



P.O. Box 1677 ★ Elko, NV 89803

www.nnsg.org

Working Together for Healthy Landscapes and Quality Lifestyles

NNSG board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 12th, 2025 at 5:30 pm

Elko Interagency Dispatch Center

725 Aspen Way, Elko, NV 89801

1. A quorum was present: Nick Bancato, Larry Hyslop, Andrew Church, Gail Ross, Gerry Miller, Leslie Cree, Dave Voth via Zoom. Agency reps: Lisa Bezzant, BLM; Morgan Hesterly, USFS
2. Adjust agenda for Rangeland Monitoring Workshop discussion.
 - a. The flyer that Larry prepared was reviewed and discussed. Gail suggested adding a RSVP, due the day before. \$20 suggested donation to go towards lunch.
 - b. Gerry will ensure food is ordered and collected on the morning of.
3. January 8th minutes were approved by Gerry Miller, seconded by Nick. All in favor.
4. Agency Updates
 - a. Lisa Bezzanti reported on the [2025 Capitol Christmas tree](#) coming from the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. They need [10,000 ornaments from recycled or natural materials](#) for the tree and are seeking community partners to make them. Contact Wendy Markham or Lisa.
 - b. USFS will have no seasonal hires. Perhaps Law Enforcement.
5. Gerry moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Larry seconded and all in favor.
 - a. Nick provided a NNSG Monthly Checking Account Balance Sheet. Deposits of \$1237.28, ending balance of \$23358.80.
 - b. Benevity is working and \$1161.28 in donations from this program have been deposited.
 - c. An outstanding reissued check for \$76 was deposited.
 - d. \$100 was withdrawn for the Lamoille Canyon chronolog sponsorship with NOS
 - e. Nick is waiting on a payment link to pay the \$500 donation to the Society for Range Management conference.
 - f. Wilson Barrows will be sending a bill for state filing.
 - g. CD's will auto-renew in January and April.
 - h. Mary Winter books are bringing in cash.
6. There were no contribution or partner support requests.
7. Group and partner updates
 - a. There is a Sage Grouse Local Area Working Group meeting scheduled for May 3rd.
 - i. There was discussion on the importance of this group providing expertise for an update of the [county sage grouse management plan](#).
 - ii. NDOW will have its first formal meeting for the Sage Grouse Experience on March 3rd. Larry will forward information on this to NNSG membership. Gerry says it's important for NNSG to stay involved with this event.
 - iii. Andrew asked about the group's scope and purpose. Gerry explained the LAWGs are meant to help keep sage grouse off the Endangered Species Act list. They can help explain why sage grouse numbers change and what is being done to address those factors (fires/effects of reseeding, wild horses, cricket invasions).

- iv. Dave mentioned NDOW discussions of moving from Ecological Site to broader State-and-Transition Model tools for monitoring and reporting on conditions.
 - b. Rangeland monitoring workshop moved to the top of the agenda
 - c. Grass and forbs workshop is still on the calendar May 29th, 10 am. No logistics established.
 - d. Microbiome working group has May 3-10 International Compost Awareness week on its radar. They are collaborating with Nevada Outdoor School. There is a Wallipini Ranch excursion on the calendar for May 3rd.
 - e. Friends of the Rubies will be present at the Sportsmen's Expo on March 1 in the kids room with trail maps and descriptions. South Fork will also have a table there.
 - f. Elko Trail Systems Initiative - Elko County [Public Land Use](#) and [Open Space Plan](#), Open Spaces initiative suggested by County Commissioner Andreozzi, Andrew Church's suggestion for Kittredge Canyon restoration/recreation inclusion
 - g. Dark skies
8. There are 57 Mary Winter books left. Larry will mention it in the newspaper and Nick will put it on Facebook. Larry will contact Pete Bagley for GBC interest. Placing them at the museum was also discussed.
9. Larry moved and Gail seconded Leslie moving the website to GoDaddy, for up to \$250/yr, if FatCow proves too tedious to limp through to the end of this year's subscription in September. All in favor.
10. Board Member Updates
- a. Nick explained the collaborative National Civilian Community Corps application that Curtis Moore submitted on behalf of South Fork, Ruby Marshes, USFS and Elko Trail System Initiative. The work would be on trails and range management projects. We just need to provide appropriate housing and some education/enrichment opportunities. This would be the first year out of potentially 5 if we are a good fit.
11. No public comment
12. Next meeting is Wednesday, March 12th, 5:30 pm at dispatch.
13. Adjourned at 6:28 pm