

NNSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 5:15 pm

NDF Office Elko and via Zoom

1. Welcome and introductions determination of quorum
 - Board Members: Gerry Miller, Larry Hyslop, Andi Porreca, Gail Ross, Pam Harrington, Leslie Creel, Dave Voth, Amanda Conklin, Katie Moss,
 - Public: Doug Clarke, Josh Hertel (USFS), John Daniel (BLM), Melanie Mitchell (BLM), Jeff Moore (BLM), Chance Davis (USFWS), James Lautzenheiser (USFS)
 - Dave called the meeting to order at 5:20 PM.
2. Public Comment/Short General Discussion Period, Adjust Agenda
 - There was no public comment.
3. Approval of December meeting minutes
 - **Leslie made a motion to approve the February meeting minutes. Amanda seconded and the motion passed.**
4. Treasurer's Report:
 - Approval of Bills Accrued Since the Last Meeting
 - i. Katie stated that there is \$13,728.15 in the checking account. **Gerry made a motion to pay Katie \$40 for her time put towards Treasurer duties. Andi seconded and the motion passed.**
5. BLM Mary's River riparian assessment update
 - Grad student project/write-up
 - i. Gerry stated that the grad student that was previously interested in the project may not have time to dedicate moving forward. Item tabled.
 - Leverage funds with NFWF America the Beautiful Grant
 - i. NNSG would have to apply for this grant and leverage funds to help Open Range Consulting to update their original survey. And will ask ORC if they are able to remote sense for carbon sequestration. **Gerry made a motion to resurvey the entire Mary's River project area through photo-interpretations of original transects for a follow-up study. Leslie seconded and the motion passed.**
6. Friends of the Rubies Events Update
 - Larry is looking for someone to make QR codes for Soldier Canyon. Katie will reach out to Facebook groups to see if someone local can assist.
7. Updates on:
 - Upcoming educational workshops
 - i. NNSG fall 2023 Ecosystem Resilience/Climate Change Symposium
 1. Doug stated that he will not be able to help organize. Item discussed further under Microbiome Working Group Update.
 - ii. Rangeland monitoring workshop March 2023
 1. Item tabled for future Board meeting.
 - Microbiome Working Group Update

- i. International Compost Awareness Week will be May 7-13 this year and Gail would like to have NNSG host a community focused/small scale event where the public could learn about basic composting practices. She has been in contact with the Ernsts' from Catalyst BioAmendments and they would be interested in giving a one-day presentation on May 29. Gail will do some more research and report back to the group at the April BOD meeting.
 - Mary Winter's Flora of Northern Nevada Book funding request update
 - i. No update.
 - Lamoille summit trails partnership update
 - i. Leslie stated that a new MOU has been created to incorporate the California Trail Heritage Alliance and the obligation for the project have not changed. **Gerry made a motion to accept the new MOU for the Lamoille Summit Trails Partnership, Larry seconded and the motion passed.** Leslie prepared a letter of support for the feasibility study from the California Trail Center to Lamoille Summit and then on to Lamoille Canyon. Nicole Burton (NDOW) has the shapefiles for the project
 - Boot cleaning station
 - i. The station will be installed by USFS seasonals once the snow melts.
8. Upcoming opportunities requesting contribution/partner support
- 2023 Sage Grouse Experience
 - A meeting was held on March 15th to discuss logistics. Still looking for a group to cook breakfast that morning. Dave will reach out to the FFA and see if 4-5 students would be interested.
9. NNSG Annual Meeting Updates
- Southwind will be performing that evening. Jesse Braatz and Carol Evans will be presenting on their project at the Humboldt River Ranch. Andi will reach out to the Cottonwood Ranch as well as the museum for raffle items. Gerry, Margaret, Gail and Katie will reach out to local restaurants and get quotes for appetizers for that night. Price per person will be \$20 and will include one drink ticket.
10. 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
- NRMAC is currently working on updating the sage grouse plan. They meet the last Monday of every month. Dave, Leslie and Steve Boies will review the original document that is on the NNSG webpage and will bring their comments back to the NNSG board.
11. Board Member updates/Public Comment
- Chance stated that USFWS is working to get bill proposals in for FY 2024 for sage brush restoration and invasive annual grass projects.
 - Melanie reported that the O'Neil PPA environmental assessment for sagebrush restoration and fuels reduction received funding for amendments at Tabor Creek Campground.
12. Determine the next meeting date (April 11) location TBD.
13. Adjourn
- The March meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

