

NNSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 5:15 pm

**Elko County Commissioner's Chamber
540 Court Street Street, Elko, Nevada**

1. Welcome and introductions / determination of quorum
 - Board Members: Gary Reese (via Zoom), Gerald Miller, Larry Hyslop, Dave Voth, Andi Porreca, Margaret Walch (via Zoom), Katie Moss, Gail Ross
 - Public: Doug Clarke, Coralee Ditman,, Leslie Creel, Curtis Moore, Amanda Osborne, Paul Meiman, Brandolyn Thran, Tammy Owens,
 - Gerry Miller the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.
2. Public Comment/Short General Discussion Period, Adjust Agenda
 - i. Doug stated that the NNSG should do a showing of the video “Kiss the Ground” which is about the future of farming practices. The board decided that they will determine a date and location for the annual meeting during the June board meeting and show the movie sometime in July.
3. Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes and April 14, 2021 Minutes
 - **Larry made a motion to approve the annual meeting minutes. Dave seconded and the motion passed.**
 - **Dave made a motion to approve the April 14 meeting minutes. Katie seconded and the motion passed.**
4. Treasurer's Report:
 - Approval of Bills Accrued Since the Last Meeting
 - i. Doug suggested that the group spend \$1,000 of the fire restoration funds on weed control and removal in Lamoille Canyon. Targeted weeds include Dyer's woad, leafy spurge and spotted knapweed. **Larry made a motion to allocate \$1,000 for noxious weed removal in Lamoille Canyon. Andi seconded and the motion passed.**
 - ii. **Dave made a motion to approve the treasurer's report that Katie provided to the board. Larry seconded and the motion passed.**
5. Discussion of Annual Work Plan and Budget
 - Gerry provided a detailed annual work plan to the board for their review. **Andi made a motion to approve the annual work plan. Larry seconded and the motion passed.**
 - Paul stated that he has some funding that could be used to update that taxonomy in Mary Winter's book, which could lead to speeding up the printing process. He will get a hold of Janelle with the Native Plant Society and see if that funding will help.
6. Update on NNSG Brochure

- Dave worked on and updated the brochure last year. Katie will forward to Gerry and Andi.
7. National Trails Day Activities – June 5th in Lamoille Canyon
 - Volunteer activities will occur at Road’s End, Thomas Canyon, Talbot Creek Trail and at the Nature Trail. Volunteers will be picking up garbage, brush removal, oiling benches and adding stencils to brochure boxes.
 8. Lamoille Summit Trails Partnership – discussion of next steps and what is the ask of the Stewardship Group
 - Leslie stated that there was going to be a trail building workshop on May 15 and 16 at the Spring Creek Campground. Andi posted the flyer to the NNSG Facebook page.
 9. Friends of the Rubies Update – every Saturday in July scheduled with Campground talks and Saturdays in August scheduled with Cool Canyon evenings
 - Larry provided the June 5 flyer for the National Trails Day volunteer event at the Nature Trail and Ruby Crest Trail. Volunteers should RSVP with Larry if they plan on attending.
 10. Mary Winter’s Flora of Northern Nevada Book Funding Request Update
 - After Paul contacts Janel, Katie will work on cutting a check for \$2,000 that will go to the Nevada Native Plant Society and send to Gary, NPS’s treasurer. We will need to make sure that Gary Bach’s tribute is included before the book goes to print.
 11. Upcoming Opportunities Requesting Contribution/Partner Support
 - a. California Trail Center Summer Education Programs
 - **Dave made a motion to allocate \$100 that will go towards the purchase of beverages for BLM events. Larry seconded and the motion passed.**
 - b. Nevada Outdoor School - Submit their project with Our NGM Grant Request
 - Brandolyn from Nevada Outdoor Schools gave a short explanation on some projects that they will need help with at Road’s End in Lamoille Canyon. They would like to partner with NNSG on building picnic tables and informational kiosks to be used by the public. It was decided by the board that we should wait to submit a funding proposal to Nevada Gold Mines after a subgroup (Andi and Katie) can meet with Brandolyn and come up with a project list that both groups agree on. We will plan to submit the proposal in September 2021 and hold volunteer events in 2022.
 12. Sage Grouse Local Area Working Group Update – Elko has a few credit and debit opportunities in the works
 - Gerry drafted a list of projects that have been worked on that will go in the Governor’s report. Hope to move forward with the Sage Grouse Experience in 2022. Doug threw out some ideas for public outreach that included and sagebrush cache fact sheet and possible overnight deflector installation workshop. The water troughs at Harrison Pass need to be fixed/updated. Dave thinks that he can get some tires donated for the troughs.
 13. Updates from Agencies, Partners and Landowners
 - Dave Voth – NGM
 - i. He will email out the SRM summer tour flyer which will be held at the Horseshoe Ranch on June 11.

- Gerry Miller – DCNR
 - i. The “Virtual Fencing” Shoesole Tour will be held on June 15.
- Paul Meiman – UNCE
 - i. Monitoring-
 1. Rancher’s Monitoring Guide (Schultz et al.) revised in 2020; we just made a few hundred hard copies to start distributing.
 2. Started conversations with a group about ideas for a different approach to monitoring workshops (Patti Novak-Echenique, Kathryn Dyer, Brad Schultz, Gary McCuin, Duane Coombs, Paul Meiman – need 1 or 2 from USFS)
 3. Have been working with W-G OBG group and the Cottonwood Ranch on Cooperative Monitoring Agreements
 - ii. Virtual Fence Project-
 1. working with version 2 collars this year at both ranches
 2. William K. and I went out to help Cottonwood collar earlier this spring – have some issues with collars so will be switching out for a new batch in the next month or so
 3. Shoesole summer tour (6/15-6/16) will include some information about the virtual fence project
 4. Planning to collar at Maggie Creek (Lamoille Unit) again this year – also in the next month or so
 - iii. Cheatgrass / indaziflam project – working on getting a large-scale study off the ground looking at aerial applications of indaziflam, imazapic, and the 2 herbicides combined (working with USDI FWS Science Applications and Partners for Fish and Wildlife program, NDOW, Nevada Gold Mines and others.
 - iv. Barry Perryman, Brad Schultz and Paul Meiman published an article recently challenging ideas presented by Mack and Thompson 40 years ago about grazing by large ungulates in the Great Basin and Intermountain West. The article is available here
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1550742421000038>.

14. Public Comment

- No public comment.

15. Determine the Next Meeting Date and Location

- June 8 at NDF office – outside if the weather permits.

16. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.