

NNSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 6:00 pm

NDF Office – 911 Falcon Way, Elko, NV

1. Welcome and introductions determination of quorum
 - Board Members: Gerry Miller, Andi Porreca, Dave Voth, Nick Brancato, Leslie Creel, Gail Ross,
 - Public: Doug Clarke, Jeff Moore, Danielle Beezer, Morgan Hesterlee, Mark Lattin, Wendy Markham, Meghan Sturgell
 - Gerry called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. Public Comment/Short General Discussion Period, Adjust Agenda
 - There was no public comment.
3. Approval of the January meeting minutes
 - **Leslie made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes. Dave seconded and the motion passed.**
4. Treasurer's Report:
 - Approval of Bills Accrued Since the Last Meeting
 - i. There is currently \$9,695.86 in the checking account. Motion to approve will be made at March Board meeting.
5. Friends of the Rubies Events Update
 - 2024 events are in the works.
6. 25th Anniversary Annual Meeting Planning Update
 - WFC is 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. \$20 per person to get in and \$10 for students.
 - Possible presenters: Lizz Munn from TNC, Jared Sorenson, Professor Foster from GBC, Gary Reese on his photography. Susie Reese will be writing up a short article on the annual meeting in everything Elko once she gets more details about the event.
 - Doug will touch base with McAdoo's to see if they would be interested in catering and Southwind has confirmed that they will play.
 - Donations/raffle items. Andi will reach out to WFC gift shop, Northern Nevada Museum and the California Trail's Center. Larry stated that he will donate some books. Nick will reach out to Rusty Bahr to see if he can get donations through his resources.
 - People to invite: all County Commissioners, Leslie will invite Curtis Moore, Gerry will invite BLM District folks, Casey Addy and Elizabeth Puentes, Jaime and Chris Jasmine, Dallas Smales, NDOW, Agee Smith, Jon Griggs, Jesse Braatz, Carol Evans, Andrew Church, Ryan Shane. Anyone else?
7. Updates on:
 - Rangeland Monitoring Workshop

- i. Doug will track down Paul Meiman to see what his availability is this spring.
 - Microbiome working group update
 - i. International Compost Awareness Week is May 5-11. Gail stated there will be a workshop planned for that week at the Community Gardens in Elko. She still has not received a response on “Common Ground”.
 - Lamoille summit trails partnership update (ETSI)
 - i. The grant for the staging area is two years out and NEPA is currently underway. It’s about 70% completed. Leslie is working on the website: ElkoTrailsWorkshop.com. She submitted a funding request to the BLM to get trails on the ground in 2025 and she presented to the Sunrise Rotary Club at the end of December. Received a funding award for a feasibility study and working on an assistance agreement with the BLM.
8. Upcoming opportunities requesting contribution/partner support
- Nevada Outdoor School full moon Snowshoe Hikes February/March
 - i. There was a snowshoe hike hosted by NOS on Friday January 12th at the Powerhouse at 2:00 PM.
 - ii. NOS is planning to do one to two hikes per month and have a transport van if needed to help move people to different locations. They also plan to host community skill workshops and hope to gain extra support from NNSG. There will be a hike at the Humboldt Loop Trail at 10:00 AM on February 23rd.
 - Send a representative to the National Outdoor Recreation Workshop in Tahoe this May
 - i. **Dave made a motion to send Leslie and pay for up to \$750 for trip expenses. Nick seconded and the motion passed.**
9. 2024 Sage Grouse Experience Update
- NDOW is taking the event over this year and their first meeting will be held on February 27th. **Dave made a motion to donate \$500 to the event if needed or asked for funding assistance. Gail 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
- Cam should be involved moving forward as well as someone from the Forest Service and Scott Roberts from NDOW., There will be a new Pheasants Forever position being filled at NRCS. NDOW has a new conservation plan out.
11. Board Member updates/Public Comment
- Leslie Creel - Desert Pigs will be meeting the Sunday of each month.
 - Dave Voth – SRM in Sparks was a huge success and they plan to hold the meeting at the Nugget again in 5 years.
 - Larry stated that the sage grouse have been seen strutting near Tuscarora.
 - Wendy Markham (USFS) – the FS asked for funding to support their recreational program. They pile burned 650 acres at the Ruby Lake Estates and used pack stock to bring drip torches to the burns. Will be starting back up in March, weather permitting.
12. Determine the next meeting date: March 14th at NDF.

13. Adjourn

- The February meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.