



Tuesday, October 7th, 2025 Meeting Minutes



President Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Vice president Ronald Lambert led the invocation. Secretary Tidwell called roll. 13 board members were present and 2 absent. Tidwell read the minutes of September's meeting which were accepted. Treasurer Crutchfield noted the current balance at \$6667.43. E.L. Morton stated in the publicity report that he will notify the LaFollette Press for an announcement concerning the upcoming barbeque at Cove Lake State Park on October 25th. Tidwell called for submittals for the newsletter and hopes to have a new issue available by November. No trails report was available.

Wildlife Manager Darrell England gave a detailed update on the recent elk hunts. 4 of 9 archery tags had been filled and 8 of 9 rifle tags were filled.

A group discussion followed with concerns about wounded elk being left in the field. Unfortunately, several elk were wounded this season which proved unrecoverable. Hunters continued to hunt other elk in order to fill their tag. Everyone knows and understands this happens in hunting at times. However, CORA voted unanimously to back a motion, brought by Ron Lambert and seconded by Bill Stanley, that once a hunter makes a shot in which "blood is drawn" on an elk hunt, that in essence fills the hunter's tag. Their hunt is over, particularly in the case of an unfound wounded elk. CORA feels that with the

finite number of elk on the North Cumberland, combined with an increased number of issued tags, the resource should be considered at a premium. CORA will pass this official stance on to the powers that be at TWRA.

England also gave an update on the hire of Seth Dunn for the open OHV position. It is a commissioned position and he will be attending the mandatory training. Fred Jordan's equipment operator job is still open, but soon to be filled. There is a suspect in an elk poaching case and England will be meeting with the district attorney soon to see how to proceed with the case. The road from the elk viewing tower gate to the tower has also been improved. Alcohol possession has also been re-occurring on the area.

In other discussions: Glennis Monday covered recent litter control events. President Lewis read a letter to Governor Lee drafted by 27 NGO's asking for a new revenue stream be considered for TWRA. Other states, that supplement the funding of their wildlife and fisheries departments, were cited in the letter as examples: Missouri, Arkansas, Georgia, Texas, and Virginia. The letter specifically asks for a portion of existing taxes be used for TWRA and that no new tax be created for such.

President Lewis also spoke to recent discussions with Director Maxedon about the OHV program on the North Cumberland. The Agency wants to revisit the OHV fee revision, with the support of CORA, as the program is still not self-funding and out of compliance.

Fred Walker gave an update on his flintlock season advocacy. He will once again be addressing the Commission at their next meeting.

Bill Stanley gave out the list of provisions needed for the upcoming barbeque. TWRA's Cast Iron Cookers will also be at the event. The meeting dismissed at 8:09pm.

