

**Washington State Animal Response Team**  
**April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025**  
**19:00 – 21:00**  
**Via Zoom**  
**BOD Minutes**

**In attendance:** Lynn Snow, Noah Bernays, Angela Sorkin, Greta Cook, Gretchen McCallum, Camille Schaefer, Michaela Eaves, Julie Shipman, Bill Daugaard, Jeff Dahl

This meeting was called to order at 19:01.

**Priority Discussion and Decision Items:**

- Outreach Committee update
  - Jenifer Clark resigned as Outreach Chair 2 weeks ago.
  - Gretchen will handle all incoming requests for Outreach, and Committee meetings are on hold until internal issues are resolved.
  - There are currently no outstanding Outreach events scheduled.
- Recent deployments (cat stuck in car bumper, cat injured by roadside, loose wallaby) and policy regarding exotic/wild animals
  - There was disagreement about whether WASART should respond to these deployments (safety considerations and atypical deployment profiles for WASART).
  - Nowhere in WASART's policies does it state explicitly that we do not handle exotic or wild animals. This needs to be addressed to preempt liability issues.
  - OTOH, lack of explicit wording offers flexibility.
  - If something goes wrong on a deployment for which we should not have deployed, we could lose trust and autonomy with the State (see WAC 118-04-180).
  - **Deployment protocols**
    - How will WASART resolve time-sensitive disagreement about whether WASART will respond to a given callout
      - Our policies do not explicitly state that the duty officer has the final authority to decide, though historically that has been the case.
      - A motion was moved, seconded, and passed 6-4 to give the duty officer (DO) discretion to make the final go/no go for WASART deployments.
      - A motion was moved, seconded, and passed to incorporate the DO's deployment go/no go authority into Policy 4.
      - Other options were discussed, including requiring a majority vote of 3 DO's, instituting a probationary period for new DO's, and giving the DO the "go" authority but leaving the "no-go" authority to 2-3 DO's.
    - During the 2 cat rescues, specific responders were requested privately, instead of sending an alert to all deployment-eligible members.
      - This must be avoided in the future to maintain trust within the membership.
      - If only 3 or 4 responders are needed, an alert should still be sent to all deployment-eligible members ("3-4 responders needed for...") with a follow-up alert ("Sufficient resources. No more responders needed").

**Additional Unfinished Business:**

None.

**New business:**

- Ad-hoc Bylaws Committee update *vis a vis* Administration Policy
  - The Committee is making progress ensuring WASART's bylaws, policies, and procedures are complete, in the correct place, and not redundant.
- Deployment protocols updated
  - WASART now has a deployment protocol in place with Yakima County.

- Gretchen is waiting to hear from Grant County regarding a new deployment protocol and will work with Bill to update Operation Procedure 4.

### **Treasurer – Gretchen McCallum**

Total donations deposited in March: \$3,575.64 (2025) and \$17,377.83 (2024)

### YTD as of April 2025

Gross Profit: \$6,423.19

Expenses: \$6,733.24

| <u>Net Income</u> | <u>Total Liabilities and Equity</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2025: \$-280.57   | 2025: \$306,624.25                  |
| 2024: \$7,286.62  | 2024: \$310,371.10                  |

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Merchandise – Diane Johnson – not present**

March Sales: \$1,041.00

March Expenses: \$110.04

Performance long sleeve T's are no longer available in Kelly green (only cotton).

#### **Fundraising – Vacant**

The GiveBig 2025 fundraising event will be on May 6 - 7.

#### **Information & Communications Technology – Leo Notenboom – not present**

- Groups.io is having trouble with certain email addresses
- Upcoming change to *some* @wasart.org email addresses
  - Blame spammers

#### **Supply – Greta Cook**

- Small storage unit cleared out & contract canceled, large unit (10' x 12') reorganized.
- Enumclaw Plateau Heated Storage has 24/7 access, but when the power goes out afterhours (6pm – 5am), there's a 1-800 number to call and the manager will come by to open up.
- Recording of GearLog training is available—it would be great to get a few more people trained.
- Insurance was recently renewed. Looking for someone to help find non-profit insurance.
- Drone donation from new member David Peters.
- W1 status - replace switch, repair heater, possible handoff at 4/19 training
  - AED needs service and transfer to TRT rig

#### **Outreach (on hold) – Vacant**

- See Priority Items
- Purpose & organization
  - Tabled
- Procedures
  - Tabled

#### **Membership – Julie Shipman**

Membership stats: 128 members (5 new, 2 returning)

**Credentials – Gretchen McCallum**

Credential stats: 72 members qualified to deploy

**Volunteer Management – Jeanette Whitmire – not present**

- Contributors of the Quarter nominees:
  - Penny Drost for managing WASART's ASPCA deployments
  - Ryan Dubberly for refilling WASART's compressed air tanks for mud rescue
  - Greta Cook, Joy Waugh, Jeanette Whitmire, Betsey Mullen, and Kimberly Taylor for reorganizing and consolidating the storage units
- Mentor Program update
  - 5 Mentors, 13 Mentees
  - Mentors have sent introductory emails to their Mentees

**Sheltering – Vacant**

- Tabletop Exercise for emergency sheltering 3/29—good engagement and training.
- Sheltering Committee is in communication with RASKC and King County OEM about their emergency sheltering plans (progress is slower because RASKC is transitioning to a new director. OEM is basically deferring to RASKC).
- TL organization—tabled.

**Finance – Gretchen McCallum**

Next meeting April 13.

**Technical Rescue – Jeff Dahl**

- The TRC nominated the following for Field Team Leader: Andrea Scinkovec, Chris Gan, Joy Waugh, Clare Jacobsmeyer, and Melissa Romeo (Joy, Clare, and Melissa accepted).
- A motion was moved, seconded, and passed to move forward the nominations of Joy Waugh, Clare Jacobsmeyer, and Melissa Romeo for this year's Field Team Leaders.

**Upcoming Trainings:**

- April 6: Dog exam/assessment, litter packaging, and "mock" dog packout.
- April 19: Heavy Systems training (bipod scenario likely)
- May 4: Mock mission
- May 24: Heavy Systems training

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

**Technical Water Rescue (dissolved) – Vacant****Board Member Reports****President – Lynn Snow**Answering Service Activity

March = 7

**Vice President – Angela Sorkin**

A motion was moved, seconded, and passed to move the General Membership meeting from the second to the third Wednesday of the month (September and March).

**Secretary – Noah Bernays**

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

**Training Director – Lenore Marentette – not present**

- If you are planning to attend the Emergency Animal Sheltering training on May 31, please register on the website.
- Transport training on June 22.

**Past President – Bill Dugaard**

YTD number of deployments

2025: 8

2024: 5

**Public Relations – Michaela Eaves**

FB likes: 16,048

Instagram: 783

YouTube Subscribers: 291

**Advising Specialists:**

*Camille Schaefer*

No report.

**Good of the Order**

Moved to adjourn at 20:34.

**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:**

| Action # | Description  | Assigned to         | Last update      |
|----------|--|---------------------|------------------|
| 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  |