



Tuesday, November 4th, 2025 Meeting Minutes



President Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Jason Vanover led the invocation. Secretary Tidwell called roll. 9 board members were present and 6 absent. Tidwell read the minutes of October's meeting which were accepted. Treasurer Crutchfield noted the current balance at \$10,887.18. (Barbeque rundown: Flintlock proceeds: \$2,910.00. Artifact/table tickets: \$830.00. Meal tickets: \$460.00. One reimbursement is due Tommy Overton for the food.) The annual barbeque was said to have its highest attendance in several years. Thanks were given to TWRA's "Cast Iron Cookers" for the desserts.

No trails, publicity, or other reports were available. The newsletter is slated to be available by the next meeting. More submittals were encouraged.

North Cumberland Manager Keith Thomas reported that the deer harvest was up 40% over this time last year. With muzzleloader season opening soon, harvest totals are expected to rise. The mast crop seems heavy on the North Cumberland. OHV rider usage on the area remains steady.

Thomas further mentioned the recent Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting. A North Cumberland OHV permit/fee revision package was on the agenda. It could possibly be voted on in December and sent to the legislature for approval. Ten applicants will soon be interviewed for the equipment operator position on the NCWMA.

Elk program coordinator Garrett Clevenger gave an update on the recent elk hunts. Total harvest for the season stands at 13, after an additional elk was harvested by a youth hunter (same as 2024's harvest total). The census for the elk herd in the elk restoration zone is estimated at 400-425 animals. Clevenger also addressed the recent positive test of a deer with CWD in Pulaski County, Kentucky, only about 40 miles away from the Scott County border in Tennessee. Thomas spoke about large scale habitat projects in partnership with Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.



Fred Walker discussed his continued advocacy for a flintlock rifle season for deer in Tennessee. A flexible view on the season might be having 2 weeks of flintlock during archery season, or a shorter late January season.

Last business of the meeting was presenting long-standing board member Ron Lawhorn with a certificate of appreciation for his tenure. Lawhorn is stepping down from the board, but plans to still remain active with CORA as a lifetime member. Mr. Lawhorn responded: "I am proud to have been a member of such a small group, in rural Appalachia, doing so much good. We probably wouldn't have Royal Blue or elk on the ground in Campbell County without CORA. We've won national awards. We have Hunters for the Hungry. The accomplishments of this group from little old Campbell County are almost unbelievable!"

