

MINUTES FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD MEETING – AUGUST 7, 2010

Meetings were held in Oklahoma City on August 7, 2010 and simultaneously in Yuma, Arizona through teleconferencing. The meeting began at 10:20 a.m. Central Standard Time.

Those attending in Oklahoma City were:

Texas: David Akins, National Director
Dickey Stanley, National Safety Director
John James, Sergeant at Arms
Larry Putnam, State Safety Officer/Board Member
Dwayne Hagemeyer, State Board Member (via live teleconferencing call)

Kansas: Matt Woerhle, State Director

Missouri: Jeff McClaran, State Director

Arkansas: Gary Burden, Deputy Director
Barbara Chatham, National Secretary

Those attending in Yuma, Arizona were:

California: Shirley Horn, State Director
Roy Army, Board Member
James Cooper, Board Member

Arizona: Don Swain, State Director
Susie Swain, State Safety Officer/Board Member

Those not in attendance were:

Frankie Deramo, Arkansas Safety Officer/Board Member
Steve Callas, California Safety Officer/Board Member
Jeff McIntosh, Indiana/Kentucky State Director
Terry Ames, Indiana/Kentucky Safety Officer/Board Member
Bob Dodd, Kansas Safety Officer/Board Member
Doug Shaw, Nevada State Director
R. J. Preston, Oklahoma State Director
Jason Ramirez, Texas State Director
Rick Poe, Missouri Safety Officer/Board Member
Ed Smith, National Treasurer

We have a quorum for this meeting.

The new Bylaws will change the order and number of the newly approved bylaws

(Explanation will be at the conclusion of the minutes)

The existing Article IV was entitled "Meetings". It will now be entitled "Volunteer Board of Officers".

Article IV: Volunteer Board of Officers

Section 1: There will be a state Board of officers, the number of which will be determined by the number of each states' RGA membership. A state having ten RGA members or more will elect a State Director and a State Safety Officer. An additional State Board member will be elected for every fifty members, after the first 100, within their state and affiliated state. An affiliated state is any state having an RGA member but no an RGA organization. When an affiliated state reaches the ten membership minimum, the National Directors will appoint an interim State Director for the affiliated state to be responsible for the RGA organization until an election can be held. State Board of Officers will become members of the National Board of officers and be the representative of their states' membership concerns.

(The first three sentences were discussed and voted on separately)

Motion made and seconded.

Vote: 8 –yes 3- no Motion carried

(The last sentence was discussed and voted on separately)

Motion made and seconded

Vote 11-yes 0-no Motion carried

Article IV

Section 2: There will be a National Board of Officers consisting of a National Director, Associate Director, Treasurer, Secretary, Safety Director, Sergeant of Arms, and board members of the state RGA organizations. The National Board of Officers will be responsible for establishing rules and guidelines, RGA National Budget approval and RGA policies. No National Elected Voting Officer will also hold a state voting position.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 11-yes 0-no Motion carried

Article IV

Section 3: The National Director, Associate Director, Treasurer and Secretary will be responsible for insuring RGA legal fitness compliance.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 11-yes 0-no Motion carried

Article IV

Section 4: No officer, board member or safety officer will receive a salary for their services to RGA membership. Reimbursement of Board of Officers approved expenses will be permitted with the submission of proper and correct receipts.

Motion made and seconded

Vote 11-yes 0-no Motion carried

The existing Article V: Board of Directors now becomes "Duties of Officers"

Article V – Duties of Officers

Section 1: **National Director:** The National Director must be a member of RGA in good standing and may reside in any state. The Director will preside at all meetings of the Board of Officers; appoint such committees as they may deem expedient for the carrying out of the goals of RGA, all subject to and with the approval of, the board of officers; call meetings whenever they deem it necessary. The National Director will only vote on issues before the Board in case of a tie. The National Director will have signature approval for RGA business. The National Director will be elected by RGA membership to serve a three year term.

Motion made and seconded

Vote 11-yes 0-no Motion carried

Section 2: **Associate Director:** The Associate Director must be a member of RGA in good standing and may reside in any state. The Associate Director will serve as an assistant to the National Director. The Associate Director will assume the duties of the National Director in the event of absence, resignation, or incapacitation until a national election can be held. The Associate Director duties will be as assigned by the National Director. The Associate Director will be eligible to vote on all issues before the board. The Associate Director will have signature approval for RGA business in absence of or at the direction of the National Director. The Associate Director will be elected by the RGA membership to serve a three year term, beginning in 2011.

Motion made and seconded

Vote 11-yes 0-no Motion carried

Section 3: **Secretary:** The Secretary must be a member of RGA in good standing and may reside in any state. The Secretary will keep minutes of all board of officer meetings and post them in a timely fashion on the RGA website. The Secretary will have responsibility for tracking membership and dues. The Secretary will handle all National RGA correspondence. The Secretary will be elected by RGA membership for a three year term, beginning in 2011. The Secretary will be eligible to vote on all issues before the board.

Motion made and seconded

Vote 11-yes 0-no Motion carried

Section 4: **Treasurer:** The RGA Treasurer must be a member of RGA in good standing and must reside in Texas. The Treasurer will oversee all finances of RGA and make quarterly reports to the board and its members. The Treasurer will have full access to and be responsible for keeping accounts current; licenses and permits are current and all tax liabilities are met. The Treasurer is appointed by the National Director to a three year term, coinciding with the National Director's Election. The Treasurer does not have voting privileges. The Treasurer must be eligible to be bonded. In the event the National Director is unable to appoint a suitable candidate to the Treasurer position an outside firm may be contracted to perform the treasurer duties, after receiving approval from the board of officers, until a suitable replacement can be retained within the organization

Motion made and seconded

Vote 10-yes 1-no Motion carried

Section 5: **Sergeant of Arms:** The Sergeant of Arms must be a member in good standing and may reside in any state. The sergeant of Arms will be responsible for ensuring meetings are conducted in an orderly fashion when present. The Sergeant of Arms will keep the board in adherence to the agenda and remove anyone who disrupts the meeting when asked to desist. The Sergeant of Arms is appointed by the National Director to a three year term, coinciding with the National Director's Election. The Sergeant of Arms does not have voting privileges.

Motion made and seconded

Vote 11-yes 0-no Motion carried

Section 6: **Safety Director:** The Safety director will be a member of RGA in good standing and may reside in any state. The Safety Director will act at the direction of the National Director and the Associate Director to develop and maintain RGA's safety policy. The Safety Director will provide guidance and instruction to State Safety Officers for compliance with RGA Safety Rules. The Safety Director will be responsible for recommending changes to the RGA Safety Rules to the Board of Officers. These recommendations may originate from the Safety Director or be the result of recommendations from the State Safety Officer network. The Safety Director is recommended to observe as many competitions each year as possible. The Safety Director will be appointed by the board of officers for an indefinite term of office. The Safety Director may be removed from office for just cause by a two-third vote of the board of officers. The Safety Director will not have a vote on issues before the board of officers.

Motion made and seconded

Vote 10-yes 1-no Motion carried

Section 7: **State Director:** The State Director must be a member in good standing of RGA and reside within their state. State Directors will represent all RGA members within their state and be the voice to the National Board of Officers. A State Director will have the same responsibility for RGA membership in any

affiliated state until such time as the affiliated state membership qualifies to conduct its own elections during the RGA voting period. From the time of qualification to the time of election, the National Directors may appoint an Interim State Director to oversee RGA activities. The State Director and Interim State Director will have a vote on issues before the Board. The State Director will not have signature approval for RGA business. The State Director will be elected by their states RGA membership for a three year term, beginning in 2010.

Motion made and seconded

Vote 11-yes 0-No Motion carried

Section 8: **State Safety Officer**: The State Safety Officer must be a member in good standing of RGA and reside within their state. The State Safety Officer will be elected by the membership of the state represented for a three year term, beginning in 2011. The State safety Officer will work with the Safety Director on Development and adherence to the RGA Safety Rules on both a national and state level. The State Safety Officer will also be responsible for the Youth Safety program as defined under Rule #6 of the Junior Re-enactor program in the RGA safety rules. The State Safety Officer or any present State Officer will be required to appoint a qualified event Safety Officer in the event the State Safety Officer is unable to attend an RGA affiliated event within the represented state.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 11-yes 0-No Motion carried

Section 9. **State Board Member**: The State Board Member must be a member in good standing of RGA and reside within their state. A qualifying state is entitled to a State Board Member for every fifty members. A state will qualify for a State Board Member when the membership of that state reaches on-hundred-one members and every fifty members after that. The State Board Member may be appointed on an interim basis by the State Director with approval of the National Directors to serve until the election of officers. The term of office for a State Board Member will be three years, beginning in 2010 for odd-numbered positions and 2011 for even numbered positions. The State Board Member/s will work with the State Director in representing their membership on local and national RGA issues. Each State Board Member will be entitled to one vote on issues before the National Board of Officers.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 11-yes 0-No Motion carried

In the current bylaws, we had Sections 12, 13, and 14 . There will be no changes to the wording of these sections, but the numbering will be changed.

Section 10: **Removal of an Officer or Board Member**: The removal of an officer or a board member is a very serious matter and should not be considered unless ample proof is provided, i.e. theft, being charges with a serious crime, unethical action that degrades RGA members, etc. Never should a board member or officer

be subject to removal over gossip or unpopular decisions. It will take a 2/3 vote by all board members to remove a board member or officer from their position. (Old number was 12 and is now 10)

Section 11: **Resignations** are effective upon receipt by the Secretary of RGA by written notification. (Old number was 13 and is now 11)

Section 12: **Vacancy of Office or Board Member:** If an officer or board member should resign or be removed and there are more than six months left on his/her term, the board shall appoint an interim officer or board member to complete the term. (Old number was 14 and is now 12)

Motion to change the numbers made and seconded

Vote: 11-yes 0-no Motion carried

The existing Article VI: Accounting now becomes "Elections"

Section 1: Elections will be held in each state for National and State offices in November of the election year. Nominations for open positions will be made in August of each election year.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 11-yes 0-No Motion carried

Section 2: To help facilitate RGA Elections, the RGA Board will appoint a National election Official to preside over the elections. This Official will be appointed to serve a three year term coinciding with the National Director's Election and cannot be on any ballot. The National Election Official may reside in any state.

This section was tabled until duties of Election Official are explained. Motion made and seconded to table. Motion carried.

Section 3: In August of the Election year, states will report nominations for National Offices by August 31st to the National Election Official. States can receive nominations as they deem prudent. The National Election Official and State Directors will verify acceptance by speaking with each candidate. State Directors will send Official State Nominations to the National Election Official by September 15th.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 11-yes 0-No Motion carried

Section 4: On November 1st, the National Election Official will mail an instruction letter and ballot to every RGA member. Ballots must be in the possession of the National Election Official by November 30th. On December 1st (or as close as possible) the National Election Official will tally the ballots and report the results to the National Director.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 10-yes 1-No Motion carried

Section 5: If there is only one candidate for an office, that office will not appear on the ballot. If there is only one candidate for every office on the ballot, no election will be held.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 11-Yes 0-No Motion carried

Section 6: RGA will reimburse the National Election Official for mailing and printing costs of the Election.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 10-Yes 1-No Motion carried

Section 7: The National Election Official will set rules for the candidates to campaign. Campaigning should never be about the opponent, but about why the candidate is the best person for the job.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 11-Yes 0-No Motion carried

Section 8: The National Election Official will create envelopes and any other forms needed for the administration of the Election.

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 10-Yes 1-No Motion carried

Revisiting Section 2:

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 10-Yes 1-No Motion carried

With the addition/changes in the aforewritten bylaws, the following will be enacted:

Article VII: Meetings (same verbiage, different article number – previous number was IV)

Article VIII: Accounting (same verbiage, different article number- previous number was VI)

Article IX: Competitions (same verbiage, different article number- previous number was VII)

Article X: Books and Records (same verbiage, different article number- previous number was VIII)

Article XI: Amendments of Bylaws (same verbiage, different article number-previous number was IX)

Article XII: Disbursement of Reenactment Guild (same verbiage, different article number – previous number was X)

Motion made and seconded

Motion: 10 – yes One vote out of room Motion carried

Under the Article VIII, Section 4, there was wording that needed changing.

Section 4: Accounting – The Treasurer will make a quarterly financial report to the Board at the called meeting. A financial statement will be posted on the website along with minutes of the meeting. The Treasurer will compile an annual report for the members within 30 days of the end of the Fiscal year.

Motion was made to strike “at the called meeting” from the first sentence” and strike “along with minutes of the meeting” from the second sentence”. Motion seconded

Vote: 11-Yes 0-no Motion carried

- Director brought up an item of purchasing of a laptop for the Assistant Director to conduct RGA business. The amount is not to exceed \$1,000

Motion made and seconded

Vote: 11-yes 0-no

- Item was brought up regarding the reimbursement of R.J. Preston from RGA for travel to Gold Strike Competition to be a judge. The motion was made and seconded to reimburse R.J. Preston \$600 for his travel.

Vote: 9-yes 2 –no Motion carried

- Item was brought up by the Director about sponsorships for conducting events, specifically the Southwest. The title of his subject was RGA Sanctioned Events. After limited discussion, it was determined that this item should be tabled and taken to the officers forum for discussion and ultimately to the chat room for voting.
- Item was brought up by the Assistant Director about the RGA badges. The southwest officers did not have a copy of the application for the badges. Boomer agreed to forward the email with the badge info on it to those Board members. The badges are \$35 each. This badge information should be put out on the general forum for orders from the members.
- Item was brought up by the Director about monetary requests for conducting RGA events. For states that have events, they should submit a request for their event. It was recommended that we allocate the following amounts to the events:

\$1,500 earmarked for any California event

\$1,500 Yuma

\$1,500 Wichita

\$1,500 Mahafee

\$1,500 Grapeland

Motion was made to fund events dependent on the amount of money in the treasurer. Motion was seconded.

Vote: 11-yes 0-no

- Item was discussed about the officers submitting form for mileage to attend the National Conference based on Mapquest.
- Item was brought up by Director that he and Boomer have been looking at different ways of communication to hold our chat meetings. They will give a report on the results.
- Information was given by the Secretary regarding the numbers of members in each state.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Items that were left to be discussed on the officers' forum due to lack of time at the National Conference are:

From Kansas:

1. A change in the Living History Judges Forum.
2. A clarification on the best of categories, specifically Living History versus Gunfighting. Should there be separate categories for Actor, Actress, Best Dressed Male, Best Dressed Female.
3. A clarification on our insurance and what exactly does it cover.

From Arizona:

1. Members would like to address the rules read that each team will be deducted 1 point for each minute over 15 minutes or under 8 minutes, as it is now when a team goes under time or over time, each judge deducts a point for a total of 3 points. The Arizona members reel that either the rule needs to be changed to reflect each judge will deduct a point or the judging guideline needs to be changed that the time keeper or judge keeping time will deduct the point for over/under time limit. Resulting in a 1 point deduction.

These items will be taken to the officers' forum and then the chat room for voting.

Conversation was taped, votes entered into spreadsheet by Matt Woehrle, along with notes being made by Matt Woehrle. Shirley Horn also contributed to notes taken in Yuma.

Thanks to all who assisted in this task.

Barbara Chatham
National Secretary
Member # 51