide tax deductible receipts for donations towards a new clubhouse. Joe will pursue getting this changed to a c3. There was a lot of discussion on how to raise funds for a new clubhouse. We will continue to discuss and review all options.
 - B. Review of bird tagging procedures for Licensed Shooting Preserve – Joe discussed when you need to tag birds and when not required. Anyone bringing birds to the club to release and train with must enter the type of bird (quail, pheasant, hen, chukar, etc.), and the amount released. All birds brought to the club to release for training

or hunting must be tagged with leg tags in box by the field signup area in the clubhouse. The tags numbers must also be recorded on the sign in/out log. When done training and/or hunting members must record the game taken and the leg tag numbers of those being removed from the club. This must be done to keep us in compliance with the ODNR regulations. Also, if for any reason you are stopped and checked you must have the game tagged. Any questions please contact Joe for clarity.

C. Youth Hunt – Mike, progressing along nicely. Misti reported that in just four days there are already 23 kids registered. Mike noted he has some volunteers already but not near enough. Please contact him to volunteer any time you can for the hunt on 10/19/24. Many local companies have made donations. All will be listed at the hunt. He has also purchased two 20-gauge shotguns to raffle to youth the day of the hunt among many other things. The goal is that every youth hunter will get something. The game warden has been invited and will be here although he has a prior commitment for the morning hours.

7. Joe opened the discussion for new business:

A. Discussion of 501(c)(3) vs. 501(c)(4) – Joe stated he has contacted many offices about our legal status. The state of Ohio has us listed as a C3, but the federal government has us listed as a c4. There are many differences. One of the biggest is the ability to provide tax deductible receipts to anyone giving donations. There was a lot of discussion on how this could have happened and what needs to be done to get the state and the federal government aligned. In the end it was decided that Joe will pursue trying to get our federal status changed to the c3 status. Nobody really knows why it was done this way, but we will try to get it straightened out, but it may take some time. Joe will keep everyone informed as he proceeds.

B. September Workday – Joe stated that if we keep the September workday as we schedule all others it will be on opening archery deer season day. We have a lot of archery hunters, and this would not be good to have workers out on this day. He opened the floor to discussion. After some discussion it was decided to move the workday to September 14th, at the usual 8am to noon timeframe.

This date will not interfere with sporting clay shoots or the deer archery opener.

C. New Driveway Sign Proposals – Cory Clark introduced four designs for a new sign at the entrance to the driveway. He asked all in attendance to stop by the table and put a check mark on the one they liked the most so this project can get completed.

D. Hunter Safety Course – Buck Rodgers thanked the club for use of the clubhouse for the hunter's safety course. There were 38 youth that attended and received their certificate that day. What an awesome day! He also thanked the club for the use of the pistol range and 6 venture scouts received certification that day as well. Joe thanked Buck for his ongoing efforts with the use and pledged continued support from the club.

There was no further new business discussed.

8. David Kuhn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was quickly seconded by James Tucker. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.