

**Meeting of the INPS Board of Directors was held January 25, 2012 starting soon after 7:30 p.m. when all participants were able to be linked to the Skype conference call. The Skype call was coordinated by Jody Hull, Treasurer.**

Calypso, Derek Antonelli, phone: 208-762-2575 - present  
Loasa, Kelvin Jones, phone: 208-886-7051 - present  
Pahove, Karie Pappani, phone: 208-658-4529 - present  
Sawabi, Ardys Holte, Skype id Ardys.holte - present via Skype  
Upper Snake, Sue Braastad phone: 208-881-4354 Skype id sue.braastad - present via Skype  
White Pine, James Riser phone: 406-531-4509 Skype id jriserii - not able to attend  
Wood River, Carol Blackburn, phone: 208-886-7051 call at Kelvin's - present  
President, LaMar Orton, phone: 208-734-7959, 208-308-6840 (mobile) - present  
Vice-president, Juanita Lichthardt, phone 208-882-4803 - present  
Secretary, Nancy Miller phone: 208-882-2877 Skype id nancy.j.h.miller – present via Skype  
Treasurer, Jody Hull phone: 208-323-0516 Skype id j\_hull - present via Skype  
Past-president, Janet Benoit, phone: 208-683-2407 - present  
Past-president, Wendy Velman (resigned)  
Member-at-Large, Mel Nicholls, phone: 208-233-0714 - present  
Sage Notes Editor, Jane Rohling phone: office: 208-938-3529 cell: 208-949-6545 Skype id jane.rohling – not present  
Beth Colket – guest

Pahove, Susan Ziebarth phone: 208-334-2225 208-367-1300 or 208-867-6188 is no longer on the board as she is no longer Pahove president.

LaMar Orton, our new INPS President, introduced himself and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as President. He asked that each speaker identify his or herself and speak loudly and clearly. Differences of opinion are to be expected and better decisions will result if everyone gives their opinion. LaMar called the meeting to order about 7:45.

LaMar requested that Beth Colket speak before we began to address the agenda items. She has been working and will continue to work with a steering committee to evaluate and compare the existing INPS ranking system, the NatureServe Rank Calculator, and several other alternatives. The purpose of these meetings is to determine what system would be most useful for on-the-ground botanists. Please see the December issue of Sage Notes for an article by Lynn Kinter about the NatureServe rank calculator. With Board approval the Steering committee would analyze alternatives, provide information on all alternatives analyzed, and open voting to participants at October 2012 Rare Plant Conference, as well as other interested people who are not able to make the meeting. This information would be disseminated via *Sage Notes*, the INPS website, and email (2011 RPC attendee list and for all other members via state chapter email lists). The steering committee would then adopt whichever alternative has the most votes, get blessing and approval of the INPS Board of Directors, and announce the decision via *Sage Notes*, INPS website, and email. This process would allow adequate notice to individuals interested in the topic. INPS Board members may participate in this committee in person or via teleconference. Carol Blackburn moved and Derek Antonelli seconded that the INPS Board sanction the continued work of this committee. Karie Pappani questioned whether any on the Board had attended earlier meetings. Juanita Lichthardt said she had expected to, but hadn't as yet. A number of INPS members are attending the committee meetings (Michael Mancuso, LeAnn Abell, Beth, Lynn Kinter, etc.) The motion passed. Minutes of the steering committee meetings will be sent to the INPS Board and others. The next

meeting will be held February 9. Nancy Miller will forward Beth's messages to the inps-state email list. The meetings are being held in a federal agency building with excellent teleconferencing capability so Board members should be able to participate via teleconference. Beth was thanked for her efforts and left the meeting after the discussion.

**The minutes of the September 20, 2011 Board meeting** are posted at [http://www.idahonativeplants.org/inps/boardmeet\\_2011\\_09\\_20.pdf](http://www.idahonativeplants.org/inps/boardmeet_2011_09_20.pdf). LaMar asked for corrections. None were received. Derek moved and Ardys Holte seconded that the minutes be approved as posted. The motion passed.

**The Treasurer's report** has been modified to report additional information. Treasurer Jody Hull added a beginning balance (\$8,271.43) and ending balance (\$7,901.27). Total income listed (\$5666.83). This includes a negative amount for RPC as T-shirts have not all been sold yet. Chapters have not all received their portion of the dues. Calendar sales information is incomplete as well. Total expense listed (\$6,036.99). This includes 3-year Web page hosting service. Sage Notes editor and printing costs make up the bulk of expenses. With Assets (CDs, Checking Account) and Liabilities (unpaid dues to chapters and ERIG encumbrances) included the Net Balance was reported as \$6,987.67. Some ERIG grantees have been awarded funds but have not submitted receipts for payment. Please see below for further ERIG discussion.

Rare Plant Conference used to add income and when we lost Kinnikinnick chapter we lost considerable income from membership dues. Calendar expenses and income will come in next year because the information is being reported in 2012. Feedback from the chapters regarding calendar sales is incomplete except for Pahove and White Pine. Other chapters need to submit their information so that Jody can do the final accounting. LaMar thought they are waiting to know what the split is, however the split cannot be determined exactly until the numbers are submitted. Janet Benoit said that the motion should accept the Treasurer's report to file for audit. Nancy Miller moved and Carol seconded a motion to that effect. The motion passed.

**A proposed 2012 budget** was submitted but will be revisited after decisions are made regarding membership fees, registration fees relative to Annual Meeting/Campout, amounts reserved for ERIG grants, etc.

**Review of 2012 Annual Meeting/Campout progress.** Sage Notes (December) had an excellent article (Please see online issue) and the next Sage Notes (February) will have the registration form and additional schedule information. LaMar thanked Derek for the great job he has done so far. Derek asked about the website announcement and Karie and Nancy volunteered to help.

**A Registration fee for the 2012 Annual Meeting /Campout** was discussed. It was emphasized that this be a fee to cover costs relative to camping, expenses, etc. Janet Benoit reminded that the budget in the past had included funds for Annual Meeting/Campout expenses and that campsite fees had been paid by INPS. A \$10 fee was instituted in 2011. Attendance at the Saturday evening Annual Meeting must be free. Most agreed that this should be looked at as a Campout participation fee. Derek moved that we have a \$10 registration fee for adult participants for the 2012 Annual Meeting / Campout, Kelvin seconded it. The motion passed. James emailed his approval previously. The \$10 fee should cover expected expenses of \$300. The meal(s) are accounted for separately. Derek is hoping to have a number of Kinnikinnick NPS members participate. He also reported that Hotel/Motel/RV parks were within easy driving distance of the camping area.

**Disposition of remaining money from the last Annual Meeting/ Campout** was discussed. A registration fee of \$10.00 was charged for the 2011 Annual Meeting / Campout. This fee was in addition to meal charges. As a result of this fee and a couple of donations, the Loasa Chapter ended with \$140.00 in excess of the costs of the Annual Meeting / Campout. LaMar suggested that the Loasa Chapter and INPS split the \$140 with the state's share going into the ERIG fund. Carol moved, and Derek seconded, a motion to this effect. The motion passed.

At this point land lines were dropped but Skype participants remained in conference. When land lines were reconnected, Nancy encouraged members to try to get Skype if their computer and internet setup was adequate. Skype.com is the website for free download of the application. Using Skype saves INPS money over other teleconferencing methods.

**INPS has received a request from the Penstemon Society to have a joint annual meeting in 2013 in Boise.** The following text was received from Dr. Stephen Love: "The American Penstemon Society will hold their annual meeting in Boise, Idaho on June 21-24, 2013. We invite the Idaho Native Plant Society to meet with the APS and hold a joint annual meeting. The APS members in charge of the meeting are willing to complete planning and arrangements for the meeting, but will work with members of the INPS to make sure the needs of both groups are met. See the accompanying document for meeting arrangements as they now stand." (The document was sent to Board members separately from the agenda.)

The 2013 Annual Meeting will fall to the Wood River Chapter to arrange. Carol Blackburn and LaMar discussed the possibility of a joint annual meeting with the Penstemon Society. They both feel that we should take advantage of this opportunity. The Wood River Chapter currently has very few members and joining with the Penstemon Society would lighten the burden on that Chapter. There would need to be a number of details worked out, but Carol and LaMar can work with Dr. Love to make a joint meeting work to the advantage of both organizations.

Pahove chapter wants to be in the Annual Meeting rotation. Nancy Miller clarified rotation schedule and prior discussions relative to Pahove participating and Kinnikinnick no longer being part of the rotation. A suggestion was made that Pahove / Wood River be a combination in the rotation and this was met with approval. Derek moved that the 2013 Annual Meeting event be held in conjunction with the APS meeting. Karie seconded the motion. Motion passed. Karie, Carol, LaMar, and Juanita will help. Other INPS members are on the APS 2013 Meeting Committee as well.

#### **Discussion on Membership Notification – added 1/23/12**

LaMar was asked to add this item to the agenda as getting timely information to the state treasurer and to the chapter treasurers has been an ongoing problem.

Getting updated information for both Jody and for the chapter treasurers and secretaries is vital to keeping the organization viable. Having a common data base that new and renewed memberships are placed into and accessible to State and Chapter officials would be extremely helpful. Jody has set up an email group for treasurers. This may help, but timely information needs to be submitted. LaMar and Nancy will work with Jody to come up with a system which will address this ongoing problem. We will keep the board informed as we work on this. We hope to have this set up within a month. The bylaws state that membership information should be reported monthly and payments should be made quarterly. The board agreed with this approach.

Ardys had question about the location of the bylaws online. Nancy reported they are on the State Board page listed below the minutes.

**Presentation of Committee Reports.** LaMar would like committees to give advice and make recommendations.

**By-Laws Committee:** Chair Nancy Miller said there had been no recent progress. Earlier concerns have mostly been addressed in proposed bylaws, but newer issues (dissolution of chapter, need to reduce timelines, etc.) have not been addressed. Nancy will provide a more detailed report to LaMar.

**Calendar Committee:** Chair Nancy Miller. The agenda included introductory material.

Final accounting cannot be completed by the treasurer until the chapters have reported the number of calendars sold (and at what cost), the number given free to agencies, etc, and the number of unsold calendars. Jody reported that the cost per calendar for printing was \$3.57. In addition there is postage and sales tax (on \$10 if calendar sold and on cost amount if free gift). LaMar recommended that the state receive 60% and the chapters 40% of the profit from the sales after all expenses are accounted for. Derek moved and Karie seconded a motion to this effect. Karie reported that Pahove still has 36 calendars. If other chapters wish to sell any let her know.

Calendar project future: The committee (primarily Nancy and Jody) will provide a report to the Board. They would appreciate all chapters sending their thoughts and recommendations about producing a calendar in the future to her for inclusion in the report.

#### **Conservation Committee**

We'll postpone discussion. Karie said Chris has stepped down. Justin Fulkerson is interested in staying on the committee. Janet Benoit stated that in the past she would send an email to the board about new members of committees, and if she heard no objection, the person was appointed. Chapters were asked to submit names of potential members. (Note from secretary - Justin subsequently contacted LaMar about being on the committee and his appointment will be effective February 5. Information given at the meeting was evidently not up-to-date.)

#### **ERIG Committee :**

The ERIG proposal document and a table of recipients of the ERIG grants are shown on the state website. Ardys moved and Kelvin seconded that INPS fund up to \$1000 depending on the availability of funds and qualified proposals. The motion passed.

Unclaimed amounts –Jody indicated that Janet Bala has been contacting grantees who have not requested funds or submitted final documents. The committee needs to recommend a time limit for grants after which receipts may no longer be submitted. This needs to be in the proposal document. The next deadline is March 31 for submittal so the current proposal document should be changed now. The Board and chapters need to determine other ways to raise funds. A check-off on the membership renewal form for donation was suggested. *Sage Notes* has included a request for ERIG donations. Private donations and chapter fundraising have also helped fund the ERIG program.

**Membership Committee** – Ardys Holte is on the committee but does not wish to be chair. Members from other chapters are needed. Nancy clarified what the bylaws state relative to membership on this committee. Juanita asked that justification accompany any recommendation for increased dues.

**Nominating Committee** -Candidates for Vice President and Treasurer need to be voted on prior to Annual Meeting 2012 (Ballot should be in May issue- deadline April 1). LaMar has asked Kelvin Jones to be on the nominating committee. We need two members to fill out the committee. According to the bylaws there can only be one Board member on this committee. Jody suggested that Roger Rosentreter has been on committee before because he knows many members and might serve again. Jody has been Treasurer for the maximum three terms but will stay on until a new Treasurer is selected.

**Photo Contest Committee** – Nancy stated that even if no calendar is produced, the contest is worthwhile because it showcases the work of INPS photographers and provides photographs of Idaho native plants and habitats to be used in education efforts. Sawabi chapter judged the contest last year. White Pine before. We also need ideas of how best to use the photos if there is no calendar produced. State website gallery display? Sage Notes special photo enclosure? Need some creative ideas! Karie was asked if Pahove would be interested in judging this time. She thought yes but will ask the Pahove officers. Ardys and Nancy can help. It is important that the judges include someone with considerable experience incorporating photographs into printed material and websites.

#### **Rare Plant Conference Committee**

The December 2011 issue of Sage Notes has an article which discusses how the NatureServe Rank Calculator was given a trial run during the 2011 Rare Plant Conference. Beth Colket is heading a ranking steering committee made up of a representative group of INPS members, to evaluate and compare the existing rank system, the NatureServe Rank Calculator, and several other alternatives. Please see additional discussion with Beth Colket at the beginning of this meeting.

**Sage Notes Committee** December Sage Notes has not been printed/delivered for a number of reasons outlined by Jane Rohling in her recent email. Jody will contact printer. LaMar stated that INPS needs to make a more concerted effort to get more folks to opt for online version only. Nancy, Jody, and Jane will work with LaMar. Currently if a member selects electronic option only, Jody sends an email when it is available. (Some chapters send an email of online availability to all members as a matter of policy.) Michael Mancuso and Cyndi Coulter are not participating as much on the committee as before. Could Jody put together a committee report? Derek suggested printing cost be separated out. Juanita said to let her know if we need someone else to review Sage Notes for scientific (botanical).accuracy.

**Discussion of Native Plant Appreciation Week** -WNPS and INPS are using the same dates -the first week in May (April 29 – May 5). Nancy said she and Catherine at WNPS had discussed whether there are other ways to collaborate such as on a joint poster but didn't come to any conclusion. Nancy reported that last year's proclamation request was submitted by email through the state proclamation website in early January and that this year's proclamation request was submitted the first of 2012. She made no change in the wording. Last year's proclamation is in the state proclamation archives at <http://gov.idaho.gov/mediacenter/proc/2011/procApr11/4-24-2011,%20Native%20Plant%20Appreciation%20Week.html>. Jody will pick up the proclamation when Nancy receives notice from the state office.

Janet Benoit explained the INPS history of Native Plant Appreciation Week. During her presidency INPS, WNPS, and NPSO had agreed on the same week for NPAW and had requested proclamations from the respective governors. Last year we celebrated a different week inadvertently. LaMar asked that we all share what has been successful for us in the past in promoting NPAW.

**Input on State website redesign** Karie Pappani, Susan Ziebarth, and Paul Shaffer are spearheading a website redesign and would appreciate others' input. LaMar will work with them on the redesign. Are there others who can volunteer to work with this committee? Board members who have comments on the website redesign should send comments to Karie as soon as possible. Paul may be able to do a mock website from suggestions. Nancy and Jody will also be on this adhoc committee. Jody mentioned that the chapters may have members who are web designers and who might be willing to help.

**Facebook page.** Jody said she would set up a Facebook page. Others agreed that it would be useful. Kelvin moved, Derek seconded a motion to setup the page. Motion passed.

Nancy moved and X seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 10:00.