

INPS Board of Directors Meeting

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Idaho Native Plant Society was held October 24, 2013 via conference call/Skype with all current board members as listed below participating plus Jody Hull who facilitated the call. Prior to the meeting, President LaMar Orton distributed the Agenda and Reports via email to board members. The distributed items are shown below in italics and added discussion is shown as normal text. The meeting was called to order by President LaMar Orton at 7:20 MDT / 6:20 PDT.

Current Board Members

Calypso, Derek Antonelli phone: 208-762-2575, Skype id derek.antonelli1

Loasa, Kelvin Jones phone: 208-886-7051

Pahove, Karie Pappani, 208-658-4529

Sawabi, Bob McCoy, 208-241-5851, Skype id hiderstrat

Upper Snake, Sue Braastad

White Pine, Sonja Lewis, sonjalewis.i.am@gmail.com (208) 883-2638, Skype id sonjalewis-i-am

Wood River, Carol Blackburn phone: 208-886-7051 call at Kelvin's

President, LaMar Orton phone: 208-734-7959, 208-308-6840 (mobile), Skype id lamar.orton2

Vice-president, Stephen Love 208-681-8742, Skype id monaquita.love

Secretary, Alan Crockett phone 208-529-5188, Skype id alanbcrockett

Treasurer, Elaine Walker, 208-336-3983, Skype id tulara.drive

Past-president, Janet Benoit phone: 208-683-2407

Member-at-Large, Mel Nicholls phone: 208-233-0714, Skype id mel.nicholls44

Past-secretary, Nancy Miller phone: 208-882-2877 Skype id nancy.j.h.miller

Reports on Agenda Items

Item #1 Approval of minutes of June 21, 2013 Board Meeting.

The minutes are on the INPS website under State Board. Please review before the meeting at http://idahonativeplants.org/inps/boardmeet_2013_06_21.pdf

A motion was made by Derek Antonelli and seconded by Carol Blackburn to accept the minutes on the web site. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Item #2 Presentation of Treasurer's reports – review and accept.

Attached are the reports provided by Elaine.

Elaine reviewed the provided treasurer's report shown as attachment 1. Karie Pappani moved and Janet Benoit seconded that the report be accepted for audit. Bob McCoy reported that audit will be done by ISU students, under Dr. Becard.

Elaine also reported on membership and provided attachment 2 which shows the number of memberships to be 407. However, since many memberships cover 2 people, the total number of members is over 500. The total number is the number which must be used in determining quorums, etc.

Elaine reported that we are paid up with Jane Rohling and that a postage error will be corrected. She also reported that February and May issues of Sage Notes were not sent out but the issues are online. She has some copies.

Item #3

Update of joint annual meeting with the Eriogonum Society in 2014.

The 2014 annual meeting will be held Friday-Sunday, June 20-22. It will be based out of Twin Falls. Registration, classes, and lectures will all be held on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. On Friday evening, there will be a reception, tentatively scheduled to be held in LaMar Orton's 5-acre succulent and native plant garden (named Orton Botanical Garden aka Plantasia Cactus Gardens). Then, on Saturday and Sunday, we will embark on field trips to some of the local Eriogonum hotspots. If there proves to be interest, we are considering putting together a Monday post-meeting field trip, possibly to the Craters of the Moon. Here is a little more detail on the meeting:

Friday

9:00am-11:00am - Board meetings Noon – 1:00

pm registration

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm - Participate in classes on keying, propagating, and other things Eriogonum

Evening: Reception at Orton Botanical Gardens/continuation of registration

Saturday

Morning and Afternoon:

Field trips to Gooding City of Rocks or South Hills (includes a stop at a hummingbird feeding station).

Evening:

Banquet, society business meetings, and keynote lecture.

Sunday

Morning and Afternoon:

Field trips to Gooding City of Rocks or South Hills (includes a stop at a hummingbird feeding station).

Monday

Possible post-meeting tour to Craters of the Moon, Owyhee Mountains, or other places of interest.

Additional comments on the joint meeting:

- 1. No costs have been put together yet for conference registration. Those will be available for our January board meeting.*

The point was made to try and keep costs down.

2. *As there are a number of hotels close to CSI, a list of hotels with general range of costs will be provided to attendees.*
3. *A list of campgrounds in the area will also be provided to attendees. The County of Twin Falls has an RV camp ground (no tent camping) in Rock Creek Park and within walking distance of the Friday reception location. The County will hold 10 spaces there for those who rent a gazebo. The rental of the gazebo is \$50 plus a refundable deposit of \$50. The RV space cost is \$15.00 per night. Without the rental of the gazebo, no reservations can be made to hold spaces. There are a maximum of 25 spaces, each with power and electricity, plus all spaces accommodate big rigs*

We now have \$1285.07 in annual meeting funds. If the Board wishes, part of that money could be used to reserve a gazebo and 10 spaces. We could reserve them for one night and then those that wish could continue to stay throughout the annual meeting. That cost would be \$250 with \$50 refundable for the first night. We could also use additional money to pay the camping fees of all those that stay at that camp ground throughout the annual meeting.

It was agreed that a gazebo and 10 RV sites should be reserved for the annual meeting.

Nancy Miller noted that Sawabi chapter will be hosting the 2015 annual meeting and should be developing their plans and reporting on such at the 2014 annual meeting. Steve Love volunteered to teach seed cleaning of Eriogonum species since he has some recent experience with the problems. A suggestion was made to have a class on general plant identification to family level. LaMar replied that the planned class on Eriogonum keying would be fairly basic and that Jim Reveal offered to work on this class. Another suggestion from Nancy was to have vendors present that would sell Eriogonum seedlings.

There was considerable discussion regarding lodging but a concern with the lack of tent camping. LaMar said a more complete list of RV and tent camping will be provided in the future. Attention to the present or absence of shade was a concern because it could be hot by June. Sue Braastad asked what Upper Snake chapter should be doing to facilitate the meeting. LaMar plans to get a group together to do some more planning and registration would be one item Upper Snake could help with.

Item #4

Review and discussion of results of the membership survey.

Attached is a copy of the results of the survey. There were a total of 178 responses on line to the survey and 8 written surveys returned. The results of the written surveys are shown separately from the electronic results. In order to make sense out of the graphs, you will probably need to compare the original survey with the graph results.

Board members have not had much time to review the survey results as yet. LaMar was pleased with the number of replies received. Alan Crockett pointed out the most of the replies were from just two Chapters and some chapter might differ significantly in their answers. Others thought that unlikely and would require too much work to tease out more detailed results. The main reason people are involved with INPS is for plant education. At this point, the main use of the survey is to see what members want to do regarding Sage Notes although no decisions were made at the meeting. The survey should prove useful in other future decisions as well.

Item #5 Update on the September issue of Sage Notes

As of Oct 22, 2013 only the following was received from Cindy Snyder regarding the September issues of Sage Notes:

“When I returned from South America in mid-September, I discovered that a partner on a federal grant I had written for one of my clients had run amok in the two weeks I was gone. She overspent the budget by one-third and completely changed the scope of the project.

Unfortunately, my name was on the grant and the client (a volunteer board) lacks the manpower to rein things back in. Getting that project back on track -- especially after the shutdown when I can no longer call anyone to ask questions -- has been both time consuming and emotionally draining. I failed to keep you updated because I kept thinking it couldn't possibly take that long to fix the problem.

However....we have finally got that mess straightened out and Sage Notes is back on top of my priority list. I am working on it this weekend and expect to have a draft to you by Tuesday, the 15th.

In the meantime, the printers are wondering if you have an Excel spreadsheet with the mailing addresses. If you do, they will print the labels on each piece as they prep it for mailing -- saves the time and hassle of labels.”

The latest news is that a draft of the September issue is to be provided to LaMar tomorrow, Friday, October 25th. LaMar, Nancy, Jody Hull, Derek Antonelli and are to review the draft. This issue will be either 12 or 16 pages long. The per copy cost of a full color publication will be \$1.95. Total printing cost would be about \$540 with another \$100-140 for mailing. A black and white copy would be \$1.25. It was moved by Derek Antonelli, seconded by Elaine Walker and approved to print Sage Notes as black and white with a color cover. A full color version will be available on the web site for printing. The printers will be able to print addresses on Sage Notes during the printing process saving some effort.

Item #6

Presentation of Committee Reports

a. *Bylaws Committee*

At the January board meeting the board approved the committee's recommended amendments. No further action is needed.

b. *Conservation Committee*

The following has been provided by Derek Antonelli, Chairman of the Conservation Committee:

"1. Idaho Native Plant Society (INPS) sent a letter to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Owyhee Field Office concerning the draft Environmental Assessment for the "Nickel Creek FFR Grazing Permit Renewal". Our main concern centered on the document's failure to adequately address special status plants within the grazing allotment. I have some background information (not intended for the board meeting minutes) that I can pass on.

Also, does anyone have insight into how the federal environmental permitting process works? I could use a tutorial that explains how these documents all fit together to result in a decision so I can have a better idea what comments are appropriate at the various stages.

2. The INPS Rare Plant Conference (RPC) was scheduled for October 23 and 24 in Boise at the BLM conference facilities. The conference was postponed due to the shutdown of the federal government. There were concerns related to the availability of the conference facilities and the ability of the many federal employees to attend the meeting. The RPC will be scheduled at a later date probably in February (just in time for the next federal shutdown). The RPC Committee should have more details.

3. The INPS board approved changes to the process for ranking rare plants in January 2013. Part of this change in process called for the use of regional Rare Plant Working Groups (RPWG) to accelerate the work of the RPC. The RPWGs review the status of rare plant species and recommend rankings for those species to the RPC. By accepting the recommendations of the RPWGs, the RPC can rank many more species at its biennial meeting. The next subparagraphs give the status of each of the regional RPWGs.

The Southwest Idaho RPWG met in February and recommended rankings for 14 species to the RPC. They were scheduled to meet again on October 22 in conjunction with the now-postponed RPC.

The North Idaho RPWG met in March, April, and May and recommended rankings for 21 species to the RPC. They were scheduled to meet again on October 2, but that meeting was postponed due to the federal shutdown.

The Southwest Idaho RPWG has yet to form. Rose Lehman and Janet Bala have been mentioned to possibly lead the start-up effort.

4. The data available on rare plants within Idaho is OUT-OF-DATE. This is the information that is used to make important decisions about the species such as what ranking it should receive for establishing conservation priorities. Example: The Idaho endemic, Constance's bittercress, has about 112 known populations. Only about 1/3 of those populations have been visited in the last 20 years and only one population has been visited in the last 10 years. I believe this is typical of most rare plant species within Idaho. A lot of rare species work was accomplished in the early 1990s but since then funding has been greatly reduced. I would like to see efforts to revitalize the information available on rare plants. I don't believe we can count on government agencies to carry the load. I believe INPS can play a significant role.

5. The Conservation Committee is still a committee of one. I would like to solicit ideas on how to get greater involvement. Perhaps we would have better success if we ask people for a limited (rather than open-ended) commitment. Someone might be willing to review a single document or participate in a rare plant survey; when they are not willing to serve on a committee for multiple years."

The Conservation Committee is now a committee of two; Karie Pappani volunteered to help at the last meeting. Derek is going to pursue getting rare plants surveyed and needs volunteers. The volunteers will need to be trained and after some time, the previously untrained volunteers should be competent to work alone. Nancy suggested that volunteer could Adopt-A-Plant and conduct surveys of their plant of interest.

c. ERIG Committee

No report received at this time.

Some donations have been received.

d. Membership Committee

No recommendations received from the Membership Committee.

e. Nominating Committee/Ballot Counting Committee

A Nominating Committee is needed for next year's election of vice-president and for treasurer. Please provide suggested names for that committee.

f. Photo Contest Committee

Karie Pappani reports the following:

“So far we have 6 people who have submitted photos which is a very small group. We planned to award first and second place prizes for each category. We have ideas for prizes, but we haven't purchased prizes yet. Cyndi will help judge photos. We had originally planned to announce winners in January.”

Karie has been disappointed that so few people have provided photos and requested that a reminder be sent to all members. Previously quite a few entries have been sent in just prior to the closing date. It was not clear how the photos entered in the contest will be used. Also, it was reported that it is hard to electronically fill out the .pdf form to submit entries. Karie agreed to post a Word format form and to put the form and information back in Quick Links on the home page to facilitate entries.

g. *Rare Plant Conference Committee*

Beth Corbin reports the following on rescheduling the conference:

“We're looking at February 2014 for the new date, but I'm going to poll some critical players before we set the date to ensure we can get the best possible participation. (I'll also see what dates the conference room is available, or we may need to look at an alternate venue.)

I don't anticipate a lot of agenda changes, with the exception of the field trips. We may be able to still tour Lucky Peak Nursery, but the Birds of Prey planting is out (I'm sure), and garden tours probably not advisable. I'm thinking that if we do include a field trip, we'll schedule it after the meeting rather than in the middle so it's more optional. (Having it between the RPWG and full RPC days was mainly a function of the conf room availability, which is likely to be different now.)

A bit of update since my last message. The BLM office isn't available for our meeting in February (that's the big training month there), so we'll either have to look for another place or do it the week of Jan 21 (the only date the room is available). I'm working on that, so stay tuned. Also, we're talking about doing the RPWG sometime weeks before the conference instead of the day before. That would make it harder for those who travel (like you) to attend both, but looking at the list of those who came to the last Southern Idaho RPWG meeting, it was nearly all Boise locals anyway. It would make it easier to pull together info between the RPWG meeting and the full RPC, and allow any loose ends from the RPWG to be followed up on.”

h. *Sage Notes Committee*

See Item #5 above.

j. *Website Committee*

Nothing to report at this time.

Item #7 Additional items

Karie noted that the 35th anniversary of the Pahove/Sage Notes publication is coming up and perhaps a special edition would be in order. Nancy and LaMar liked the idea and it will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Nancy suggested the board do more work with email rather than long quarterly board meeting. LaMar agreed to try getting more done via email.

The next board meeting may be in conjunction with the Rare Plant Conference, if it is held in January.

Meeting adjourned at about 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Crockett
Secretary, INPS
October 28, 2013
Revised November 18, 2013

Attachment 1

**Idaho Native Plant Society
State Treasury Income Statement
3rd Quarter 2013**

Income:		YTD	Budget	Actual to Budget
Membership Dues	683.75	4,808.81	6,000.00	1,191.19
Sage Notes Ads		102.00	50.00	(52.00)
Annual Meeting	1,211.99	1,211.99	4,000.00	2,788.01
Rare Plant Conference	60.00	60.00	1,000.00	940.00
Calendar Sales		540.28		
Donations - ERIG		760.00	300.00	(460.00)
Donations - General		-	300.00	300.00
Total Income	<u>1,955.74</u>	<u>7,483.08</u>	<u>11,650.00</u>	<u>4,166.92</u>
Expenses:				
Dues to Chapters		578.52	1,531.82	(953.30)
Sage Notes Editing	325.00	650.00	1,600.00	(950.00)
Sage Notes Printing		1,871.10	1,500.00	371.10
Misc Supplies	371.76	371.76	-	371.76
ERIG Expenditures		143.38	1,900.00	(1,756.62)
Annual Meeting Expenses		184.71	1,959.00	(1,774.29)
Rare Plant Conference		-	650.00	(650.00)
PO Box Rental/Postage Due	2.92	134.92	175.00	(40.08)
Website Hosting		324.00	-	324.00
Bank/PayPal Fees	48.41	102.22	-	102.22
Sales Tax	(288.34)	97.31	-	97.31
Total Expenses	<u>459.75</u>	<u>4,457.92</u>	<u>9,315.82</u>	<u>(4,857.90)</u>
Net Income	<u>1,495.99</u>	<u>3,025.16</u>	<u>2,334.18</u>	<u>690.98</u>
Balance Sheet				
Assets:				
ICCU Checking	117.63			
ICCU Savings	15,436.85			
Dues due from Chapters	35.94			
Total:	<u>15,590.42</u>			
Liabilities:				
Sage Notes Editing/Printing	-			
Dues due to Chapters	69.25			
Unclaimed ERIG funds (2007-2012)	3,152.32			
ERIG Funds not awarded	984.93			
Total:	<u>4,206.50</u>			
Net Balance:	<u>11,383.92</u>			
Funds:				
ERIG Funds	4,137.25			
Annual Meeting Funds	1,285.07			
General Fund	10,168.10			
Total:	<u>15,590.42</u>			

INPS Member Report
As of 9/30/13

Attachment 2

Membership by Chapter/Category

Chapter	Household	Individual	Life	Patron	Senior	Student	Sustaining	Totals	% by Chapter	\$\$ by Chapter*
Calypso	1	9	0	0	9	1	1	21	5%	\$310.00
Loasa	7	5	0	0	6	0	1	19	5%	\$334.00
Pahove	28	55	7	0	41	4	10	145	36%	\$2,351.00
Sawabi	18	9	1	0	33	1	1	63	15%	\$924.00
Upper Snake	5	14	0	1	12	1	1	34	8%	\$613.00
White Pine	20	39	0	0	27	5	18	109	27%	\$2,053.00
Wood River	0	3	0	0	1	0	2	6	1%	\$131.00
At Large	0	4	1	0	4	0	1	10	2%	\$143.00
Total	79	138	9	1	133	12	35	407	100%	\$6,859.00
% by Category	19%	34%	2%	0%	33%	3%	9%	100%		
\$\$ by Category*	\$1,738.00	\$2,346.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$1,330.00	\$120.00	\$1,225.00	\$6,859.00	100%	2013 State
								\$1,714.75	25%	Actual:
								\$5,144.25	75%	\$4,808.81

Membership by Expiration Date

Expiration Date	#	%
12/2013	369	91%
12/2014	22	5%
Beyond 2014	6	1%
Life	10	2%
Total	407	100%

***Note on Dues Income:** Because dues for any given year are received in two separate years, and Sustaining and Patron level memberships may be remitted at more than \$35 and \$100 respectively, it is time prohibitive to determine exact income figures for any given year. This is a best estimate.