

NNSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 5:15 pm

Nevada Division of Forestry Office – Elko, NV

1. Welcome and introductions / determination of quorum
 - Board Members: Gerald Miller, Andi Porreca, Dave Voth, Leslie Creel, Gail Ross, Katie Moss, Larry Hyslop, Pam Harrington, Paul Meiman
 - Public: Doug Clarke, Macy (NOS), Brandolyn Thran, Coralee Ditman, Josh Traveras (BLM), Melanie Mitchell (BLM), Sarah McGowan (Northeast Elko CD), Amanda Conklin
 - Gerry Miller called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.
2. Public Comment/Short General Discussion Period, Adjust Agenda
 - Larry stated that he created some maps of Lamoille Canyon using the USGS topomap builder.
3. Approval of February 8th meeting minutes
 - **Gerry made a motion to approve the minutes from the February meeting. Andi seconded and the motion passed.**
4. Treasurer's Report:
 - Approval of Bills Accrued Since the Last Meeting
 - i. \$14,360 in the checking account as of February 2022. **Larry made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Pam seconded and the motion passed.**
 - ii. Andi and Katie will work on the Nevada Gold Mines proposal and will include Sage Grouse Experience and Friends of the Ruby Mountains projects.
5. Update on NNSG Brochure
 - Gail stated that BOD members can send edits to her and she will work on updating the brochure as needed moving forward. She will also remove the Membership Dues section.
6. Lamoille Summit Trails Partnership
 - i. Leslie stated that there is funding available for trail building training. BLM will be implementing burrowing owl and raptor surveys. Doug would like to walk the trail to get a feel for the steepness of the grades and for possible meander implementation.
7. Friends of the Ruby Mountains Update
 - Friends and NOS hosted a snowshoe hike at the California Trail Center on March 18 at 7:30 PM. They will be providing a campfire where the public will be able to drink hot cocoa and make s'mores.
8. Mary Winter's Flora of Northern Nevada Funding Request Update
 - No update.

9. Updates: Sagebrush Seed Collection, Roads End Education Area, Boot Cleaning Station, Lamoille Canyon Chronological Photopoint on the Range 2 Fire, Cowboy Poetry Panel Discussion, Educational Workshops Planned for Mid-Winter
 - Doug and Brandolyn were able to lock down a re-photography site in Lamoille Canyon, looking at cottonwood regeneration. A letter to the Forest Service has been drafted and submitted.
 - The noxious weeds awareness boot scraping station has been delivered and will be installed at Lamoille Canyon Roads End by FS crews sometime this spring.
 - Virtual fencing presentation will be given by Paul at the April annual dinner.
10. Upcoming Opportunities Requesting Contribution/Partner Support – Sponsoring someone to attend the Soils Workshop at the Cottonwood Ranch on July 21-22, 2022
 - i. **Paul made a motion to pay the \$1,000.00 attendance fee and sponsor Gail Ross to attend the workshop and send Coralee Ditman as an alternate. Pam seconded and the motion passed.**
11. **Annual Meeting:** April 21st at the Elko Basque Club
 - All Board members have agreed to stay on another year. Brandolyn and Amanda also expressed interest for becoming Board members, so will need to amend by-laws to include two more BOD positions.
 - Paul will be giving his presentation on virtual fencing.
 - Nominations for Recognition: Joe Doucette and Cam Collins
 - Food will include appetizers from Odeh Deli, BJ Bull Bakery, McAdoo's and Ogi Deli. We will plan for around 50 attendees.
 - Gail would also like for plates, and cutlery to be compostable.
12. 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.
 - The Scope has been completed and comments are being reviewed. The Sage Grouse Experience will be held virtually this year and there will be photos that will be linked for the public to view.
 - NDOW is currently looking for lek counters. There will also be a sagebrush planting event at the Cedar Fire on March 19th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.
 - Jeff Knight (NDA) will be hosting a grasshopper training on March 30th.
13. Updates from Agencies, Partners and Landowners
 - Josh Nicholes - USFS
 - i. Currently in the process of all of their pre-season planning for fire and hiring for seasonal positions. Meagan Carter will be starting a 120-day detail as the deputy district ranger next week. Looking at increasing their staffing in both fire and fuels in alignment with additional emphasis in hazardous fuels reduction and shared stewardship likely adding several new positions to their organizational chart.
 - Dave Voth – NGM

- i. Jared Sorenson will be hosting a 3-day grazing management workshop in Ruby Valley at the end of March, the cost is \$700.
 - Melanie Mitchell - BLM
 - i. LCT issues are currently taking up most of their time. She would like to partner with NNSG and create a range improvement maintenance agreement for exclosures.
 - ii. Josh Traveras is on a 120-day detail in Elko. He's based out of Las Vegas and specializes in trail development.
 - Coralee Ditman - NDF
 - i. Submitted two grant proposals – removal of diseased cottonwoods in Lamoille and Clover Valley fire break.
 - Brandolyn Thran – NOS
 - i. Currently gearing up for summer camps and she will forward the Elko Clean-Up, Green-Up flyer to the group and Andi can post to the facebook page.
 - Paul Meiman – Extension
 - i. Extension is currently looking for new Director and he thanked NNSG for the Policy Summit support.
 - Leslie Creel
 - i. NRMAC will be doing Humboldt River modeling in March.
14. Determine the Next Meeting Date and Location
- Meeting time and location TBD.
15. Adjourn
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM