

NNSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 5:15 pm

NDOW Conference Room – Elko, NV

1. Welcome and introductions / determination of quorum
 - Board Members: Gerald Miller, Andi Porreca, Gail Ross, Larry Hyslop, Coralee Ditman, Pam Harrington, Dave Voth, Margaret Walsh, Leslie Creel
 - Public: Melanie Mitchell (BLM), Jason Freeman (BLM), Jeff White (BLM), Caleb McAdoo (NDOW)
 - Pam called the meeting to order at 5:20 PM.
2. Public Comment/Short General Discussion Period, Adjust Agenda
 - Larry stated that he updated the Board Member biographies on the NNSG website, but would like to for the [newly elected board members to send him a short synopsis of themselves so he can get those added to the website as well.](#)
3. Approval of August 9 meeting minutes
 - **Dave made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 9 meeting. Leslie seconded and the motion passed.**
4. Treasurer's Report:
 - Approval of Bills Accrued Since the Last Meeting
 - i. There is currently \$11,749.80 in the checking account.
 - Action items update form August BOD meeting
5. Consideration of exploring contracting the accounting services out
 - The BOD discussed only contracting out accounting services if they choose to move forwards with an assistance agreement with the BLM. The BOD decided to table until a future meeting once [Katie has given her input on the discussion item.](#)
6. BLM assistance agreement update
 - If NNSG decides to move forward with an assistance agreement with the BLM, the agreement could be set up later this year and funding would be available for projects in 2023. Melanie stated that NNSG would focus on hiring an employee to perform tasks that were on a list that was provided to the BOD which includes: monitoring sites in the Mary's River area, exclosure maintenance, GIS exercises for staff use and some potential construction projects. We have the option to put the work out to bid or have an employee do the project implementation. [Gerry, Andi and Brandolyn agreed to go through the project list and prioritize projects that could possibly be coordinated on with groups such as 4-H, FFA, SANE, NOS and NYTC before the next BOD meeting.](#)
7. BLM – Mary's River riparian assessment and possible 40-year follow-up Study
 - NNSG has roughly \$30,000 to do an assessment or a study on the Mary's River. To move forward, we would have to submit a proposal in writing to the BLM.

Melanie would like to see some sort of project proposal from NNSG. Andi contacted Greg Simmons and he does have the old data files from the original assessment. Open Range Consulting is interested in taking on the project and would like to do a new survey.

8. Friends of the Rubies Events Update

- The four Campground Events have been completed. The two Cool Canyon Evenings were a success and the remaining events will be done with help from Nevada Outdoor School. Larry purchased a feathered flag for the Friends group for \$318. He will also look into purchasing a doggy bag station for Road's End along with a PA system for future events.

9. Updates on:

- Elko Fall Plant Sale fundraiser
 - i. This fall's sale will be held on October 14 and 15th at the NDF office in Elko. Order forms have been mailed and emailed out to customers. Andi will post the event to the NNSG and NDF Facebook pages.
- Educational workshops planned for summer 2022
 - i. There will be a State and Transition Model Class at the Cottonwood Ranch September 2022
- Soils workshop in Jiggs at the Community Center with update by Coralee and Gail on Cottonwood Ranch soils workshop
 - i. Gail stated that she enjoyed the workshop and felt that the attendees were more in tune with soils and nutrient cycling than in previous years.
 - ii. She would also like to see NNSG sponsor some type of workshop in tea extracts for soils. We could partner with Tamzen, CDs, SRM, Elko Garden Producers, Cooperative Extension and NDEP soils scientists. Gail, Sarah, and Pam agreed to work on this item together.
- Rangeland monitoring workshop in October?
 - i. Andi will check to see if Paul is still interested in giving this presentation. Will see if he could put something together for November/early December depending on his availability.
- Mary Winter's Flora of Northern Nevada Book funding request update
 - i. No update,
- Lamoille summit trails partnership update - two trail maintenance days per year and other trail improvements works days
 - i. There have been three days of workdays so far along with two meetings at the courthouse. They plan to make the trails to allow for better visibility, so they are planning to have two trails instead of one. The RFP has gone out and there is a \$56,000 fee that the BLM will cover. The project is on-going with four trail flagging days planned over a span of 12 miles.
- Road's End education area
 - i. Brandolyn met with the FS and she is negotiating the needs for the Road's End pavilion which will serve as an educational center for the public to use.
- Boot cleaning station
 - i. Still needs to be installed. Possible Eagle Scout project?
- Lamoille Canyon chronolog photopoint on the Range 2 Fire

- i. The photopoint station has been approved by the FS. NOS and the Forest Service will work to get the information for the project out to the public.
10. Upcoming opportunities requesting contribution/partner support
 - SRM Range Camp sponsor for annual meeting (\$200)
 - i. **Gerry made a motion to sponsor a range camp student to attend the upcoming SRM meeting if the student can submit a request letter to the group. Larry seconded and the motion passed.**
 - Shad Linn/Billy Irish Lamoille tree planting project.
 - i. Item tabled for future meeting.
11. Sage Grouse Local Area Working Group update – Elko has a few credit and debit opportunities in the works and the LAWG will be monitoring the Sage Grouse Plan Amendment
 - There are lots of groups doing sage grouse improvement projects. Gerry also submits quarterly reports on behalf of the NNSG.
 - The Sage Grouse Plan is currently being revised by NRMAC, it would be a good idea for the edits to be reviewed by the sage grouse LAWG before anything is finalized. (October action item).
 - Pam made a motion for Gerry to give a quick 15 minute presentation at a future meeting.
12. Board Member updates/Public Comment
 - Caleb McAdoo gave a presentation on the Licking Ranch Argenta WMA acquisition by NDOW. This property has been a priority for NDOW for the last 70 years. It is 1,568 acres and has LCT habitat as well as 92 different species of birds over the course of the year. NDOW also plans or has already purchased the Blue Diamond Ranch near Ely, the pond near the 12th Street bridge in Elko as well as a 12,000 acre conservation easement in Poll Canyon.
 - i. **Dave made a motion for Pam to draft a letter of support to Lander County and NDOW on behalf of the NNSG for the purchase of the Licking Ranch Argenta WMA. Coralee seconded and the motion passed.**
 - [Doug will talk to the Folklife Center to discuss panel topics](#) for the upcoming National Cowboy Poetry Gathering. Any update?
 - Leslie stated that Desert Pigs will be doing a clean-up project on 5th Street sometime this fall and the Man-Mule race will be held on September 24th. They are still looking for volunteers for that event.
13. Determine the next meeting date (October 8) and location. Amanda will be the next month's President.
14. Adjourn
 - The September meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.