

# DAIRYLAND OUTDOOR VETERANS RETREAT

## Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2024 7 pm

### **I. Call to order**

Chairman, Rod Wilson called the meeting to order at 7 pm

### **II. Roll call**

The following people were present: Rod Wilson, Jodi Schmidt, Don McConkey, LeeAnn McConkey, Amy Honakla, Doug Willert, Tyler Bridley, Heide Johnson, Merle Myer, Jeff Johnson, Dianna Olsen, and Steve Olsen. Guests: Gwen Schaaf, Dale Anderson, Denise Selden, Mike Schaaf, and Debbie Buck. The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

- III. Approval of minutes from last meeting:** Heide Johnson made motion to accept the minutes, LeeAnn McConkey 2<sup>nd</sup> motion carried. Discussion with the new board members to get to know them better and ask questions.

### **IV. Chairman's Report**

Chairman was notified by ECE that a crew of 10-12 people were coming to stain the cabins on May 21st. Discussion as to if we should provide lunch for the crew, but they bring their own.

Rob was meeting with Jeff Butler and Tim Hodler from Branson, MO who has a program to assist homeless veterans and would like to bring them to campground and fish with Jeff Butler. The Board requests the Chairman bring back more information to the board to present in June.

### **V. Treasurer Report:**

Don McConkey reported that we have a bank balance of \$84,199 as of 4/30/24. Don discussed that he purchase the generator for the UTV ticket item, that was previously approved. Discussion to add Heide Johnson and Rod Wilson as authorized signers onto the checking account and the CD, and to removing Merle Meyer from the checking account and CD. Both are to go down to Community Bank to get that done. Motion to accept treasurer report, and approve to add Heide Johnson and Rod Wilson to the

checking account and CD. Motioned by Jeff Johnson and 2nd by Merle Meyer to approved. Motn carried.

- VI. Secretary's Report:** Grants- Updated on Tavern League. Donnie presented to Burnett County Tavern League and they approved \$2,000. Denise is following up with Douglas County Tavern League as they met in April to see what was decided.

**VII. Unfinished Business**

- a) Event Center-Chairman connected with Gregg Anderson from Hill Construction regarding the Gathering Center and the concrete needs. Gregg is interested however is out of town on vacation and won't be back until June 10th. At which time Rod and also Dale Anderson will gather information and get back to the board. It was requested that maybe Gregg attend a board meeting so that all could ask questions.
- b) Hunting blinds: discussion regarding baiting, game cameras (needing new camera's around \$200). There is currently no system on the reservation site to rent blinds. The process is Merle calls Hedie when he is notified. Typically gets very busy around the hunting season. The blinds are free for VETS, but civilians are charged \$25.00
- c) Mike Edwards will go take a VET hunting and Heracon March will pay for the cabin rental. Heide suggested they go on line through CAMSPOT to make those reservations or they can call Heide.
- d) Ice Machine: Mark Dvorak from Somerset Legion is willing to purchase a ice maching for the Gathering Center, with some grant money that is available. DOVR is very interested however, there were many questions regarding the hook up, plumbing, electrical, where to put it. So it was tabled until next meeting.
- e) Caretaker space- clean up area is ready for the caretakers. Scott and Brenda Larson.

**VIII. Committee Reports:**

- a) Marketing: As of today Campspot has \$6,230.82 for 2024 in bookings from 1/1/2024 through 05/14/2024.Coaster have been ordered and will be taken out to area taverns to promote DOVR. We receive the pictures of the sweatshirt, hooded sweatshirts and t-shrt. They look great.

Cost:

	up to XL	XXL
T shirts	\$12	\$15

Hooded	\$40	\$45
Sweatshirt	\$20	\$28

b) **Fundraising:**

1-Prime Dinner:Letters will be sent out to last year's guests about reservations and earlbird. After the deadline, it will be open to the public. Price will be raised to \$100.00. Event is Oct 12th at Northland Commuity Center. Gwen and Mike will bartend. Discussion regarding early bird deadline being end of July or August and finally numbers by Sept 15th.

2-Meat Raffles-May24th at McGraw Lake Tavern, Merle will be there to sell UTV tickets.

3- Spring UTV Ride- June 1.

- Registration at 8:00
- Breakfast at 9:00 donated by Wild Waters. Gwen and Leanne will clean up.
- Leave for ride by 10:00
- Dinner about 5 at DOVR. Taco's donated by Mindy. Dinner set up Deanne, Steve and Rod.

4- Golden Ticket-Was a success huge success. The drawing was held at Moose and Trent donated 10% of his sells that day to DOVR, which was \$200.00. Another Golden Ticket has been started. . Tickets are available at MLT, Hillside and Moose. Drawing at DOVR on October 19th.

5-Big Ticket Prize-Sept 1, will be \$20 per ticket. Donnie and Leanne sold \$300.00 at the MLT spring expo. Donnie, Leanne and Jodi will co chari the event. Jodi will do the tickets and track and Donnie and Leanne will collect the money. Jodi and Heide will meet at DOVR on Friday to ge the packets ready to distribute. Rob will sell tickets at the Rodeo and Merle will also sell at some events. Checking with the Burnett Cty Farmers Market about getting on the rotation for selling tickets as a non profit.

c) **Membership/Sponsorship:** tabled

d) **Building Maintenance:** Jeff was going to power wash the buildings to prep before ECE comes to Prime buildings next week.

e) **Garden Report:** Hopkins will delver rock. There are plans for a bench from Menards and another bench with a plaque by the tree that needs to be planted. The money was donated by the Arvid Larson family.

## **IX. New Business**

Gene Visger's celebration of life will be held at DOVR on Saturday May 25th. This was a request by his family. DOVR will donate water and if anyone can bring a salad and is able to come help set up Friday May 24th at 9:00 am that would be great. Homemakers will serve lunch and clean up.

The Eagles in Balsam Lake hold a 2nd Amendment Bingo and DOVR can get in on the rotation and possibly generate \$5-11,000 from the proceeds.

Motorcycle Club PIGS from Superior will be donating \$4,000.00

## **X. Adjournment**

Merle Meyer made a motion to adjourn at 9:13 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by LeAnn McConkey. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday June 11th at 6pm.

submitted by:

*Jodi Schmidt*

Jodi Schmidt, Secretary

# **DAIRYLAND OUTDOOR VETERANS RETREAT**

## **Meeting Minutes**

June 11th, 2024 6 pm

### **I. Call to order**

Chairman, Rod Wilson called the meeting to order at 6 pm

### **II. Roll call**

The following people were present: Rod Wilson, Jodi Schmidt, Don McConkey, LeeAnn McConkey, Amy Honakla, Doug Willert, Tyler Bridley, Heide Johnson, Merle Myer, Jeff Johnson, Dianna Olsen, and Steve Olsen. Guests: Scott Larson, Brenda Larson, Dale Anderson, and Mike Schaaf. The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

**III. Approval of minutes from last meeting:** Jeff Johnson made motion to accept the minutes, Heide Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> motion carried.

**IV. Chairman's Report**

Chairman was notified by ECE that a crew of 10-12 people have rescheduled to come and stain the cabins on Thursday June 11th. They provide their own lunch for the crew.

Ron, Jeff and Dale will be meeting with Gregg Anderson from Hill Construction when he returns from vacation to discuss the Gathering Building.

**V. Treasurer Report:**

Don McConkey reported that we have a bank balance of \$\$80,000 as of 05/31/24. Don gave copies to all board members of deposits, expenses and CD balance. Motioned by Diane Olsen and 2nd by Steve Olson to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried.

**VI. Secretary's Report:** Jodi reported that thank you cards were sent out to Mindy's, Wild Waters, CopyCat, Summit Health and Somerset Legion. Also discussion of cleaning out the office file cabinet and record retention. Ron gave permission to do what needs to be done to get that office organized. Heide Johnson will work with Jodi to organize file cabinets. Heide Johnson approved the report and Diane Olson seconds, motion carried.

**VII. Unfinished Business-** non to report

**VIII. Committee Reports:**

**A. Marketing:**

As of today CAMP SPOT has \$2,200.00 in bookings from 5/1/2024 through 06/11/2024. CAMP SPOT did issue us a \$400.00 credit. It was also discussed about holding reservations and how Heide has an administrative right to hold spots, especially for our volunteers that help with events. Typically the volunteers will leave a donation.

Heide asked to get help with the WEBSITE, Tyler volunteered to take that over. Tyler mentioned that he had been looking up "how to" and is confident that he can "self teach" himself to update, add, change and delete the WEBPAGE.

Heide also asked for volunteers to take over the NEWSLETTER. Amy and Gwen will be happy to take that over and will meet to gather information and possibly

get a committee together. Heide will put a powerpoint presentation and other items on a flash drive and hand it over to the girls.

**B. Fundraising:**

1-Prime Dinner-Letters were sent out to last year's guests about reservations and early birds. After the deadline, it will be open to the public. Prices were increased and it was not questioned. Event is Oct 12th at Northland Community Center.

2-Meat Raffles-Thank You to McGraw Lake Tavern, for hosting the meat raffle on May 24th. It was a successful event.

3- Spring UTV Ride- Held June 1, it was a great success. The fall run, the route will be changed to cover establishments in the northern area. Moose, Tree Stand, Drifters to name a few. Thank you to all that helped out that day with selling tickets, preparing food and cleaning up. Would also like to make it a more kid friendly event in the fall. Fall run October 19th. Event will mirror the Spring run.

4- Golden Ticket-Tickets are available at MLT, Hillside and Moose. Drawing at DOVR on October 19th.

5-Big Ticket Prize-Sept 1, will be \$20 per ticket. Jodi and Heide put packets together and everyone should take an envelope when they leave. Each packet has 100 tickets. Please email the board with where you are planning to locate your tickets so that we do not have duplicate locations. We need to push the tickets as we do not have a very long window to sell.

**C. Sponsorship:**

Gwen asked about the “why/what” is the benefit of sponsorship? Do you need to have sponsorship for events? Heide talked about last year at the Prime Rib dinner we had tables for the Gold or Platinum sponsors, but it took up a lot of room and we were not able to benefit from those ticket costs. Discussion about having a sponsor dinner in the future. Donnie added that right now the local taverns are the sponsors and they can not sustain paying that all the time. Gwen volunteers to chair a sponsorship committee, AMy will assist.

**D. Building Maintenance:**

Other than ECE coming to stain and meeting with Hill as reported by Rod, no new news. It was discussed about a fogger for spraying for mosquitoes. Motion was made by Jodi Schmidt to approve the purchase of a fogger and seconded by Heide Johnson. Motion carried. Jeff will look into costs. Cabinets in the garage also need organization. Ramp for the shed has been completed.

**E. Garden Report: Budget of \$3000.00:**

Hopkins will deliver rock. We do have a \$1500 credit to cover that expense. That credit was donated by Hopkins. A bench, flowers and solar lighting was purchased from Menards for \$1066. The bench with a plaque by the tree is money that was donated by the Arvid Larson family. Donnie will get a plaque made. Volunteers are needed to help weed. Sonja and Wendy will be coming to help and Tyler also volunteered. Steve also said on days he is available from caretaking, he too can weed. Discussion of the spraying for the insects. Heide made a motion to add 3 more applications from Madsen Pest Control and it was second by Jodi Schmidt. Motion carried.

## **IX. New Business**

Removing FREE WIFI wording from the WEBSITE

Removing membership of AGENDA for further meetings

Changing the wording on CAMPSOT to state dump station available and not “full hook-up”. Heide will look into changing that.

## **X. Adjournment**

Diane Olson made a motion to adjourn at 7:13 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Olson. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday July 9th at 6pm.

submitted by:

*Jodi Schmidt*

Jodi Schmidt, Secretary

# **DAIRYLAND OUTDOOR VETERANS RETREAT**

## **Meeting Minutes**

July 9th, 2024 6 pm

### **I. Call to order**

Chairman, Rod Wilson called the meeting to order at 6 pm

### **II. Roll call**

The following people were present: Rod Wilson, Jodi Schmidt, Don McConkey, LeeAnn McConkey, Gwen Schaaf, Amy Honakla, Doug Willert, Tyler Bridley, Heide Johnson, Merle Myer, Jeff Johnson, Dianna Olsen, and Steve Olsen. Guests: Scott Larson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

- III. **Approval of minutes from last meeting:** Heide Johnson made motion to accept the minutes, Tyler Bridley 2<sup>nd</sup> motion carried.

IV. **Chairman's Report**

Chairman Rod Wilson stated he and Dale Anderson were thinking if it would be possible to have a Building Committee. It was agreed that a committee will be formed of Rod Wilson, Jeff and Heide Johnson, Donnie and LeeAnn McConkey and Dale Anderson. A meeting is scheduled for July 23 at 6:00 pm at DOVR. Heide will take minutes. Dale will bring other blueprints and drawings to the meeting.

Rod explained that Hill construction may have to charge us more due to the location being so remote. He also explained that the building will be roughly 2500 cubic ft, same as the current office/shower site.

Amy asked about how the building will be heated. Rod stated in floor heat.

LeeAnn knows of plumbers that are willing to help out.

Building will be done in stages.

Donnie suggested that we need to be careful of spending, as another cabin is an important concept to continue to think about. And that we should consider positioning the Gathering Center to be able to add on if need be down the line.

Heide stated that she is getting calls for reunions to be held at the retreat. Once we get the Gathering Place completed, the additional revenue to rent out the space will be rewarding.

Discussion regarding the occupancy of the building. It was determined that we would stick with 150 count.

Discussion regarding the Cozy Corner Bar top. Jeff, Donnie and Rod will work together to get that bar top delivered to the retreat. Merle also volunteered to help if needed.

V. **Treasurer Report:**

Don McConkey reported that we have a bank balance of over \$\$80,000 as of 06/30/24. Don gave copies to all board members of deposits, expenses and CD balance.



Donnie is using Quickbooks instead of spreadsheets and it seems to be working.

Discussion regarding past chairman Ron Deyo health situation and also that Kenny Anderson another past board member passed away. Heide requested that flowers be ordered.

Donnie also brought up the savings for military members with the USAA insurance and the cost savings .

Motioned by Jeff Johnson and 2nd by Steve Olson to approve treasurer's report.  
Motion carried.

VI. **Secretary's Report:**

Jodi reported that thank you cards were sent out to Tom and Donna Weiss, Charles and Gayle Profit and ECE. Travel policy was discussed and approved to change mileage rate to .30 a mile and lodging to \$125.00 a night. Jodi will update travel policy. Heide Johnson approved the report and Diane Olson seconded motion carried.

VII. **Unfinished Business-** non to report

VIII. **Committee Reports:**

A. **Marketing:**

As of today CAMP SPOT has \$3,200.00 in bookings from 6/1/2024 through 06/30/2024. Heide stated the Holiday weekend was very busy and we are getting busier and busier.

Heide also talked about CrowdSourcing. Discussion was had and it was decided that Heide will look more into Crowd Sourcing and bring it back to the table.

WEBSITE, Tyler would like at least 10 testimonials from past and or present board members to add on to the WEBSITE. Would be great information to have out there. Board members were asked to send something to Tyler via his email.

NEWSLETTER. Amy and Gwen had nothing new to report

B. **Fundraising:**

1-Prime Dinner-Letters were sent out to last year's guests about reservations and early birds, so far 24 have confirmed. After the deadline, it will be open to the public. Volunteers will be given the opportunity to pay \$40.00 per ticket to get into the drawing, if they opt out of drawing the meal for free as long as they work the event. Event is Oct 12th at Northland Community Center. Donnie mentioned that our accountant would like tickets if available.

2-Meat Raffles-LeeAnn mentioned the Local as a spot for meat raffle and Diane is checking with Brandi's. Heide stated that you can coordinate and have a meat raffle wherever you want, it's your responsibility then to gather volunteers and coordinate meat pick up and payment. Work with Heide only to get notice out on FACEBOOK and Donnie to pay for the meat.

4- Golden Ticket-Tickets are available at MLT, Hillside and Moose. Drawing at DOVR on October 19th. 300 tickets and so far only 36 have sold.

5-Big Ticket Prize-Sept 1, will be \$20 per ticket. We need to push the tickets as we do not have a very long window to sell and we need to sell at least 700 to break even.

C. **Sponsorship:**

SPONSORSHIP: Gwen and Amy are co chairing and have letters ready to go for mailing, however would like some historical information to include in the letters. Heide can work with her on past presentations and pictures and Donnie has ground breaking pictures and history of the Dam to share. Gwen asked that she also be included in on the BLG Committee so she can speak to the progress

D. **Building Maintenance:**

Does the playground need to be moved? It is in a sunny spot and if the Gathering Place will need the space. Rod didn't believe that it would have to be moved.

Scott Larsen, our caretaker stated that the 4th was a great weekend. People asked about staying permanently and he explained it is only a 14 day maxim. He also stated that fireworks were lit off on the other side. The guest asked all residents if it was ok before they lit them off.

Heide expressed her gratitude to the fantastic job that Scott and Brenda are doing at the site. Everyone agreed how great it is to have them there.

Picnic tables need attention.

Ice Machine location was discussed and Donnie, Rod and Jeff will work that out to get it hooked up preferably before the UTV raffle in September.

E. **Garden Report:**

Diane wanted to acknowledge Jeff Johnson and grandson Beau for the help they gave for getting the mulch in order, and also thanks to Sonya and Wendy for their weeding help.

Donnie will bring his fork lift over to the retreat to help with the pavers and the bench to get them in place. And help with grey tap rock. Donnie also had the name plate ready for the bench.

Goal next year is to work on an arbor and tree around the bench area. Rod's son-in-law is assistant on the best tree for the area.

IX. **New Business:** no new business to report

X. **Adjournment**

Merle Meyer made a motion to adjourn at 7:53 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Heide Johnson. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday August 13th at 6pm.

submitted by:

*Jodi Schmidt*

Jodi Schmidt, Secretary

DOVR

2024 ANNUAL MEETING

5/14/2024 @ 6PM

Pledge of Alligence was given.

Roll Call: Rod Wilson, Merle Meyer, Don McConkey, Jeff Johnson, Heide Johnson, Denise Selden, LeAnn McConkey, and Diana and Steve Olson. Guest Jodi Schmidt, Tyler Bridley, Gawn Schaaf, Doug Willet, Amy Honkala, Dale Anderson, Mike Schaaf and Debbie Buck.

Bylaws changes: Heide Johnson made the motion and second by Don McConkey to change board members from 11 to 15. Motion carried.

Donnie McConkey made motion and second by Dianne Olson to add to bylaws that DOVR will allow 1 non-profit to come to use facilities. Motion by carries.

Verification of Quorum: Yes

Motion to approve of minutes of the last annual meeting approved as read by Heide J, 2nd by Jeff Johnson. Motion carried.

Annual Financial Budget report read. Motion to approve Budget by Heide Jeff Johnson 2nd by Diane Olson. Motion carried.

Election held and verified by the nominating committee of Diane Selden and Deb Buck. New officers as follows:

Heide Johnson, Vice Chair-2 years

Jodi Schmidt, Secretary-2 years

Tyler Bridley #2- Board Member-2 years

Gwen Schaaf #4- Board Member -2 years

Jeff Johnson #6- Board Member -2 years

Doug Willert #8- Board Member -2 years

Merle Meyer #5- Board Member -2 years

Amy Honkala #7- Board Member -2 years

Steve Loson #9- Board Member -2 years

Introductions of new members

Motion made by LeAnn McConkey and 2nd by Jeff J to adjourn the annual meeting.  
Motion carried

## DAIRYLAND OUTDOOR VETERANS RETREAT

### Meeting Minutes

October 8th, 2024 6 pm

#### I. Call to order

Chairman, Rod Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:57 pm

#### II. Roll call

The following people were present: Rod Wilson, Jodi Schmidt, Don and LeeAnn McConkey, Steve and Diane Olson, Gwen Schaff, Merle Meyer, Doug Willert, Heide Johnson, and Jeff Johnson. The Guest was housekeeper Deb. The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting: LeeAnn McConkey made a motion to accept the minutes, Donnie McConkey 2nd motion carried.

#### IV. Chairman's Report

Rod expressed his concern that the board needs to get serious regarding the plans for the Gathering Center.

Heide then shared that it is on all of our radar, however with all the fundraising efforts this month it has been difficult. Gwen shared that she will continue with her contact from Luther Camp to see about a visit. Heide also mentioned her brother's restaurant in Iron River may also be a place to visit as his kitchen area is small.

Rod also expresses the need for the lean to to be built before the winter months and has bids but needs approval for funds. LeeAnn McConkey made a motion to approve a budget of \$15,000 for this project which includes the cement and materials.

#### V. Treasurer Report:

Don McConkey reported that we have a bank balance of as of 09/30/24 of \$137,027 with. Don gave copies to all board members of deposits, expenses and CD balance.

Donnie mentioned that with our hard work and fund raising efforts the bank balance will look good for grant writing and we can show sustainability.

Donnie also spoke regarding the flag poles that we need to replace. He has information on pricing, however we tabled the project until spring, knowing that pricing may go up.

VI. Secretary's Report: Jodi reported that thank you cards were sent out to a few that donated.

VII. Unfinished Business- nothing to report

VIII. Committee Reports:

A. Marketing:

The site is completely booked for the MEA weekend which is also the poker run

B. Newsletter:

Gwen reported that she will do a fall/winter newsletter that will include a holiday photo of the board.

Gwen also shared that she attended a leadership meeting at UWS for a non-profit day and learned what other non-profits were doing to increase funding. One item of interest was a silent online auction or the possibility of doing a QR code to do monthly sponsorships similar to how Tunnel for Towers does it. This is tabled for now until we gather more information from the bank.

C. Public Relations/Website:

Nothing to report

D. Fundraising:

1-Prime Dinner-SOLD OUT. Wayne's IGA donated \$1,000 for Prime Rib dinner expenses.

Schedule

Thursday -prep audit sheets and 3pm is table set up at the community center

Friday- 10 am wrap food and set up games and rooms

Saturday- 10 am prep salads. Volunteers eat at 2:00

2-Meat Raffles-nothing to report

3- Fall UTV Ride- The fall run, the route will be to Moose, Backyard ,and Drifters. Thanks to all that are helping out that day with selling tickets, preparing food and cleaning up. The retreat is fully booked for the event. Expecting at least 100 riders. Breakfast donated again by Wild Waters . Taco Bar for dinner and Diane/Steve, Jeff/Heide, and Jodi will donate 20 pounds each of cooked hamburger. Lettuce , tomatoes, onions and guacamole are donated by Moose Junction.

Sunday clean up will be at 11:00 am.

McGraw Lake Tavern will sell all their inventory to support both the Prime Rib Dinner and the UTV run. With much left over. McGraw Lake Tavern inventory is worth over \$5,000 and they will sell to us for \$2,000.00. Donating the rest.

LeeAnn McConkey made a motion to pay McGraw Lake Tavern for the inventory and Donnie McConkey second the motion. All approved.

4- Golden Ticket- Drawing at DOVR on October 19th. If we do not sell the remaining tickets, it then becomes a 50/50 drawing. This is advertised on the ticket.

5-Superior College Veterans Organization- they are looking for someone to represent DOVR organization at their event, Saturday November 2 from 10-3 held at the armory in Superior across from the YMCA. Heide will send out an email to the team.

Tyler mentioned a possible fundraising event would be a dinner and a show with maybe having Chris Koeze. He will check with his friend who has connections.

E.

F.

Building Maintenance:

Ice machine is up and running.

Furnace issue with the HC cabin. Rod will get a hold of Maxwell .

Garden Report: Gardens are looking really nice. Nothing too much to report as cooler weather approaches. Diane and Steve came in under budget and next spring will purchase a trellis. LeeAnn suggested that the bench be put inside for the winter. All agreed.

After the road is graded by the township, Jeff will bring his tractor to smooth out the top rock.

G. New Business

Trunk or Treat will be held at the Northland Community Center on Saturday October 26 from 2-3. Merle and Marilyn Meyer will represent DOVR.

IX. Adjournment

Jeff Johnson made a motion to adjourn at 7:12 pm, 2nd by Gwen Schaaf. Next meeting will be held on Wednesday November 6th at 6pm. submitted by:

Jodi Schmidt

Jodi Schmidt, Secretary