

# NNSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, March 2, 2020 at 5:15 pm**

**Nevada Division of Forestry  
911 Falcon Lane, Elko, Nevada**

1. Welcome and introductions / determination of quorum
  - Board Members: Gary Reese, Gerald Miller, Larry Hyslop, Dave Voth, Andi Porreca, Margaret Walch (via phone), Katie Moss (via phone), Gail Ross
  - Public: Paul Mieman (Extension), Glenna Eckles (BLM), Doug Clarke
  - President Gary Reese Called the meeting to order at 5:20 PM.
2. Public Comment/Short General Discussion Period, Adjust Agenda
  - i. Gerry wanted to double-check with all board members to make sure they want to remain on the Board for another year. Gary stated that he would like there to be a new President this coming year, and no longer wants to fill that position.
3. Approval of January 13, 2020 Minutes
  - Dave stated that the January minutes should state that the Cattlewomen are donating \$1,000 to the annual dinner, not \$1,500. **Gerry made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes with correction. Larry seconded and the motion passed.**
4. Treasurer's Report(s)
  - Approval of Bills Accrued Since the Last Meeting
    - i. **Gerry made a motion to approve the February treasurer's report. Dave seconded and the motion passed.**
5. Outreach
  - Update by Subgroup (NNSG Brochures, Table Displays, Poster Board, etc.)
    - i. Katie has been working on the brochure, it will be finalized and printed out by the annual meeting. Andi and Gary will work together to get the NNSG banner and tablecloth ordered before the annual meeting in April.
  - Update by Social Media Subgroup
    - ii. Larry has been working on updating the website as a member of the group. **Gerry made a motion for Larry to continue to work on the website with content assistance from Gail, Gerry and Doug. Gail seconded and the motion passed.** Andi will get Larry agendas and minutes that he may be missing.
6. Update on Dream Tag Proposal
  - Field Monitoring Update
    - i. Monitoring Sites

1. Next quarterly report will be due April 10. Need to start thinking about the monitoring that will happen in May and June of this year and some dates.
7. Upcoming Opportunities Requesting Contribution/Partner Support
- Mary Winter's Flora of Northern Nevada Book Funding Request Update
    - i. Print and Copy in Elko has the original book files. Gary Bach has committed to writing the memorandum to Mary Winter for the book. Book prices are still being worked out. Josh with Southern Nevada Conservancy is also interested in paying for 1/3 of the printing costs. The other 2/3 will be paid for by both NNSG and the Nevada Native Plant Society. The California Trail Center has committed to selling the book.
  - Upcoming Friends of the Ruby Mountain Events
    - i. Will be meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Elko Library where they will be determining upcoming events and summer speakers.
  - Fire Project Updates – Range Two and Sugarloaf
    - i. Received \$175,000 from the Joint Chief's proposal to complete work on roads, for erosion control, weeds, and fence repairs.
  - 2020 National Cowboy Gathering Panel Discussion Update and Fundraising
    - i. Great presentation with 100 attendees. Things to think about for next year: NNSG donation box and moving the round table discussion area to a quieter location. 2021 Theme is Keeping it Wild" and how that topic pertains to ranchers and wildlife.
  - 2020 Annual Dinner – April 3, 2020
    - i. SRM has committed \$1,000, Cattlewomen's has committed \$1,000 and Northeast Elko CD will donate \$500. Andi created a Google doc file where Dave and Julie can add to the RSVP list and add receipts paid for purchases. **Gerry made a motion for NNSG to pay for Jay Hill and his family's dinner on April 2. Larry seconded and the motion passed.**
  - Nevada Wild Art Exhibit
    - i. Susanne stated that they would like to request \$250 in matching funds that will go towards art supplies for rural students at the California Trails Center. Funds will be matched by the Southern Nevada Conservancy. **Gerry made a motion to approve the \$250 in funding for the purchase of art supplies for the exhibit. William seconded and the motion passed. Gary abstained from the motion.**
  - 2020 Sage Grouse Experience Update
    - i. The event will be held on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting will be held on March 4<sup>th</sup>. 4-H will be cooking breakfast burritos for attendees at the Girl Scout House in Elko. Susanne Reese will help to advertise for the event. The Nevada highway patrol will be in Ruby Valley to help with directing traffic.
  - NDF Land Tamer Repair Request
    - i. **Gerry made a motion to use \$1,100 from NDOW fire rehab surplus funds to pay for repair parts for the land tamer. Dave seconded and the motion passed.**
8. Recap Fundraising Brainstorm

- Set up a donation jar at the Sage Grouse Experience and Annual Dinner events. Other fundraising events include 2020 NDF Plant Sale and NDF Stewardship Program donations.
9. Sage Grouse Local Area Working Group Update
- Gerry stated that the last meeting went well. The Elko Stewardship GSG Causal Factor Worksheet Planning Area for Tuscarora, North Fork, Ruby Valley and Desert was updated. Driven by needs that have been outlined by the SETT.
10. Updates from Agencies, Partners and Local Area Working Groups
- Gerry Miller (DCNR)
    - i. The Elko Assn. of Conservation District's annual meeting will be held in Elko on June 27th. There will be a discussion on low stress livestock management.
    - ii. Looking for private landowners with suitable sage grouse habitat to submit project proposals through NvACD. There is a 50% match requirement for riparian improvement projects, flight diverters for fences, etc.
  - Glenna Eckles (BLM)
    - i. BLM Elko District – Fire rehab: completed aerial seeding on Martin, Shafter and Echo fires. Continuing Hogan, Goose and Sheep Creek fires this week.
    - ii. Tuscarora Field Office
      1. Horseshoe/Scott's Gulch OBGA, Elko, North fuel break maintenance continuing, Pinyon fire dozerline to be seeded this week, Carling vanadium mine in draft EIS stage
    - iii. Wells Field Office
      1. Spruce mountain mastication on-going: 900 acres completed and 500 remaining, cooperating with NDOW to complete several spring exclosures in the Goshutes and Spruce mountain area, continuing baseline data collection for phase two (underground) and reviewing technical reports, Sheep Trailing EA from Devil's Gate to the Forest Service – draft should be ready within the next couple of weeks.
    - iv. 2020 Bat Blitz will be this August 17-21 at The Lodge (south of Carlin in Pine Valley).
  - Josh Nicholes (USFS) via update from Dave Voth
    - i. Currently interviewing for a Recreational Program Manager to fill behind Annie Dixon. Wrote a letter in support of virtual fencing.
  - Paul Miemen (Extension)
    - i. Assisting with the Wine-cup Gamble outcome based monitoring projects. Assistant and Assistant Professor positions were filled, Northeast Nevada was well represented at the SRM meeting in Denver, there will be a Raven Stakeholder meeting at the Western Folklife Center in April – the event will be hosted by NDOW in Reno as well.
  - Dave Voth (Nevada Gold Mines)
    - i. Was able to lease out Big Springs Ranch as well as the Hay Ranch.
  - Gail Ross (Nevada Gold Mines)

- i. \$2,300 was awarded to NNSG for the Community Investment Program proposal that was submitted in January.
- Gary Reese (NDF)
  - i. Hiring a Natural Resource Specialist to replace Ben Bolton. This year's seasonals are supposed to put 50% of their time towards resource management projects and they are currently looking for projects.
- Margaret Walch (Western Biological)
  - i. Hired Sarah and she will be introduced to the group at this year's annual meeting.

11. Public Comment

- A subcommittee should meet to go over NNSG's annual calendar of events. Katie will draft a 2019 budget summary report.

12. Determine the Next Meeting Date and Location

- April 6th at 5:15 at the Nevada Division of Forestry office in Elko.

13. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.