



Wildlife Action

PEE DEE CHAPTER

P.O. BOX 5022 - FLORENCE, SC - 29502

www.WildlifeActionPeeDee.com

pdwildlifeaction@gmail.com

Join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WLAPeeDee/>

JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Meeting was opened at 2:30PM by Kevin Casper. Donnie Wheeler led prayer and Kevin followed with the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 28 members were in attendance including Board Members, Steve Cox, Roger Burrows, Dennis Wade, Secretary Donnie Wheeler, Treasurer, Keith Wyrick and VP John Etheridge. Meeting was led by Kevin Casper.

December minutes were reviewed and approved.

New Member:

New member candidates were introduced:

Bob Veasey sponsored David Arrington

Bill Bessenger, a long-time prior member requested to reinstate his membership.

Dennis Wade sponsored Roff Hardgrove.

CRSO report - Steve Cox

There are currently 104 members in the park not including the new members being sponsored.

It appears likely 4 to 6 current members are not renewing their memberships in 2025.

2025 PUF fees are due and will be accepted without penalty until February 28, 2025.

Locks will be changed on February 28, 2025. New keys are being distributed to RSO in good standing. At end of 2024 there were 4 RSOs that did not complete the minimum service hours to maintain key privileges in 2025.

Current safety issue reviewed regarding dead tree leaning on power lines in area near park entrance. Be careful in this area until the Utility company can remove the tree from the lines and make these lines safe.

Treasury Report was given by Keith Wyrick.

Treasurer report shows favorable balance at this time. Club has approximately \$11,139.00 balance in checking/savings. Does not include Hunt Club balance of approximately 4,824.00. Total revenue all sources in 2024 was 15,100.00. National returned dues refund of 1,400.00. Donations of 3,100 in 2024. Total Expenditures in 2024 were 14,500.00. Some of expenditures included 2,800.00 for setup and shotgun range, 600.00 for camera system, 1,400.00 in tree removal expenses, lease and insurance costs increased more than anticipated in 2024. Even with an increase in the utility rate the club spent 10% less for electricity than 2023 due to steps taken and conservation efforts by Steve Cox.

The general fixed costs to operate without any projects is approximately 9,500.00 annually. The park is approximately 500.00 ahead of 2023 revenue at this time of year.

PUF payments for 2025 are being collected and should continue thru February 2025. PUF fees can be paid thru the PDWLA website, by phone or in person. No change in local fees for 2025.

NEW Business

The board is reviewing the current RSO structure and 12 service hour requirement annually to determine if any updates or changes should be considered.

Pee Dee WLA will speak to the Rotary Club and there could be potential new members or possibility of some financial support.

Fishing Report was given by Roger Burrows

Wet and below freezing temperatures is not good conditions for fishing.

Environmental

Was reported an outdoor gun range is facing issues due to lead leaching into the environment. (more details are needed). Ranges should consider methods for lead harvesting and or management. This has been done manually in the past.

Hunt Club

Membership for the Hunt Club for 2025 season has been filled. Members can sign up for an alternates list in the event an opening occurs. Members can also request to hunt from the other members and have limited opportunities for harvesting a doe. See Dennis Wade for details. Several members harvested does this past season included one 8-point bucks. This is the 2nd year that a youth shot their first deer at the park.

Education report Bob Veasey

SCDNR is monitoring patterns of beach erosion. The factors that most effect beach erosion are: storm activities, changes in river outflow due to dams, and change in outflow related to the intercostal waterway.

New Business

Kevin has obtained some Camo fabric and requested anyone with interest consider making new curtains and bulletin board covers for the trailer using this fabric.

Rodney has donated his time and tractor to expand the width of the 200 yd rifle range. This work is underway and is greatly appreciated.

Election of officers for the vacant board seats will be held today following the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.

Results of elections for 2 regular seats and one seat to be filled due to resignation
Charlie Adams and Steve Cox were elected to 3 year terms and Dan Packard was elected to complete the open one year term vacated by Ed Sprenger.

Post meeting – the leaning tree has been removed from the incoming overhead power line and is no longer a hazard