



EAA Chapter 609

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 16, 2024

Location: Chehalis Airport 900 NW Airport Rd, Chehalis, WA 98532

Start: 6:01 PM

Present: Jeri Mainero (President), John Cordell (Vice President), Samantha Andrea (Treasurer), and Jen Wirt (Secretary), Ken Olsen (Board), Audrey (Board), Susie Wissler (Board), David Vandewater (Board)

Guest: Potential YE Coordinator **Brandon Rakes**

Agenda: **Brandon Rakes** and Board discussion around 2024 YE Rallies and coordinator position

PowerPoint Presentation

Brandon Rakes provided 7 articles regarding his experience and history of a YE coordinator and providing YE flights. **Brandon Rakes** shared recent correspondence between themselves and the 609 Chapter President **Jeri Mainero** as a way to reduce conflict. **Jeri** informed **Brandon Rakes** that all correspondence between himself and her had been shared with all officers and board members.

Brandon Rakes provided several “resume” items as what they are passionate in and how they have been engaged in the 609 chapter and feeling his “good standing” was called into question. Reiterated his summary of the EAA YE program in Chehalis.

Why Does the Airport care?: “Allies in aviation” and feels that number of allies reached is critical in their thoughts and vision in the YE Program.

YE Coordinator Candidate Brandon Rakes opened up the questions.

Questions/Discussion:

John Cordell further asked about **Brandon Rakes** their impression of guidelines. **Brandon Rakes** expressed difference of opinion on 1-on-1 flights and feels that they should be open for up to 3 children per flight. Continued to share their process for Pre-flight during YE Rally flights which include speaking with family, flight, photos, and debrief. Stated that the objective of the YE Program is to reach, not necessarily lasting interest in aviation, which is their interpretation of providing a quality experience.

John Cordell further inquiry around creating procedure around “repeat” kids who would like a more 1-on-1.

Susie Wissler asked about YE Coordinator Candidate how they envision rally that included potentially

1. Establishing a clinic for pilots to be able too become more familiar with YE flights.

2. Propose “1” rally day and blocking a time period after the 4th of July until after August. Potentially tying a rally day with Chehalis events or other city events. (**Brandon Rakes** shared their own feedback about a previous YE attendee.)
3. Open to staying grounded during what would be considered a YE Rally and smaller events they are able to fly.

Jeri asked about scheduling. YE Coordinator Candidate shared that he would use EAA scheduling personally and potentially enlist his wife to help with scheduling.

Ken asked about feedback from previous YE Pilots not wanting to return to the larger scale YE rallies. **Brandon Rakes** shared that they feel there should be a debrief after rally to obtain feedback and attempt to make changes. Further asked about how to mitigate damaged items and inappropriate discussion during YE flights when there are more than 1 YE per flight. **Brandon Rakes** shared that they could be addressed in pilot debriefing. **Brandon Rakes** elaborated that their primary objective as outreach whether that brings in another chapter or other agency to bring in as many youth and families as possible.

Brandon Rakes believes that the EAA should be made aware that they feel that flying 3 children can have the same outcome as doing 1-on-1's.

John Cordell asked about **Brandon Rakes** their conversation with EAA National and stating that the 609 chapter had not been holding “meetings” at the airport. **John Cordell** provided further explanation. **Brandon Rakes** stated that they feel the meetings should be held closer to the airport and that the 609 chapter utilize a hanger.

Samantha Andree asked about being able to take 1-on-1 versus **Brandon Rakes** vision of taking 3.

Susie Wissler brought to attention pilots flying YE versus a **YE Rally day**. **Brandon Rakes** shared insurance protocol. Discussion around “events” and “rally.” **Jeri** provided some clarification. **Samantha** further asked about how **Brandon Rakes** saw himself coordinating on the ground, per guidelines, instead of flying. **Brandon Rakes** felt that he should be allowed to fly in those situations and delegate responsibility to someone else. He also elaborated that further discussion around this situation may need clarification from EAA National.

Brandon Rakes thanked the Board for their time. Board agreed to discuss further and inform **Brandon Rakes** of their thoughts.

Adjourned 6:55PM

Next Board of Director's Meeting: June 19 6:00PM. Location: Mainero Hanger.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Jennifer (Jen) Wirt

EAA 609 Chapter Secretary

