

International Comanche Society, Inc.  
Minutes from TeamSpeak Meeting – February 20, 2017  
By LaVerne Stroh, Secretary

1. **Av Shiloh, President, called the meeting to order** at 8:02 PM EST

2. **Roll Call by LaVerne Stroh**

Officers:

President	Av Shiloh	Present
Vice President	Bob Williams	Present
Treasurer	Bob Berry	Present
Secretary	LaVerne Stroh	Present

Tribe Chief/Tribe Representatives

Tribe Rep SW	Scott Myers	Present
Tribe Chief/Rep SC	Ron Franks	Present
Tribe Chief/Rep SE	Jeff Munford	Present for last part of meeting
Tribe Rep Mid States	Pat Donovan	Present
Tribe Rep NW	Bill Case	Absent
Tribe Rep NC	Hank Spellman	Present
Tribe Chief/Rep NE	C J Stumpf	Present
Tribe Chief/Rep W Canada	Ken Mori	Absent
Tribe Chief/Rep E Canada	Vacant	Absent
Tribe Chief/Rep Europe	Kate Burrows	Absent
Tribe Chief/Rep S. Africa	Russell Knowles	Absent
Tribe Chief/Rep Australia	Nigel Wettenhall	Absent

Guests:

ICS Member EU	Monica Rehkopf
ICS Member NC	Dave Fitzgerald

**Quorum: Nine (9) voting members were present at the beginning of the meeting. Jeff joined for the second half of the meeting for a total of ten (10) present for the remainder of the meeting.**

3. **Acceptance of Agenda by Board of Directors**

**Ron moved to accept the agenda. Bob Williams seconded the motion.**

**There were no objections to the motion.**

4. **President's Opening Remarks by Av Shiloh**

Av welcomed everyone to the meeting. We will try to keep it as short as possible.

## **5. Acceptance of BOD Meeting Minutes by LaVerne Stroh**

LaVerne stated we have minutes from the September TeamSpeak meeting and the minutes from the fall board meeting. We missed approving the September minutes at the fall board meeting.

**Pat moved to accept both sets of minutes. Ron seconded.**

**There were no objections to the motion.**

## **6. Treasurer 's Report by Bob Berry**

Bob Berry stated all bills are paid. The CD's matured and money was moved to Farmers Bank in Canfield, OH. The CD interest rate is 1.1% compounded daily, and we can withdraw the funds at any time without a penalty.

Last year we had enough interest received to keep us in the black. Georgia from Village Press has not entered everything yet; so, Bob was not able to do the profit/loss statement.

Bob is letting the inventory items in the store will expire. The inventory items we order goes to Village Press (VP) and VP stores them. They charge us for warehousing the items. Bob turned this item over to Dave to provide more information about a company that will work better for us.

Dave stated instead of losing money, they found a place in Cleveland that has just about every type of item we would want – shirts, hats, cups, backpacks, visors, etc. They are trying it with a few items to see if it works. If it does, we will have them do the shirts, hats, etc. It is better for the membership since they get exactly what they want and have quality items. One line is made in America.

Pat asked if we could sell off the old merchandise at Oshkosh.

Dave stated we should be ready by then. During the Cleveland convention, we will try the new system of ordering. If all goes well and the board agrees, the old merchandise could be sold at a discount. If this works, we should be able to sell the old stuff at a discount at Oshkosh. We have done that in the past with merchandise that wasn't moving.

Dave stated the new company should be able to do all of our merchandise. Although there will be no profit from the items for now; but we also won't have a loss, which we have now.

Bob Berry stated the members will choose an item from the catalog. They will get the items at wholesale cost. Then, the members will pay for the logo, any embroidery, and shipping costs. They can get any item in the catalog. It should be about a ten day turnaround.

Pat asked if that included embroidering names, N numbers, etc.

Bob Berry stated the members will be able to choose an item from the catalog. They will choose the brand of shirt they want, like Nike, Under Armour, or any other brand in the catalog. They decide what they want embroidered on the item and it gets made and sent to them. That way they choose the quality of the item and what they want on it. Currently, VP charges us for storing the items, inventorying the items, pulling the items and then shipping. It costs us about \$4.00 each time they pull a shirt out to send to someone. Then, we pay for shipping.

Av asked if there will be a link on the website.

Dave stated the link will be in the ICS goodies section. We can also put the information on the front page as a feature item to make sure everybody sees it.

Av stated he thought this was a good idea since most members like personalized items. Village Press won't be involved anymore, and we won't lose money.

Dave stated they tried to figure out a way to make a profit on them, but it would make the items cost more. Plus, it would be a bookkeeping nightmare to keep up with it.

Pat suggested the patches still be done in Bellingham since we buy them in bulk from them. They still need to go out with new members' packets.

Bob Berry stated they looked at a company that where the items were more expensive and there was only a selection of about eight items. This should be much better.

Av stated Pat was talking about the patches for new members.

Bob Berry stated we also have the Creech manuals and a few others that VP will continue to have to take care of.

Bob Williams stated if there are no objections, Bob Berry, Bob Williams, and Dave will go forward with the getting the new system of ordering in place.

Bob Berry stated he had another issue to discuss. We've talked about it for about two years now. The bylaws say a CPA is to go over the books. We have not done that and it will cost us about \$2500 a year. There isn't much to review. We usually write three to four checks per month. Someone internally could do a review, but the bylaws state we have a CPA do it. That doesn't make sense with our books.

Pat stated there was not an audit done the entire time Pat was the Treasurer. He doesn't think there was one done while Don was Treasurer either. It was done in

about 2005. He doesn't think we need a CPA to do an audit, but just have a board member do a review of the books.

Av stated we need to change the bylaws so we are following them. The bylaws committee should rewrite that bylaw and we could have it voted on at this year's convention. It could state something to the effect that the books will be audited by the board of directors.

Bob Berry stated Scott could call him and they can go through the items that need to be changed.

Scott stated the committee has discussed this and they had decided not to bring it up at this time. If we need to do it now, we can. He will call Bob. He remembers it in the standing rules but doesn't remember it in the bylaws.

**Av asked Scott and the committee to check on where items related to the audit are in the bylaws and/or standing rules and change the wording to state the books will be reviewed upon the request of the board or something to that effect. Av would like to see this voted on along with any other general convention voting.**

Scott stated he will review it and get back to Av.

**Av stated the Bob Berry will need to get the financials published in the Flyer before the annual meeting. He would like it in the April issue.**

Bob Berry stated he can finish everything as soon as VP is done inputting all of the information. Hopefully, they will get the year end information input by the end of this month. There were only a few items left they were working on.

**Av asked Bob to send the information to the board and to Dave to publish on the website. He also asked that Dave forward the information on to Village Press to get it published in the Flyer**

Av stated we also need to have the information for any bylaws changes voted on and in the Flyer within the timeframes. Av asked Scott about the number of days the Treasurer's report, bylaws changes, and budget needs to be in the Flyer prior to the voting.

Scott stated he will look it up.

Scott did a search for the word "audit" in the bylaws but nothing came up. Scott asked Bob Berry to email the information he had on the audit language to him.

Hank stated standing rule 12-1, Accounting, Financial Reporting, and Control and Practice Procedures. Item 5, states the Society shall engage a certified public accountant (CPA) who annually shall review all financial information accomplished

by the Treasurer of the Society; and based upon the same, compile an annual report to the President and the Board of the Society any discrepancies found, or any abnormal or improper accounting practices in use, and shall prepare the necessary tax returns for the Society in a timely fashion.

**Hank moved Item 5 in standing rule 12-1 be voided for this past fiscal year only as far as the requirement of engaging a certified public accountant.**

Av stated we do not want to remove it totally but change the wording to at the request of the board of directors.

Hank stated he was trying to get it changed so it would reflect this year only.

Av stated rather than doing it for this year only, he would like to see it done permanently to say upon the request of the board.

Hank stated he understands what Av would like, but that would take much longer to come up with the correct wording to keep us out of trouble for all time. He is just trying to keep us out of crisis for this year.

**CJ seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with the exception of Scott abstaining from the vote.**

**Av asked the committee to get the wording in that rule changed permanently. It can be included in the changes the committee is presenting at the next meeting.**

Bob Berry stated there were other related items that may need to be changed. He requested Scott call him to discuss it.

**Hank asked Bob Berry to send the information to the committee on any other changes that were needed.**

Av stated any new merchandise will be ordered from the new company. The old merchandise can be sold at a discount at Oshkosh. We will need to order the few items like patches and manuals from VP to be sure we have those on hand. Someone will need to send the ICS logo to the new company.

Dave stated that was already done.

CJ asked if we could have samples of the merchandise at Oshkosh even if they are ordering online. Some people want to see what they are getting.

Av stated CJ should get with Pat on items we could have available then. Those who want to order can either order the items online or we can help them order.

Bob Berry stated we need to get rid of the old merchandise first or we may never get rid of it. We should start the sale now and sell what we have at a discounted price.

Pat stated we would still have to pay for shipping on even the discounted items.

Av stated people usually buy when items are discounted.

Pat stated we could make a general announcement in the Flyer or newsletter that we will have discounted items.

Av stated that was a good idea and he will try to include it in the President's letter.

**Bob Williams moved to accept the Treasurer's report  
Hank seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**7. Flyer – Letter from Director's Schedule by Av Shiloh and LaVerne Stroh**

LaVerne stated she has not heard from anybody she sent a message to and needs to do a follow up. We are not sure of the status of CJ's article.

CJ stated she sent a bunch of information to Melissa. She isn't sure of the status.

Av stated he spoke to Melissa and she said it isn't done.

**Av asked CJ to contact Melissa to finalize the article and if she needs help to contact him.**

LaVerne asked if we have a new tribe chief for East Canada yet.

Av stated Brian McDougall was elected as tribe chief. The vote is already done.

LaVerne asked if he is the tribe chief and the tribe rep.

Av stated he thought he was both the chief and rep but asked Dave to clarify.

Dave stated that was correct and it is updated on the website.

Pat stated we need to update the Flyer, too.

**LaVerne stated she will send the information in for the Flyer.** She sent the information in on the West Canada tribe regarding Mori's replacement but wasn't sure what happened with East Canada.

## **8. Annual Convention Report by Bob Williams**

Bob Williams stated the convention information is in the Flyer and they also have the online registration form on the website.

Dave stated the registration is not working yet. They need to get PayPal and the bank information taken care of before it can be used, but it should be done in the next few days.

Bob Williams stated the schedule is finalized and in the March Flyer. They are trying to keep costs down to encourage local people to come even if it is just for vendor and airport day. They have been working on getting the vendors organized. We will have breakfast and lunch with the vendors. That cost is included in the registration.

Right now, Bob Williams is the only board member who has reservations at the hotel. There are several people who said they were coming, but they have not made reservations yet. Bob is hoping more board members will register and help support the convention.

Pat Donovan stated it is still early for most to decide if they are going to attend, especially since the information just came out.

Bob Williams stated that was true. The cost for registration is \$465 for the base registration and then extra for any of the upgrades like the bust trip, tower tour, and dinner on the boat. You are on your own for breakfast and lunch, except for vendor day. All of the venues are on your own as well, including the golfing at the country club and wine tour on Tuesday.

They were thinking about doing a fly out to Willow Run for the B-17 flights, but that has not been worked out yet.

Cliff will be heading up the flagship committee

The banquet will be held at the hotel and the annual general meeting will be Thursday evening at the Union Club.

Since they don't have extra rooms, the old and new board meetings will have to be held in the hospitality room

Av asked if the proposed schedule will be published in the Flyer.

Bob Williams stated it will be published in the April issue. The schedule will be published, along with other things to do.

Bob stated he sent the vendor package to the board members so they can pass it on to the any vendors they may know of. They will all have a place to set up, plus there

will be eight speakers, with only one speaker at a time. They are also looking for sponsors who may want to advertise their company. Sponsorships will be \$100 for a banner that will be posted.

#### **9. Bylaws Committee Report by Scott Myers**

Av stated Scott sent some standing rules updates out earlier today. Scott will walk us through the changes.

Ron thanked the committee for their work. Everyone agreed.

#### **10. New Website Report by LaVerne Stroh**

LaVerne stated she does not know if the April date will work. She has not heard from Adam. He has not responded to the emails she sent, nor to the text message and phone calls.

Av stated she can send the board updated information as she received it.

Bob Williams stated we need to make sure everything works that is related to the convention.

LaVerne stated she will make sure that works before things are cut over.

Dave stated since we had not heard from Adam, it may be better to hold off on converting to the new website until after the convention.

LaVerne stated at this point, she totally agreed with Dave.

Av stated that we need to err on the side of caution but would rather go forward with the April timeframe if everything works. **Av asked LaVerne and Dave to work with Adam and let the board know the status.** If we are unsure, we should postpone it.

Pat stated we need to make sure Av and Dave are comfortable with the voting and registration.

Bob Berry stated we can't have long delays without an answer when the website is up and running.

LaVerne stated Adam has answered back with a few hours and a day or two at the most when she has contacted him with questions and/or changes needed.

## **11. Nominating Committee Report by Dave Fitzgerald**

Dave stated Av is stepping down as President. Bob Cretney nominated Pat Donovan for President. Bob Berry has agreed to stay as the Treasurer, Bob Williams as the Vice President and LaVerne as the Secretary. He has not heard of any other nominations as of now but will let us know if he gets it.

Av asked Dave to make sure the nominations are posted on the website.

Dave stated he will post the information as soon as the nomination period has closed. The nominations will close 10 days prior to the voting period and that is 30 days prior to the convention.

Av stated he wanted to make sure we don't miss any deadlines.

Pat stated the information should be published in the April Flyer.

Dave stated it does not have to be in the Flyer but it will be on the website.

Pat stated the bylaws say it needs to be published 45 days prior to voting.

Scott stated the bylaws were updated. Article 8 - sections 5, 6, and 7 have the new information saying the nominations for elections of officers and closing times for placing on the ballot for all questions to be brought before the membership shall end no sooner than 45 days before the voting period.

Pat stated if the convention is June 20, 45 days would make this due in March.

Dave stated he is looking at it to be sure. While he is looking we can move on.

Av stated he thought that was all changed when the vote passed last year. One other thing we changed last year was the president's term. Av stated he is stepping down based on the old rules so it doesn't look like he changed the rules just to stay in as President. He wants to make sure there is no hint of impropriety.

Monica stated she would be sorry to see Av leave.

Av stated he did his two years, which was the maximum before the new rules were voted in during the New Zealand convention.

Scott stated he was sure nobody felt he changed the rules just to keep himself in as President. He would like to see Av stay.

Av stated he appreciated the support. He will be on the board next year as the past president. He may decide to be the tribe rep or some other position.

Dave found the timeframes. Section 5 states the nominations end no sooner than 45 days. They can end the day before if we want them to. They just can't end any sooner than 45 days prior to the election. We had so many problems with the deadlines due to convention times changing each year. That is why we voted the changes in. Dave stated as the nomination chair, he is planning on closing it ten (10) days prior.

Scott stated he did not see ten days anywhere.

Dave stated it does not specify a timeframe, so as the nominating chair he is planning on closing the nominations ten days prior unless anyone has any objections.

## **12. Future/Strategic Planning Committee by Pat Donovan**

Pat stated in trying to come up with an outline. He was trying to come up with thresholds. We have three options, which would be closing the organization, merging with another organization, or continuing as we are. He did not look at things like increasing membership since that hadn't worked for many years. Some things to consider if we merge are when do we do that. We are eliminating some expenses with the inventory that Bob Berry and Dave are working on. That may change the timeframes. Maybe we will have to eliminate the Flyer or go by monthly. If membership slips, the committee will have to come up with options for the board to consider. Since membership has slipped the past few years, the board will have to decide when that point is. This will be a fluid document. Timeframes are not set in stone. Pat is the sole committee right now.

Av stated that we know we may have to reduce or eliminate the Flyer. A good thorough study of that would be good. Membership has stabilized the last couple of years thanks to the marketing committee. We had a nice increase in membership due to Oshkosh so that kept the membership either stable or maybe we gained a few. Hopefully, we can do that again. We should be getting monthly reports from VP with the numbers.

Dave stated we currently have 1950 members. Dave asked if he should change the expiration date for member number one since he is no longer with us. That way, the Flyer won't go to his house.

Scott stated his wife may want to see that.

Av state since he was member one, we should ask his wife if she would like to continue to receive the Flyer.

**Dave will contact Don Nelson to see if he would like to contact her.**

Av stated the on report shows membership at 2000 on one at 1900 plus.

Scott stated when he does the mailing list, 2000 is about right. There are approximately 100 members who have not provided an email address.

Dave stated the 1950 on the website is current.

Pat stated he had the same question on the reports. One is current members and the other includes people who will expire in the next month and we are hoping they will renew.

Dave stated the website is current to the second. VP synchronizes their website with ours. We are currently at 1950, including Paul, who is member number 1.

Bob Williams asked if we could move on.

### **13. Committee Reports by Committee Chairs**

Av stated he did not receive any committee reports.

### **14. Tribe Reports by Tribe Chiefs/Reps**

Av asked if there were any tribe reports.

Jeff asked when SE hosts the convention.

Dave stated SE is scheduled to host in 2020.

Av asked Jeff if he had any replacements for the tribe chief.

Jeff stated that until they get volunteers, he will stay there as chief.

Dave stated the schedule is in item 34 of the standing rules.

Jeff stated he saw that, but we have made many changes so he wanted to be sure he had the date correct.

### **15. Sun n' Fun Participation by CJ Stumpf**

Av stated that he is assuming we missed the deadlines for sign up.

CJ's microphone was not working, but she put the following information in the text window. Sun n' Fun is usually held the first week of April and has attracted 100 Comanche's or so. It is popular with the European and Australasian tribes. Because it is regional, SE tribe has historically hosted it. Historical costs for ICS have been around \$5000. That was the cost in 2011. The estimate for this year was \$700. Per Sally Williams, they paid \$1900 for a 30 x 30 space. The tent was \$2000; table and chairs were \$500; and incidentals were \$100. Jeff Munford's connections would have reduced the location to \$4000 and tent cost to \$500, plus some volunteer

labor. This would have allowed us to do Sun n' Fun within the \$2000 budgeted by the board during the fall meeting. There were questions about the location and whether we could have a display aircraft. Therefore, in summary, we should shoot for 2018.

#### **16. GCA & AAA Awards by Board of Directors**

Av stated he only received names from one or two people for the awards. Don Nelson and Shirley Nelson were both nominated for the Golden Circle award. Would we want to vote on them separately or do we want to give it to both of them.

LaVerne stated she felt they should both receive the award since they have done most everything for ICS together.

Scott agreed.

Av asked if there were any rules against doing that.

Hank stated there were no rules against it.

**Hank moved to award the Golden Circle award to both Don and Shirley Nelson. Bob Williams seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

Av asked if there were any suggestions for the annual achievement award.

Dave stated he would like to nominate Scott.

**Av moved to award the Annual Achievement Award to Scott. Hank seconded.**

**The motion passed unanimously, with Scott abstaining but suggesting Av Shiloh.**

#### **17. Miscellaneous Old Business by Board of Directors**

Scott stated last month we discussed the AOPA fly-ins and they will be two days this year. We discussed possible subsidizing the person displaying the aircraft. Adding that second day is an additional expense for them to bring their airplane. He is wondering if we should look into subsidizing them.

Av asked what dollar amount we are looking at since it would come out of the expense budget directly.

Scott stated \$150/night is probably a good average. It costs us nothing to have the airplane at the event. We can display one free, and the second one is \$250.

CJ suggested we supply the person with business cards and give them \$300 for expenses.

Av asked what the maximum dollar amount would be for the fly-ins.

Scott stated if we have a second aircraft it costs an extra \$250, so it is probably \$2500 for both airplanes.

Pat stated he agreed with the sentiment, but if you reimburse for the AOPA fly-ins, what will you do for those who staff Oshkosh.

Av stated he agreed with Pat, but there are some differences. We should consider limiting the costs to \$1000 for the season, not \$2500.

Bob Berry stated the president has the discretion to ask for reimbursement.

Av stated he has the authority but would like the board's input.

Bob Williams stated he brought his airplane for an AOPA fly-in. He didn't ask for reimbursement and didn't think anybody who agreed to bring their airplane expected to be reimbursed. If we start doing this, it could get way out of hand with people expecting to be reimbursed for everything they do.

Av stated that it is two days this year so that may make a difference but suggested we wait and see if anybody asks about covering expenses before we make any decisions.

Scott stated he agreed with Bob Williams. Most people who want to bring their aircraft to display are happy to be there. Scott agrees with Av that we should wait and see.

Av stated that if something comes up, bring it up to the board and we will address it then.

## **18. 2017 EAA AirVenture by CJ Stumpf**

Pat stated he had no new news.

## **19. EC Tribe Update**

AV stated Bryan McDougall is the new tribe chief/rep.

## **20. Miscellaneous New Business by Board of Directors**

Scott stated the committee is always looking for help. They would like one or two more people on the committee. Bob Berry and Monica Rehkopf agreed to serve on the bylaws committee.

Scott stated they will cover changes next month.

Dave state if we send the changes out in advance anyone with questions can ask questions ahead of time so it will go much quicker.

**Av asked the committee to get the changes out at least a week before the next meeting** so everyone can read them to make the approval as quick as possible.

Scott state this is the finalized version. We should announce the bylaws meeting so people can get online and ask questions they may have.

Hank reminded everyone that we are looking at standing rules only, not bylaws.

Av stated we need to look at the bylaws to make sure we are getting things published timely in the Flyer and on the website.

Hank stated updating the standing rules is easy but the bylaws we only get once chance a year. When updating bylaws, you have to consider any and every thing that can go wrong.

## **21. Next Team Speak Meeting by Scott Myers**

Av stated the next meeting would be March 21, 2107 at 8:00 PM EDT unless there were any objections. There were no objections.

## **22. Adjournment by Board of Directors**

**Hank moved to adjourn the meeting. LaVerne seconded. There were no objections to adjourning the meeting.**