

Manzano Mountain Gun Club

General Meeting 17 December 2009 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:42 pm by Club president Jim Greene. Fifteen members were present.

1. Special Address.

Also attending at the beginning of the meeting was Richard Lopez, former mayor of Willard who is running for the office of Torrance County Sheriff. Club president Jim Greene invited Mr. Lopez to address the club. Mr. Lopez emphasized his background in law enforcement and his willingness to reach out to local (town) law enforcement and community members if elected to serve as county sheriff. Mr. Lopez described himself as "community-oriented, straight shooter, conservative." He is currently the chairman of the Republican Party in Torrance County.

2. Minutes.

Jim Greene asked to clarify one point in the November Minutes. While the Minutes as written were not inaccurate, Jim was concerned that some might infer that Mr. Henry Lara from BNSF endorsed our plan for the shooting range on the Lambert's property. Mr. Lara did not endorse our plan to build a range on the Lambert property; but he didn't say no either. Mr. Lara recommended that we contact the BNSF general manager in Belen.

Denise Immerwahr moved to accept the Minutes as submitted; Paul Chavez seconded; all approved.

3. Treasurer's Report.

Ken Jackson reported that our balance is 19¢ higher due to interest, and that although it may seem nothing else happened financially during the month, that would be misleading. But in the past month, all expenses were immediately offset with matching incomes, so although there was activity in the account, its balance stayed level (except, of course, for that 19¢ interest!)

The club spent \$1400 to acquire 2 rifles for the upcoming raffle; to keep the club balance healthy until the raffle tickets are sold, the Chungs loaned the club \$1400. And \$120 was donated from the club to the Starr family fund, to assist in their recovery from the fire that destroyed their home; that was covered by private donations from club members.

The club's current balance is \$2651.25.

George Immerwahr moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as given; Kevin Dunlap seconded; all approved.

4. Report: Range Development.

Jim Greene gave the Range Development report.

Jim Greene, Alan Clute, Robert Chung, and George Immerwahr met with Jim Lambert on his property to discuss the range layout. Jim Lambert was recommending that we move the neighbor's access road to the north, so that it was along the Lambert property line; this ultimately would allow the Lamberts to keep more of their land out of our range. Both pistol and rifle ranges would now be facing south, shooting away from the train tracks. It is assumed that BNSF would approve the range under these conditions.

At the next land committee meeting, which was at the Greene's bus barn, Jim G., Alan, Robert, George, and Thomas Bromley discussed the new layout. Thomas pointed out that the new range layout resulted in shooters facing south, into the sun. The committee began questioning whether we want to spend our time, (grant) money, and energy developing a range where the shooters cannot see the targets. Additional considerations relate to the safety of the firing line when

a train approaches (too noisy to hear any range commands) and the great expense of moving the access road.

After some discussion of the previous issues by the club, Jim posed the following challenge:

- **Can we find any other possible locations that could be developed for our range?**
- **Can we find them by our next meeting in January?**
- **We are looking for a “nice peaceful quiet place to shoot our guns” (George’s expression) that we can lease for 10–20 years, within 15–20 miles of Mountainair.**

The committee has not ruled out the Lambert property, but their feeling is that we still need to discover what is available to us before committing to the expense and south-facing range that we would need to have at the Lambert property.

Jim Greene would like to hear 3 or 4 proposals for other land at the January meeting.

5. Report: Raffle.

As Robert and Barbara Chung, who have organized the raffle for us, are out-of-town, Jim Greene gave the raffle report. Jim brought 140 of the 150 total tickets with him; the Chungs must still have the other 10. Jim disbursed the tickets, and Kathleen kept a record of who took which tickets.

Raffle tickets are \$20 each. Each ticket represents 3 chances to win a prize. The first prize is a new Firebird custom M4-LE .223 caliber semi-auto rifle. The second prize is a mint condition Thompson T/C Custom Shop 17 Remington rifle with a 2.8-10x 40 mm Simmons scope. The third prize is a new Marlin Model 925 bolt action .22 rifle.

The winning tickets will be drawn at 7 pm on February 18, at Ancient Cities, at the club’s February meeting. One need not be present to win. These are fantastic odds on some excellent rifles, so get your tickets pronto. If you need help finding someone selling tickets, Kathleen (herself@ackc.name) has the complete list.

6. Old Business: Membership Requirements.

Membership requirements will be presented in January.

7. Announcements.

Jim Greene announced that several members of the gun club collected money for Tanisha Starr and her family, after the fire that destroyed their home. We can do another collection as well if more members want to donate to the Starrs.

Alan Clute suggested that we have a shoot together monthly or so. It would help the club as an entity to shoot together. Thomas Bromley felt that would help us get used to being on a range with others. Jim Greene said that it couldn’t yet be a club event; it would need to be friends only.

Finally, as it was difficult for several people (including the secretary) to get to the meeting on time tonight, the meeting time for January is moved to 6 pm.

8. Next Meeting.

The next meeting will be Thursday, January 21, 2010, at **6 pm** at Ancient Cities Cafe.

Denise Immerwahr moved to adjourn; Paul Chavez seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Clute, secretary