

NNSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 5:15 pm

NDF Office, 911 Falcon Way

1. Welcome and introductions determination of quorum
 - Board Members: Gerry Miller, Larry Hyslop, Andi Porreca, Gail Ross, Leslie Creel, Dave Voth, Nick Brancato
 - Public: Doug Clarke, Callie Greenwell (WFC)
 - Gerry called the meeting to order at 5:20 PM.
2. Public Comment/Short General Discussion Period, Adjust Agenda
 - Gerry stated that the ENVLC will be holding their winter noxious weeds workshop in Ely January 17-18, 2024. There is also \$1 million available in Q2 Conserve Nevada funding.
3. Approval of May meeting minutes
 - **Dave made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes. Gail seconded and the motion passed.**
4. Treasurer's Report:
 - Approval of Bills Accrued Since the Last Meeting
 - i. Item was tabled. **Dave made a motion to purchase a \$100 gift card for Pam Harrington for her dedication to the NNSG Board. Andi seconded and the motion passed.**
5. Friends of the Rubies Events Update
 - There will be Snowshoe Hike on December 8th at the Lamoille Powerhouse. Larry and Cindy will do the fire and Doug volunteered to get firewood for the event. The group made contact with over 200 people thorough last summer's events. The USFS is planning Coffee with a Ranger events for summer 2024. There will also be an Avalanche Awareness class at the SCA office on December 6th from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. The group also plans to purchase a shade shelter and sound system for upcoming events this winter.
6. 2024 Cowboy Poetry Gathering Panel Discussion
 - The theme for the Gathering is "Right Where You Belong" and Jeffrey Mendell will be the keynote speaker. The panel discussion theme is "What Does Agriculture Mean to You?" Panel participants include: Jared Sorenson, Alexis Bonogofsky, Ervin Crosson, and Dave will be the moderator.
 - Doug stated that he would donate coffee and donuts for staff during the tech check at 7:45 on February 3rd.
 - **Dave made a motion to donate \$1,000 to the panel discussion. Larry seconded and the motion passed.**
7. 25th Anniversary Annual Meeting Planning Update
 - WFC and Basque House are both tentatively reserved for April 13th, 2024. The Board agreed that we should spend up to \$2,500 to get a speaker that would draw

in a good crowd. The Board will brainstorm speaker ideas before December meeting. Andi will reach out to the museum for a donation basket. Leta and Jim Collard need an invite to the event. Larry will see if Southwind would be interested in participating and Gerry will talk to Ramon to see if he'd want to cater.

8. Updates on:

- Upcoming educational workshops/winter social
 - i. Gail will apply to see if we can get “Common Ground” to play at our Winter Social Event, either at GBC or the Museum. Otherwise, Gerry has offered to give a presentation on the Bristlecone Audubon.
- Rangeland Monitoring Workshop
 - i. Would Paul and Brad be interested in giving the Rancher’s Monitoring Guide presentation in Elko early next year? Brad has some great before/after pictures of the Santa Rosas.
 - ii. Possible soils workshop sometime this spring?
- Microbiome working group update
 - i. No update.
- Lamoille summit trails partnership update (ETSI)
 - i. The grant for the staging area is two years out and NEPA is currently underway.

9. Upcoming opportunities requesting contribution/partner support

- California Trail Center Nevada Wild Display donation.
 - i. **Dave made a motion for NNSG to donate \$100 towards Nevada Wild Display. Larry seconded and the motion passed.**

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 working on the sage grouse plan with NDOW through ecological site analysis. The mitigation triggers comments have been submitted to the BLM. Nick stated that there is a new mine in the Pine Nut Range with access through Lucky Nugget and Twin Bridges.

11. Board Member updates/Public Comment

- Leslie Creel - Desert Pigs has been doing small clean-ups on North 5th Street and looking for illegal dump sites.
- Nick – State Parks is working on creating an Adopt a Trail Program.
- Gerry – NVACD Annual Meeting update/main topics: water rights in Diamond Valley, NRCS has funding for grazing and /range through AMA and IRA, Joe Sicking retired from the State Conservation Commission and Agee Smith received the Outstanding Agriculture Producer award for Cottonwood Ranch.

12. Determine the next meeting date: November ?, location TBD.

13. Adjourn

- The September meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.