Summer Meeting June 11, 2026
Lebanon Chamber of Commerce

9:30 AM Call to Meeting
Roll Call Sherri, not present Josh Painter

Motion to send $100 in memory of Larry Profitt to the North Cherokee Chapter.
Motion to approve Keith 1st, Jeff 2nd

Motion to approve the minutes from the Winter meeting in spring zoom call.
Melissa first, Jeremy second

Treasurers Report- see handout report, Lee
Started receiving Plate Money in May.
We do not seem to be making any money off the rifles. State is making money on the tail end from Super fund, $86,765 total made statewide, which goes to the Super Fund. 12 guns not paid for yet, but we will get money back. Guns ordered (62), 31 paid for, 37% return on investment. Special guns bring better money.
Motion to approve the report
Keith 1st, Tim Capps 2nd

Hunting For the Cure, Keith Hickman
$90,000 raised, 26 kids harvested a turkey. Keith said it was a life-changing event to be able to go and help. Darnell spoke about the great hunt that he and Joe helped with. We typically donate a gun to this event, motion to approve $850 for a gun for next year.
Jason 1st, Chris Romines 2nd

Darnell spoke about the idea for a Special Activities Committee, for special product only. He mentioned that we may have violated the Tennessee law on how we used the last guns. Committee will be responsible for; Decade Awards, Swag, Special Fundraisers. Patrick discussed his business of the products that they supply for Fundraisers. Darnell suggested for this committee; Westfall, Clinton, Silvia, Cody

Jeff spoke about the video that we made, we boosted it, but it did not help.

Old Business, Keith Hickman
We will be selling two or three trailers. Doug is going to use the one that Charlie is turning back in. Kolbie turning in one, and Tim is turning in his old one. Selling two of them to other chapters. Bidding starts in August to presidents, motion to sell to chapters in Tennessee by October 1st. We will probably need an email vote later to vote on a new trailer for Tim. Motion to approve selling the trailers.
Jason 1st, Keith 2nd

New Business, Pup
Spoke about Decade Awards, Golden gobbler award, Still wants to work on award platform. Spoke about slate call designs, one to auction off at each chapter banquet, we could even do a chance at a hunt at the state banquet. Joe mentioned that he could film the hunt for 2028. Motion to allow Special Activities Committee to come up with a gun, a call or both by October, we need to decide. Motion to approve
Jason 1st Skeeter 2nd

Board Application, Pup
He spoke about wanting something better for the application on the State Board website, That you could download, fill out, and submit. The committee would decide if the application is valid. It would be a standard application for everybody 30 days out from our meeting. We would keep the meeting dates updated on the website. Motion to approve:
Pup 1st, Lee 2nd

Proposal to help chapters financially net 51% up to 2500 per chapter. It is not free money, it will only fund chapters that barely miss the goal. Executive Board needs to approve fairly quick. Executive Board would make that determination after exhausting all resources. Motion to revisit later. Keith 1st, Jason 2nd

Superfund / Melissa
She stated that they had a good meeting last night, they funded all projects on list. See report, the ones in green were funded from the plate money. Those checks have to go to chapters, Plate money has to go to chapters by law.
Hatchie Tract Committed to five-year sponsor, all we have left is 20k to them. Outreach fund is $1000 to Benton to close that out. Superfund turned $319,748 into $9,681,200. Motion to approve report; Scotty 1st, Jason 2nd.

Wheelin Sportsman/ Doug & Wallace
They discussed the last hunt, they said it rained the whole week and had less participation, this was in Crossville, 48 attended with 10 hunters, they also had a fishing rodeo. Total spent $5712.89. They mentioned that we need to help get their name out there for more people to participate. The next dove hunt is located at the Dirt Farm, September 19. Everyone is invited, they hope to have 60 in attendance, they said it was great last year. Each hunter can get 15 birds, all participants can hunt, there is 300 acres in Jasper, Tennessee.
They discussed they are building two wheelchair blinds at Prentice Cooper.

Darnell suggested a Larry Profitt Memorial for the Cherokee Chapter. Motion to approve Jereme 1st, Keith 2nd

Derek says that membership has doubled in the last year, might fall a little short on the budget since it was approved last summer. Motion to approve $3000 budget for the dove hunt for Upper Cumberland Chapter.
Skeeter 1st, Jeff 2nd

TWRA Report / Roger
34,990 turkeys harvested during season
13% above the five-year average which is 31,038, Record harvest on public land 2840, fourth highest on record. Roger thinks there were more birds because there was a better hatch a couple of years ago, a decent hatch. There has been a constant uptick and harvest since covid. There is an effort to balance; gobbling intensity, favorable weather, hunter success, and the ongoing uncertainty of impacts of the season start date.
UT project not infield anymore, but still uses the data. The Jakes limit is helping that population. He discussed nest predators in Tennessee; armadillos, bobcats, coyotes, possums, raccoons, and skunks. We need to reduce the risk of nest being detected, improve nesting cover and reduce predators.
DNA Project: working with Dr. Chamberlain on the wild population for the DNA project he was curious about population samples of harvest to see the DNA of birds, what percent is Wild versus domestic? He had 116 turkey samples. The goal is to migrate better birds to weak areas so they make better nesters.

New way to report wildlife violations "Hunt Regulation App". You can pin the location, attach photos, and be anonymous, data goes straight to TWRA.

He also wanted to remind us to promote the Summer Brood Survey.

Derek wanted to thank Lindsey for keeping track and making sure all events have been registered, she has followed through with them.

NWTF Is going through a restructure, they will have five or six hubs with support staff. Tennessee Falls within "Habitat for the Hatch". This will enable stronger regions, better support and less fragmentation. The southeast raises more money than anyone, but we need to work on better partners, fundraising, and concentrate on companies to sponsor us. Structure changes take affect September 1st, each hub will be responsible for their own budget. Joe stated this started four years ago, it has been an ongoing project for a while. The next National Board meeting is in August. Tennessee is in the top three states for all fundraising.

RD Report (we called Tim on speaker phone because he had been in the hospital).
Tim thanked us for the prayers and those that reached out to check on him. He also thanked us for having a tremendous year in 2025. Kolbie stated that this year has already been better than last year. He would like to have a "Volunteer Day" where we all get together, meet, and maybe have some training and introduce new people to what we do. He suggested that we come up with new games for banquets. Jereme and Kolbie are going to work on this project before our next zoom meeting in October. Mark suggests that if you were going to come to the two day event, then the board will pay for you to spend the night if you are going to help out on Saturday. It would be a Friday meeting and a Saturday social.

They also discussed calendars and other options.

License Plate Fund - Jereme
Money comes in and has to go back out through chapters. He suggests creating a new chapter "3 Star Chapter" so that we can transfer money easier and we don't have to run it through another chapter. Motion to approve. Jereme 1st, Scotty 2nd

The Governor One Shot last year, we gave them a core package, they gave us a table for the governor banquet. Jereme wants us to approve another package, the core package is $3500 and the hats are $260. Motion to approve governor event out of the Plate Fund. Jereme 1st, Keith 2nd

Jereme also stated he wants us to rotate Summer meetings and have it at a different place each time.

Jereme wants to rename the website to simplify it. "NWTFTN.org"
He also wants to take the street addresses off each committee person and just leave their town and phone number.

Jereme wants us to do better to remember the Hall of Fame recipients, get bio and pictures of them to honor them. He also wants to add the zoom meeting agenda to the website. The website now has minutes and records. We need to update the RD info. The award time has been dressed up. State records have been updated.

2026 Call Contest / Jeff Jackson
He stated he was trying to step down. He wants to have a trumpet call "Larry Profitt" since he was a judge at Nationals.

Next Zoom meeting October 15, 6 PM Central.

Still have Jake's event money we need to spend.

Darnell wants Keith to have the License Plate Committee to present ideas for the new plate.

Motion to approve Josh absence, since his wife was in the hospital.
Craig 1st, Patrick 2nd

Election
East: Letner & Clinton
Middle: Silvey & Kies
These four voted in by acclimation
Motion to approve Keith 1st, Jason 2nd

West: voted in Tim Capps

Meeting Adjourned