

**Washington State Animal Response Team**  
**March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**19:00 – 21:00**  
**Via Zoom**  
**BOD Minutes**

**In attendance:** Lynn Snow, Noah Bernays, Jeff Dahl, Bill Daugaard, Angela Sorkin, Leo Notenboom, Lenore Marentette, Jeanette Whitmire, Greta Cook, Gretchen McCallum, Diane Johnson, Michaela Eaves

This meeting was called to order at 19:02.

**Priority Discussion and Decision Items:**

**Additional Unfinished Business:**

None.

**New business:**

- GearLog is an inventory program that WASART has been using for a couple years—see the meeting agenda for a list of what you can do with GearLog.
- It would be beneficial for more of WASART to get familiar and use the program.
- If you have feature requests, send them to Jeanette (the app developers have already implemented numerous changes on our behalf).
- Jeanette is looking into the possibility of backing up GearLog data.

**Treasurer – Gretchen McCallum**

Total donations deposited in February: \$2,912 (\$1,240 in February 2024)

YTD as of March 2025

Gross Profit: \$11,419.31

Expenses: \$9,140.17

<u>Net Income</u>	<u>Total Liabilities and Equity</u>
2025: \$2279.14	2025: \$308,394.35
2024: \$-2,207.53	2024: \$307,809.48

- Status of stock transfer account establishment
  - See February 2025 minutes for context
  - Securities donation was transferred into WASART's account at the Royal Bank of Canada in Kirkland and sold immediately for \$1,300.35 which was deposited into WASART's General checking account
- Preliminary 2024 donation totals:
  - All sources, excluding in-kind donations: ~\$90,000
  - In-kind donations: \$14,000

**Committee Reports**

**Merchandise – Diane Johnson**

February Sales: \$297.08

February Expenses: \$51.45

- Awaiting an email response from Outdoor Research about the possibility of ordering durable jackets for WASART
- Working with All Color Ink to get vinyl decals applied to the Port Authority jackets (they will not sustain the heat of silk-printing)
- Yellow jackets are very difficult to find—greens, blues, blacks, and reds are more prevalent. A conversation was started on changing the jacket colors, and Diane will do more research on various colors.

**Fundraising – Vacant**

No report.

**Information & Communications Technology – Leo Notenboom**

- Recommend all committees create website pages (similar to <https://wasart.org/wasart-committees/ict/>) for new volunteers outlining what their committee does
- Website activity for February:

Page path and screen class	Views
/	608
/training-events/	225
/my-account/	175
/volunteer-member-forms/	141
/volunteer/	96
/members-only-pages/	93
/wasart-stories/	84
/about-wasart/	69
/base-ops-online-training/	66
/content-restricted/	65
/donate/	55

- Microsoft is shutting Skype down in May—although there are zero rumors about GroupMe (also owned by Microsoft) shutting down, it may be worth researching alternatives for WASART.
- Noah and Leo are working on uploading after action reports on the website’s members-only page as a learning tool for future trainings and deployments, as well as a way for members to see the admin side of deployments.
  - The next step is determining a consistent and logical naming convention for the AARs.

**Supply – Greta Cook**

- T1 (TRT) trailer ramp anti-skid painting complete
- March 8-9 work party: purge and merge to consolidate from 2 to 1 storage units
  - See “Priority Discussion and Decision Items” in the September 2024 BOD meeting minutes for legal options to give away the numerous wine bottles inside 1 of the units

**Outreach – Jenifer Clark**

- April 5: Mule Outfitter Open House (‘table only’ event)
- See end of minutes for all recent past and upcoming events.

**Membership – Julie Shipman**

Membership stats: 120 members (32 members did not renew in 2025)

**Credentials – Gretchen McCallum**

Credential stats: 66 qualified to deploy

### **Volunteer Management** – *Jeanette Whitmire*

- Clarified new member protocols as it relates to who reaches out and when, what they receive, what officially qualifies them being able to attend trainings/deployments, etc.
- Working on filling gaps for new members (e.g. new members might not know what “Supply” means on the intake form asking to list what committees they are interested in). See the ICT section for an example page on the website explaining the basics of each committee.
- Mentor Program (Noah and Lynn): the next round will begin in March after Intro to Field Operations (all members who joined WASART after the end of the last round will be invited).

### **Sheltering** – *Vacant*

- SHAC work party February 15 and 16—used the Les Schwab Hall to organize and do maintenance on Trailers 2, 4, and 5
- March 29 Tabletop Exercise at the Des Moines library to prepare for the EAS Training
- King County Office of Emergency Management shelter plan updates
  - Reached out to KCOEM for their latest animal shelter plans and expectations of WASART in various emergency events
  - Details are still being figured out (where we would set up a shelter, who is in charge, etc.)
  - Reached out to RASKC who will likely be the lead in any large sheltering endeavor

### **Finance** – *Gretchen McCallum*

- Committee Chairs must finish their spending before March 20.
- Email Ritz your receipts ASAP.

### **Technical Rescue** – *Jeff Dahl*

Upcoming Trainings:

- Mock mission—postponed until May 4
- March 15: Introduction to Field Operations (IFO)
- March 17: Large Animal Rigging
- March 22: Mud lance training
- April 6: Light Systems training
- April 19: Heavy Systems training

See end of meeting minutes and TR Committee minutes for additional TRT-related events.

### **Technical Water Rescue** (dissolved) – *Vacant*

A motion was moved, seconded, and approved to dissolve WASART’s Technical Water Rescue Team.

- Budget: \$20,000 had been set aside for the W1 van buildout
  - Receipts of buildout expenditures total \$4,302, with another ~\$300 expected
  - Remaining funds will be returned to the WASART General Checking account
- W1 updates to be completed by March 21:
  - A 4’ x 4’ plywood panel will be installed in the cargo area behind the driver’s seat and will have various radio and electrical items mounted to it.
  - Excess wiring will be coiled up and zip-tied. There will be spare cable to rearrange the electronics if desired.
  - The heater will be installed for the rear cargo area.

- A divider panel will be installed between the cargo area and the driver's compartment.
- All TWRT items will be in the van.
- Due to recalls, Rory will deliver the van to Ford in Burien to get serviced by March 21.
- The Board has decided to store the van at Taylor's Landing (to be used primarily as an Outreach vehicle or base of operations vehicle. In the future, it is worth considering storing it down south to be used to haul trailers in a sheltering deployment).
- Remaining water rescue gear
  - The Board will go through the gear list to determine what will be kept vs. sold.
  - Other water rescue groups could be interested (Whatcom SAR has expressed interest).
  - The selling price should be more than 50% since most of the gear is very lightly used.

## **Board Member Reports**

### **President – Lynn Snow**

#### Answering Service Activity

February = 9

### **Vice President – Angela Sorkin**

- WASART General Meeting: March 12 @ 7pm (remote only)
- Each Chair is invited to provide a summary of their committee's work over the last 6 months—see Angela's March 5 email for links to the Google Doc and slide deck
- Open discussion about public health issues, such as avian flu
  - We should be educating ourselves about the risk to our membership when interacting with livestock. Although the current risk is low, this is a rapidly evolving situation, and we should be thinking about mitigation strategies and potential impacts to deployments and training.

### **Secretary – Noah Bernays**

February minutes have been published after being approved via email by a majority BOD vote.

### **Training Director – Lenore Marentette**

- Motion moved, seconded, and approved to publish the Training Curriculum Revision Q as distributed to the BOD via email on March 1. Pending changes will be incorporated via policy letter or the next revision.
- Coverage during Lenore's absence March 17 – end of May:
  - Meg Schwecke covering Registrar duties
  - Training Committee member Andrea Scinkovec providing day-of assistance to Sheltering Class
  - Leo monitoring Training email inbox
- If you are planning to attend the Sheltering training on May 31, please register on the website!

### **Past President – Bill Daugaard**

#### YTD number of deployments

2025: 6

2024: 4

- JBLM access procedure will be added to Operating Procedure 4.
- State SAR Coordinator Amy Allbritton has waived WASART's obligation to submit an EMD-077 form with our after action reports, since the form is focused heavily on SAR searches.

### **Public Relations – Michaela Eaves**

FB likes: 16,085  
Instagram: 780  
YouTube Subscribers: 288

- Published a write-up about the Mule in Mud deployment from November 18 (after a purposeful cooldown period to insulate the reporting parties from negative internet feedback)
- Received many requests from news agencies for further comment
- A summary of Michaela's reply: "Normally, we will work with you and give you a story, but we want to keep this deployment confidential. Any posted material has already been agreed upon by the reporting parties."

### **Advising Specialists:**

*Camille Schaefer*  
No report.

### **Good of the Order**

Moved to adjourn at 20:52.

### **Recent Past Events:**

1/11/25: Tacoma Horse Expo

2/22/25: NW Region US Pony Club Horse Management Seminar, Miracle Ranch, Port Orchard (Joy Waugh organizing)

### **Upcoming Events:**

4/5/25: Mule Outfitter Open House, Issaquah, WA

<b>Action #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Assigned to</b>	<b>Last update</b>
21.11.06	Write up a succession planning document for the Fundraising Committee	Michaela & Gretchen	In work 11/2/22
21.11.07	Write up a succession planning document for the Supply Committee	Greta	In work 11/2/22
24.12.01	Update the succession planning document for the Training Director role	Lenore	Assigned 12/4/24
25.01.01	Research options for archiving or exporting GroupMe chats	Leo	Assigned 1/8/25