

Sept 18th, 2023 General Agenda

Began at 7:03 PM

1. Adoption of Agenda – Greg Bird motioned, Doug Balla seconded.
❖**CARRIED.**

2. **Approval of Minutes from May 2023**
Presented via website. Madeline moved. Joel seconded
❖**CARRIED.**

3. **Business Arising from minutes.**
 - 3.1 Range Projects – Fibre (Rick Blakeley) – Projects are just finishing. There are a few hiccups. The Range Safety Project in collaboration with the City and Province. Volunteer efforts were great. Still paying bills. Rick will finalize the costs and the final report. LFGA spent more than what the budget was. Greg Bird wondering how much our budget was over – Rick thinks about double. There is about \$800,000 in Sustainability. Greg Bird is impressed with the Clubs health as many clubs have much lower membership and are having conversations about closing. LFGA has kept membership and grown in membership. Rick does not recommend increasing the Range fee or the Sustainability fee portion of the LFGA membership. Rick treats the volunteers with dinners. Electrical is up 3x what we were at in the past.
 - 3.1.2 Madeline Balla reported 75 people at the *Sight In Clinic* on Saturday.

 - 3.2 **Awards & Categories** (Revising the awards system for bird, fish and big game). Vic Stasiuk and chairs are going to meet and discuss how the LFGA awards work and streamline the process. Digitization will occur as well.

 - 3.3 **Banquet** (Deb Clarke) – A survey will be sent out to LFGA Membership to get votes on dates, location, awards, and meal. The Committee will finalize the questions – this needs to happen as soon as possible. Looking for donations of wild game and prizes. Individuals on the banquet committee are Justin Rozell, Eric Trudell, Sheila Ferguson, Brett, Jim Clarke, Deb Clarke and Miya Clarke.

 - 3.4 **Swag** (Michelle Sylvestre) – Michelle is working with Fully Promoted to get a selection of items available to the membership leading up to the Christmas season. It will be available for a limited time.

4. **Correspondence**
 - 4.1 Mike Habitat Projects Update (Written Report) – report attached.

4.2 Wild Turkey in Alberta Working Group (Jim Clarke). Presented from email. Recommendation from the Executive to donate \$5,000 to the Wild Turkey Release from the LFGA General Account. Jim Clarke moves that LFGA donate \$5,000 in association with ACA for the 2024 year from the General Account to support the Wild Turkey Project in Alberta. Seconded Joel Rigby.

❖**CARRIED.**

5. **Treasurer's Report** (Madeline Balla)

None.

6. **New Business**

6.1 LFGA Participation in Lethbridge Cottonwood Reforestation (George Fairs) – Lethbridge City is doing a Cottonwood Reforestation Project, George will be looking for volunteers which will be asked for through Wild Apricot. They will not be planted on the range.

6.2 LFGA Resolutions (Ian Gazeley) Ian explained how the LFGA resolutions work at the Club level, then to Zone and finally to AFGA Conference.

There are changes in the process. If there were resolutions passed at AFGA 3 times it would get forwarded to government. Any one in the club can put resolutions forward. They get voted on in the General Meeting. Any CARRIED resolution goes to Zone. There are several categories.

Resolutions attached with corrections and modifications as discussed at the meeting.

Hunting 1: Moved by Ian Gazeley. Seconded by Doug Balla.

Discussion: Collard Doves can be hunted now but they are difficult to identify when they are flying by. Close to Mourning Doves in size and shape. Morning doves are heard in Sept. October. Greg Bird said politically if you tell the scientists when it should be there will be push back. Ian can edit the briefs but cannot change the resolution.

❖**CARRIED.**

Hunting 2: Moved by Ian Gazeley. Seconded by Greg Bird.

❖**CARRIED.**

Hunting 3: Ian Gazeley moved Greg Bird seconded.

Discussion: Will this impact current management of cougars. Currently Boot season starting in Sept. through to end of November in 200 Cougar Management Areas. Provides opportunity, encourages people to purchase tags. Can't use hounds in boot season areas. Idea is to target higher elevation areas. Boot season = no hounds.

❖**CARRIED.**

Hunting 4:

Discussion: 8 years ago there was a review - there is history against this type of resolution. Harvest was going over 15%, so they closed it. George Fairs spends money on tags even if he doesn't have a chance of using them. He thinks this is a loss of revenue for it to not exist. It's been about 8 years since this conversation took place. Rick Blakeley stated that it will also fit in to discussion on outfitter tags. Greg Bird asked if it would it be better to go forward as a recommendation to AFGA, it could show our clubs strength for AFGA. A resolution would get tabled. Amend to make it a recommendation. Jim Clarke stated it cannot go forward as it is not a specific area. Jim C. it would have to be a specific localized area to be a recommendation. Could we use 300's. Jim - that's a broad area. Greg Bird said it can be a letter rather than included in the resolution process. Ian G. the provincial level will likely reject it.

Redraw it as a resolution.

Ian moves to put it in as a recommendation for the 300 Zone (Porcupine Hills) to start a discussion. Deb Clarke noted that it will not be discussed as a discussion. Greg Bird doesn't see it going to the floor, rather as discussion for AFGA.

Ian Gazeley moves to write a letter to AFGA to discuss at the provincial letter. Rick and Ian will work on it.

❖ **CARRIED.**

Jim Clarke opposed.

Hunting 5: Moved by Ian Gazeley. Seconded by George Fairs.

❖ **CARRIED.**

Environment 1: Moved by Ian Gazeley. Seconded by Dave Fisher.

❖ **CARRIED.**

7. **AFGA Report** (Sheila Ferguson) – Zone 1 meeting September 24th. Ian Gazeley will present his research on Big Horn Sheep. Zone 1 is looking for a Hunting Chair, Environment etc. There are projects that you could also help with. Ian would like to pass on his Hunting Chair position. AFGA is changing brand and likely name.

8. **Chair Executive Business**

8.1 Membership: (Madeline Balla)

2238 to date – 61 behind 2022

8.2 Casino is in 2 years. (Madeline Balla)

8.2 Board of Governors (Marilyn Peterson)

Elections in November – need 1st year Board of Governors.

Contact George Fairs and Marilyn Peterson with nominations. LFGA awards please submit to Marilyn Peterson and George Fairs. All info is

on the website and will be emailed. December 31st, 2023 is the deadline. Consult lfga.club for information.

8.3 Dave Fisher – forums for members? Michelle Sylvestre noted it would need a dedicated moderator volunteer. If anyone is interested please come forward.

Greg Bird moved to adjourn.

Jeff Deuschle seconded.

Adjourned.