

NNSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 5:15 pm

City Park – 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, Brandolyn Thran
 - Public: Doug Clarke, Melanie Mitchell (BLM), Cam Collins (BLM), Sarah McGowan (SANE)
 - Gail 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 May 10 meeting minutes
 - **Gerry made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 10 meeting. Dave seconded and the motion passed.**
4. Treasurer's Report:
 - Approval of Bills Accrued Since the Last Meeting
 - i. Item tabled for future meeting.
5. Consideration and approval of paying for secretarial and/or reestablishing the Executive Director title – \$30.00 hour and nominating Andi Porreca as she has been acting in this role for years
 - **Dave made a motion to pay Andi up to 200 hours at \$30 per hour until April of 2023. Gerry seconded and the motion passed. Andi abstained from the motion.**
6. 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.
7. 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, enclosure 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.

8. 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 will contact Greg Simmons to see if he still has any of the old files.

9. 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 would like to purchase a feathered flag for the Friends group for \$220. He will also look into purchasing a doggy bag station for Road’s End along with a PA system for future events.

10. Updates on:

- 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. 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.
- 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. Andi will make a donation for \$100 to the NOS website, and that will serve as our payment

for the project. NOS will work to get the information for the project out to the public.

11. Upcoming opportunities requesting contribution/partner support
 - Dave stated that SRM range camp would like to send a 3rd person to the annual meeting. The cost is \$250 and he will bring up to the BOD for possible sponsorship at the September meeting.
12. June 4th National Trails Day activities at the Thomas Canyon update - \$300.00 approved 5/10/22
 - There was a good turnout, but could use more volunteers at future events. Doug stated that we could advertise in Everything Elko, on our Facebook page, and through newspaper articles. Gail will create a Google Drive for NNSG where the group can add documents and bounce ideas off of each other.
13. 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.
14. Board Member updates/Public Comment
 - Doug will talk to the Folklife Center to discuss panel topics for the upcoming National Cowboy Poetry Gathering.
 - Sarah stated that there will be a SETT Raven meeting on September 1 and SANE will be meeting in Wells on August 15.
 - Larry is attending the RAC meeting at the BLM and will be representing NNSG.
 - Brandolyn thanked Gerry for the Great Basin basic training for the NOS employees. There will be a Gourmet S'mores event at the Trail's Center on August 10th.
 - Pam is on the Mining Oversight and Accountability Commission. She has been attending meetings and being involved with pit lake regulations.
15. Determine the next meeting date (September 12), location and meeting President was some switching as Brandolyn isn't available – Pam volunteered to be September's President and the meeting will be held at NDOW if the conference room is available.
16. Adjourn
 - The August meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.