



## EAA Chapter 609

### Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 22, 2024

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

**Start:** 6:10PM

**Present:** Jeri Mainero (President), John Cordell (Vice President), Samantha Andree (Treasurer), and Jen Wirt (Secretary), Susie Wissler, David Vandewater, Ken Olson, Audrey Olson, and Christopher Wirt.

**Agenda:** Discuss implementation of additional 3-4 board members to the Board of Directors/Operations Members

#### Old Business

##### Board of Director Addition

**Nominated Operations Members:** Nominations were made by Jeri Mainero: *Susie Wissler, David Vandewater, Ken Olson, and Audrey Olson*: Nominees were unanimously voted in by John Cordell, Samantha Andree, and Jennifer Wirt.

**Purpose and Operations of the Board of Directors.** Jeri (President), John (VP), Jen (Secretary), and Sam (Treasurer) discussed recommendations from EAA National (“mother ship) operation of procedures for EAA Chapters that including separating “meetings” based on business/operations of the chapter and “gatherings’ which include socializing, sharing in upcoming events, and the yearly calendar. Additionally fulfilling duties and procedures set out in our EAA Chapter Bylaws. Susie and Ken inquired about the impact of formalizing positions within our EAA Chapter. Jeri, John, Sam, and Jen discussed the growth and engagement within the Chapter due to Jeri and work that she has put in. Further discussion around formalizing these positions not only provide support for Jeri but also the continuation of enriching aviation activities and events with unique and exciting guest speakers. An Operations Team will allow for a seamless continuation and growth of what is already beloved of the 609 Chapter.

Timing of the Operations Meeting were discussed and tentatively being 30-60 minutes prior to monthly Chapter 609 Gatherings. Discussion is on-going about the frequency of Operations Meetings; potentially every 3 depending on need of the Chapter. Operations meetings are open to Chapter Members. Chapter Members are encouraged to attend. Their input is essential. They are the Chapter. Operations members discussed what invited people into the Chapter and what keeps them engaged such as Young Eagles, various fun activities, fly-outs, and food!

**How a EAA Chapter is Recognized:** Jeri shared goals of reaching Gold Chapter Recognition. In order reach Gold status, the EAA Chapter needs to:

1. Attends a chapter leadership training session
2. Growing or steady membership
3. Offers IMC or VMC Club program.
4. Participates in Young Eagle or Flying Start programs.

5. Has EAA-approved Flight Advisor or Technical Counselor
6. Participates in EAA's Annual Chapter Member survey
7. Participates in Young Eagles Build and Fly, Young Eagles Workshops, send a youth to the EAA's Air Academy, or fully completes a Ray Scholarship program
8. Requests an EAA ChapterBlast email
9. Hosts at least two public events each year
10. Owns/leases a facility
11. Extra credit activity, such as a chapter build project, youth build project, chapter scholarship (separate from Ray Scholars), a chapter tool crib, IAC competition, etc.

Reaching gold, the EAA 609 Chapter would receive a banner with the Gold Seal and recognition on the EAA National Website. David Vandewater suggested, if attained, the name badges have Gold Seal as well. Sharing these goals would build further community within our EAA Chapter.

**Finances and Fundraising:** Operations discussed various fundraising ideas and the role fundraising play in raising needed money to continue to build the Chapter Tool Crib, name tags (suggested by Sam), BBQs and various other interests and events. Ken and David highlighted need for establishing and voting on a budget for the Chapter. Discussion surrounded the cost of a fundraiser, such as Bingo, and the revenue. Sam discussed potentially having an acquaintance that could help with the Bingo Fundraiser in the future. Ken even offered to donate a griddle piece for the Bingo fundraiser. Ken also brought up making nominations for separate accounts but there is already a separation between the EAA account and the Scholarship Accounts. Susie discussed further fundraising, such as making pancakes, with good return. These events could potentially be added to a yearly EAA Chapter Event Calendar. Jeri clarified how EAA BBQs are funded, generally, by donations. About \$200 available right now. Discussed agenda for next meeting. Chapter 609 has approximately \$3500 in Young Eagles credits that were earned last year. The money has to be used this year and can be used for several items for the chapter. Further discussion is necessary.

**Young Eagles:** EAA Chapter 609 still does not have a Young Eagles coordinator which may result in a decrease in Young Eagles flights. Chaos days, (unplanned and last minute Young Eagles flights) was discussed. Susie shared advertising the day of and creating a first-come first-serve time slot sheet and include fundraising and activities at these events instead of a Rally. Continued to discuss.

**Chapter Member Recognition:** Susie brought up recognizing and highlighting various individuals monthly who have given their time and effort to the chapter, financially, volunteering, etc. Discussion was had over creating a nomination committee for recognizing volunteers and those that go above and beyond. Potentially put out a "voting box" or "something special" jar at monthly Chapter meetings for anonymous nominations. Sam suggested monthly trinkets/prizes/recognition items for these special individuals.

Go over and update bylaws. Fundraising (such as the Bingo event in April; and purpose of the fundraiser), events, and establishing a calendar for the year. Potential budget for recognition awards.

**Continued Discussion:** Operations team discussed visiting and collaborating with other EAA chapters. Further discussion around establishing a Yearly Chapter Events Calendar, including food and guest speakers. Finally, some discussion around April and May gathering focus that will require further discussion.

**Next Board of Director's Meeting: Monday April 1, 2024 at 6:00PM. Location: Chehalis Airport Terminal:** Go over and suggest amendment to chapter by laws so that they can be voted on and approved by Chapter Members. Secretary will transfer current bylaws to a digital copy in which Jeri can send out via e-mail to Operations Team Members.

End: **7:50 PM**

Respectfully Submitted by,

Jennifer (Jen) Wirt

EAA 609 Chapter Secretary