

# NNSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 5:15 pm**

**Via Zoom**

1. Welcome and introductions / determination of quorum
  - Board Members: Gerald Miller, Larry Hyslop, Andi Porreca, Pam Harrington, Dave Voth, Katie Moss, Paul Meiman, William Kutosky, Leslie Creel
  - Public: Doug Clarke, Sierra Sampson, Josh Nicholes, Coralee Ditman, Kelsey Denning, Greg VanOsbee
  - Gerry Miller called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.
2. Public Comment/Short General Discussion Period, Adjust Agenda
  - Gerry stated that the Board purchased a Susan Elliot picture from the Museum as William's thank you/going-away gift.
  - Doug stated that there would be a bike ride open to the public on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.
3. Approval of September 14 meeting minutes.
  - **Larry made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 14 meeting. Gerry seconded and the motion passed. Paul abstained.**
4. Treasurer's Report:
  - Approval of Bills Accrued Since the Last Meeting
    - i. Katie went over the transactions that have been made with the bank account. There is around \$15,581 in the checking account, with a few checks and donations that need to be deposited.
    - ii. **Andi made a motion to approve the September treasurer's report. Pam seconded and the motion passed.**
5. Sage Grouse Local Area Working Group Update – Elko has a few credit and debit opportunities in the works and the Nevada Sagebrush Ecosystem Council is also considering the Lahontan Cutthroat Habitat, Mule Deer Corridors and other issues facing the Sagebrush landscapes
  - The Sagebrush Ecosystem Council would like LAWGs to refer to management plans and mitigate triggers as they come up. Rules are changing statewide and more corridors will be implemented.
6. Opportunity to fill vacancy on the Board of Directors – nominations are open
  - **Larry made a motion to nominate Leslie Creel to fill a Board vacancy. Pam seconded and the motion passed.**
7. Update on NNSG Brochure
  - Gail stated that BOD members can send edits to her and she will work on updating the brochure. Larry will send pics and would like to see a section on how the public can contribute and a section on projects completed.

8. Lamoille Summit Trails Partnership – discussion of the Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM and ETIS, which we've indicated that we would like to be involved. NNSG will be in charge of two trail maintenance days per year and other trail improvements works days
  - The County has committed to step up on the funding side of the project. NNSG will continue to support and will coordinate projects as needed.
  - NNSG will be responsible for trail maintenance, or find someone who is certified who would like to attend our events.
  - **Pam made a motion to accept the changes made to the MOU as well as approve the MOU between NNSG and the BLM. Andi seconded and the motion passed.**
9. Discussion of Boot Cleaning Station in Lamoille Canyon
  - NAISMA membership purchase through our Range Two Fire Funds
    - i. Josh is okay with placing the boot scraping station at the Ruby Crest trailhead. Andi will move forward to purchasing the boot scraping station and working on the wording for the kiosk.
10. Discuss the Board of Directors self-assessment of the Stewardship Group
  - Thursday evening general membership presentations and determine dates
    - i. The Board decided that it would be best to wait until next year and host a webinar. Gerry, Doug and Paul will work on a topic together in the next few weeks.
11. Upcoming Opportunities Requesting Contribution/Partner Support
  - Partnering with Nevada Outdoor School to help with improvements at the Lamoille Canyon Road's End
    - i. NOS will be working on installing a concrete pad this fall at road's end. Gerry will set up a meeting with NOS, USFS, Friends of the Ruby Mountains before the project begins so everyone is on the same page.
12. Chronological Photopoint on the Range 2 Fire
  - Request to fund expenses of \$200 per year or perhaps share expenses with Nevada Outdoor School
    - i. Doug was approached by a nationwide collaborative that allows the public to submit photos at predetermined photo sites. This allows people with cell phones to upload pictures that are then used to capture scenic changes over time. NOS is interested in sponsoring this project and working it into their Lamoille Canyon educational component. **Andi made a motion for NNSG to sponsor the project by committing \$100 to it. Leslie seconded and the motion passed.**
13. FALL PLANT SALE:
  - Assist NDF staff by sorting orders on October 21st and 22nd as this is one of our annual fundraisers.
    - i. Andi will pick up the plants on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and they will be sorted on the 21<sup>st</sup> with help from Kelsey and Gerry.
14. Old Business: Mary Winter's Flora of Northern Nevada Book Funding Request Update
  - No update.
15. Friends of the Ruby Mountains Update

- The summer activities and campground talk have been wrapped up. Donations were used to purchase snacks and beverages. They ended up with \$108 at the end of their season.
- Doug would like to see NNSG take on the maintenance of the Powerhouse and Thomas Canyon amenities once the concessionaire has left for the season.

#### 16. 2022 National Cowboy Poetry Gathering Update

- The theme is “Keeping it Wild”. Doug will have a better idea of what the Gathering will look like next year, but as of now, the NNSG would like to sponsor the Saturday morning discussion panel that will be humanity and philosophy related.

#### 17. Updates from Agencies, Partners and Landowners

- Pam Harrington - TU
  - i. Pam was appointed to the Mining Oversight Commission and will have more of an update at our November meeting. They will be meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - ii. Sierra Sampson – USFS
    1. Went out with Jerry Tiems and worked on botanized plants in the Jarbidge and Bull Run area.
  - iii. Paul Meiman – Cooperative Extension
    1. Completed four aerial Rejuvra plots – Rejuvra, plateau, and then a combination of Rejuvra and Plateau together.
  - iv. Josh Nicholes – USFS
    1. Presentation on July 2021 rock slide in the Ruby Mountains.
      - a. On July 30<sup>th</sup>, Lamoille Canyon received 2.6” of rainfall in a 24-hour period which caused 22 separate debris flows. Very little of the avalanches had anything to do with the Range Two Fire, since they were located further up the canyon from the burned areas.
      - b. Based on the National Weather Service data the precipitation event was a 200-year event, and 8,000 cubic yards of debris was removed from the Canyon
      - c. An application for Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads is being submitted to the Federal Highway Administration.
      - d. The road has been re-opened and more work will be needed following spring snowmelt and movement of existing debris flow deposits.

#### 18. Public Comment

- There was no additional public comment.

#### 19. Determine the Next Meeting Date and Location

- November 9th at 5:15 PM via Zoom.

#### 20. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.