

## OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARK WARDEN SERVICE ALUMNI SOCIETY  
HELD WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2025, ELEVATION PLACE, LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM, CANMORE.

PRESENT: Dave Reynolds, President

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Marie Nylund, Secretary-Treasurer-Membership, Colleen Reynolds, Cliff White, Jim Murphy, Perry Davis, Brian Spreadbury, Bradley Bischoff.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Dale Portman, Kathy Calvert, Alan Westhaver, Perry Jacobson.

DIRECTORS PARTICIPATING BY ZOOM: Eric Langshaw

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Ward, Don Mickle, George Lukiwski, Larry Gilmar, Jane Gilmar, Ruth Quinn, Mike Henderson.

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING BY ZOOM: Tom Buckley.

### 1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 am with a quorum of members in attendance.

### 2.0 WELCOME

Dave opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and expressing his appreciation for their attendance."

### 3.0 ADDITIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

### 4.0 APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 AGM MINUTES.

The Minutes of the October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Annual General Meeting had been circulated electronically and two hard copies were made available at today's meeting.

MOTION: MURPHY/SPREADBURY – to approve the Minutes of the October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Annual General Meeting.  
CARRIED.

### 5.0 FINANCIAL

#### 5.1 Financial Statement for the fiscal year 2024

Marie read a summary of the audited financial statement for the fiscal year 2024. The opening balance at January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 was \$6,756.18. Income for the year was \$8,381.85. Disbursements were \$4,464.27. The 2024 financial records have been audited by Don Hepburn, Treasurer of the Stockmen's Memorial Foundation. The financial statement requires approval by motion at today's meeting. The approved financial statement is required by the Province of Alberta and a signed copy will be submitted to the province along with the society's annual return before the end of the year.

MOTION: DAVIS/ C. REYNOLDS - to approve the 2024 audited financial statement.

CARRIED

#### 5.2 2025 Financial report

Marie reported the bank balance at January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 was \$10,673.76. Income to September 30<sup>th</sup> is \$7,376.81. Disbursements for the same period are \$2,888.98 leaving a bank balance at September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 of \$15,161.59. Projected expenses to December 31<sup>st</sup> are \$7,000 which should leave a bank balance at year end of approximately \$8,000.

The 2025 financial report was received as information.

### 6.0 MEMBERSHIP

#### 6.1 Membership report

Marie reported that there are 158 members. The breakdown is Voting – 106, Honourary – 7; Associate – 7; Supporting – 4' and Life members – 34. The membership report was received as information.

## 7.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dave reported that the Park Warden Service Alumni Society has had a good year financially. However, we have not had that much success with the Oral History Project due to the challenge of finding people to conduct the interviews. The society's Constitution & By-laws has been up-dated and approved. The 5-year Strategic Plan 2026-2031 is in the process of being updated and will provide the society with priorities and goals for the future. This plan will be discussed later in today's meeting.

## 8.0 OLD BUSINESS

### 8.1 Oral History Project Status

Eric reported that although Rosemary has agreed to conduct oral history project interviews, she needs a voice recorder to get started. Susan Hairsine has one voice recorder and Laura Hunt may still have the other one.

At the September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting the Board approved the purchase of a voice recorder and suggested that Rosemary purchase it and submit the bill to PWSAS for reimbursement.

Additional interviewers are needed to continue the Oral History Project. There is a priority list established for interview candidates.

### 8.2 Success of Mini-reunion at Nanton, June 3-5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The Nanton reunion was overall a very good success.

### 8.3 2026 Reunion – Salmon Arm

The dates are confirmed by Alan Westhaver for Tuesday-Friday, 5, 6, 7 & 8, 2026. The Warden Band has agreed to hold a concert at the reunion on May 7<sup>th</sup> as the band is touring in B.C at that time. (This will extend the reunion dates to May 8<sup>th</sup>.)

## 9.0 NEW BUSINESS

### 9.1 Revised Strategic Plan

Dave circulated a copy of the Strategic Plan and explained that this document will be the plan which sets out the goals and priorities of PWSAS for the next 5 years. Once the plan has been revised and finalized, it will be signed by all board members.

ACTION: the Board will review this document for revision and approval at a future meeting.

### 9.2 Constitution & By-laws

Dave circulated a copy of the Constitution & By-laws which has been previously approved. The document required the signature of the Secretary-Treasurer at today's meeting.

ACTION: The Secretary-Treasurer will circulate the signed copy of the Constitution & By-laws to the new board after the AGM.

### 9.3 Mission Statement review

Dave reported that increasing our membership will require expanding the mission statement to encompass all Parks Canada employees.

Christine Aikens was consulted and provided the following feedback. *"I see value in the organization expanding to represent and include all Parks Canada staff. I think staff from all functions have a strong bond with each other and with our mandate. For example, think of the critical role the finance folks play in any disaster or wildfire, or how our asset staff are so connected to our backcountry trails and facilities, or how Indigenous staff who work in any function are connected in profound ways to these sites. So, I will make this*

*suggestion - consider expanding your mandate to represent all past and present Parks Canada employees and all the roles people play”.*

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of merging PWSAS with the Parks Heritage Conservation Society (PHCS) in order to include other people who worked closely with the warden service. Terry McGuire is the head of PHCS.

The current mission statement is: The Mission is to “Maintain the culture and traditions of the former National Park Warden Service and current Resource Conservation Section by fostering good will and assistance to retired Parks Canada members through mentoring, volunteerism, historical commemoration, reunions, oral histories, and social activities.”

One possible mission statement is: Maintain the culture and traditions of former and retired National Park Wardens, Park Naturalists, and Resource Conservation Section personnel who were involved in specialty roles related to the management of fire, vegetation, wildlife, aquatics, cultural, visitor safety, backcountry patrols, trail maintenance, resource studies, land classification, and law enforcement duties by fostering goodwill and comradery through mentoring, volunteerism, historical commemoration, reunions, oral histories and social activities.

Bradley added that later this month a number of retired park wardens will be awarded the Police Exemplary Service Medal by the Governor General. He will attend this ceremony and offered to invite the retirees to join PWSAS.

ACTION: Dave will contact Terry McGuire to invite him to a board meeting to discuss the idea of the two groups merging.

### 9.3 Heritage Park Days of Yore

Perry reported that Heritage Park’s *Days of Yore* is a day-long event held in August, during which heritage groups present re-enactments of historical events. He suggested that this might be an event the PWSAS could consider participating in. The new Board may wish to explore involvement in a future *Days of Yore* event at Heritage Park to help raise public awareness of our society and the role of national park wardens.

Dave reminded those in attendance that there is a warden patrol cabin display at Heritage Park, and suggested that, if the Board decides to participate in the *Days of Yore* event, activities could be organized around the cabin site.

ACTION: Marie to place Days of Yore on the Agenda for the next board meeting.

### 10.0 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The terms of Dave Reynolds, Marie Nylund, Dale Portman, Bradley Bischoff, Alan Westhaver, Kathy Calvert and Eric Langshaw expire at today’s meeting. Bradley Bischoff, Perry Jacobson and Eric Langshaw have stepped down from the board.

MOTION: C. REYNOLDS/WHITE – to elect Dave Reynolds, Marie Nylund, Alan Westhaver, Kathy Calvert and Dale Portman to the board of the Park Warden Service Alumni Society. CARRIED.

The Secretary read Section 22 of the by-laws which states: The board shall be comprised of (12) and no more than (14) persons. Currently the board is comprised of 13 persons. With three people stepping down we can elect up to 4 more persons to the board.

Scott Ward volunteered to let his name stand for election to the board.

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George Lukiwski introduced himself and gave a brief overview of his career as a national park warden and agreed to let his name stand for election to the board.

Mike Henderson also let his name stand for the board of directors.

MOTION – SPREADBURY/MURPHY – to nominate George Lukiwski, Mike Henderson and Scott Ward to the board of directors. CARRIED.

Dave thanked George, Mike and Scott for volunteering for the board.

ACTION: Marie will send out the by-laws and other information to the three new board members.

11.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Everyone is invited to join us for a “pay your own way” lunch at the Golf Course.

<https://canmoregolf.net/home/sandtraps-restaurant/>

Perry Davis reported that he had heard that there may be cuts coming to the KYLL field unit regarding reduction of staff. Brian further commented that the expectation is that there will be a 15% cut across Canada in federal departments.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 am.

PRESIDENT’S SIGNATURE

SECRETARY-TREASURER’S SIGNATURE