

# NNSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, February 8th, 2022 at 5:15 pm**

**Via Zoom**

1. Welcome and introductions / determination of quorum
  - Board Members: Gerald Miller, Gail Ross, Paul Meiman, Leslie Creel,
  - Public: Doug Clarke, Brandolyn Thran (NOS), Amanda Conklin, Josh Nicholes (USFS), Robin Wignall(USFS), Kyra Walton(USFS), Cheryl Mandich (USF&WS), Madi Stout (NDOW/NRCS),
  - Gerry Miller called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.
2. Public Comment/Short General Discussion Period, Adjust Agenda
  - No public comment. Gerry and Paul suggested items to add to the agenda and there was consensus to add UNR Policy Summit /Center donation and a stipend to the NNSG secretary
3. Approval of December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes
  - **Leslie made a motion to approve the minutes with the addition of Amanda as attending the December meeting. Gail seconded and the motion passed.**
4. Treasurer's Report:
  - Approval of Bills Accrued Since the Last Meeting
    - i. Treasures report will be emailed to the BOD.
  - Gerry mentioned the purchase of the NNSG hats was \$436.00 and can't wait to have an in-person meeting to hand em out and we rented the tables and chairs for the Saturday January 22 South Fork Activity for \$150.00
  - Gerry also mentioned that the minutes and agendas and correspondence take time and though it's only token dollar wise, the expression of how much we appreciate our BOD Secretary taking on this roll, and Gerry suggested that we cut a check to Andi for \$300 basically \$25.00 per month for her up and above efforts.
  - **Gail made a motion to approve the bills and Stipend to the secretary. Leslie seconded and the motion carried.**
5. Update on NNSG Brochure
  - Though everyone is zoomed out, the one advantage of it; is group editing of a document as none of us know as much as all of us and Gail took control of the screen and we all added out two cents worth and the brochure is nearly ready for the printer 😊
6. Lamoille Summit Trails Partnership
  - Leslie discussed the latest and greatest of what's happening, she and only she attended the Conserve Nevada grant workshop held here in the Elko area and the

feasibility study conducted and ETIS activities in general, You shoulda have been there as this minute taker got involved in the discussion rather than taking notes.

7. Friends of the Ruby Mountains Update

- There was a good turn out for the wid week hike in December, Christmas Break and they held a activity on January 22 at the South Fork State Park, and perhaps night time events seem to attract a larger crowd for the Hikes

8. Mary Winter's Flora of Northern Nevada Funding Request Update

- The final edits are in progress, then off to Mary Winters family for their approval and then out for soliciting bids for printing – whoo hoo the finish line in in sight

9. Updates:

- Sagebrush Seed Collection: Perhaps suggest a later starting time, eg lunch and then collect sagebrush as the dew might be gone in the afternoon – we did something similar to this up north fifth street one time many years ago
- Boot Cleaning Station is ordered, there's so many partners you'll need a hand lens to read em
- Road Ends Educational Area: NOS needs to write up a proposal for education area improvements and submit to F.S. for their review
- Doug and Brandolyn were able to lock down a re-photography site in Lamoille Canyon, looking at cottonwood regeneration. Orange post will need to be installed before winter. NNSG will need to cut a check to NOS for \$200. Lamoille Canyon Chronological Photo point on the Range 2 Fire, NOS should write up a synopsis of the Proposal and submit to FS.
- Cowboy Poetry – Agee Smith gave the keynote speech as well as Four generations of the Cottonwood Ranch talked discussed how their experiences the audience seemed to be engaged at the Saturday Panel Discussion
- **Gail Moved to donate our usual \$1000.00 to the Western Folklife Center to Sponsor the Panel Discussion, Paul Seconded. Motion Carried**
- Educational Workshops Planned for Mid-Winter – Spring –For Education al Workshops, we will need a space that can provide proper live streaming. Possibly at the college after the new employee is hired. we'll just concentrate on pulling off an Annual Meeting and still plan to have Paul present on virtual fencing

10. Upcoming Opportunities Requesting Contribution/Partner Support

- Paul gave a brief outline of requesting NNSG Support of the UNR Policy Summit/Center and the first step is the Summit being held sometime towards the end of March. Gerry mentioned that we had \$300 budgeted for a recreational Trails Workshop and theirs only two months remaining before this current NNSG approved budget expires and I've heard no plans to hold a recreation workshop so he would be in favor of allocating those dollars to UNR Policy Summit.
- **Gail Moved to allocate \$300.00 to support the UNR Policy Summit/Center. Gerry Seconded. Motion Carried. Check needs to be written to NSHE Board of Regents** (Paul Meiman abstained)

11. General Membership Meetings: Discussed above under Educational Workshops
12. Annual Meeting: Bylaws say we'll hold a annual meeting in April, Main focus is to bring folks together and elect to the BOD and hold an educational presentation, Gerry suggested the Northeastern Nevada Museum or Western Folklife Center and have the dinner catered by one of the local food trucks – which will be \$15 per plate and that we allocate \$30 dollar vouchers to the BOD = \$300 and \$300 for vouchers for our partners and that leaves \$400 for facility rental thus using our Approved budget of \$1,000 dollars – Gerry suggested **Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup>** as that's a date Paul and team is available to present the Virtual Fencing to us and I think if only who showed up for tonight s meeting that it would be a success and for this venue me thinks we should just have a three choices for dinner and have it ready to be served as folks line up and Gail mentioned Lets use the Annual Dinner to Focus on being less wasteful in how we serve cocktails and dinner – use it as a teaching moment – other than that all I heard was crickets, so **Lets get a discussion going – I want to implement a plan of action at the March 8th meeting.** This is the high light of the year for the Organization – and remember this is our chance to change Bylaws as I the President would like to expand the BOD to fifteen so start recruiting !!!!
13. 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 SEC met on December 15<sup>th</sup> and they discussed sage grouse plan revisions. BLM reviewed special focal areas and predator control. Cottonwood Ranch, Sarman's, Heguy's, Mori's, IL Ranch and Sorenson's all have credits available to debtors.
  - BLM S-G plan revisions were due yesterday, the LAWG didn't submit any comments.
  - And the BOD thought that perhaps we should go ahead with the S-G Experience and yeah the current location is sorta dangerous, maybe a new site, still need to find a location for the education portion and secure funding for the bus – ugh lots to do in a short time but all doable

#### 14. Public Comment and Updates from Agencies, Partners and Landowners

Wow you should have been present as there were so many activities being pursued that I lost count and got total immersed in the conversation from the agencies infectious enthusiasm of what they have going on – there's a very bright future ahead for us involved with the NNSG whose moto is “striving for healthy landscapes and quality lifestyles”

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

- Meeting time and location: March 8<sup>th</sup> hopefully a hybrid of in person and zoom

16. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM