

## Final INPS Board Meeting Minutes, January 28, 2015

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Idaho Native Plant Society was held January 28, 2015 via conference call commencing at 7:07 p.m. MST with the following underlined board members participating: President, LaMar Orton; Vice-President, Stephen Love; Treasurer, Elaine Walker; Secretary, Alan Crockett; Member-at-Large, Mel Nicholls; Past-President, Janet Benoit; Past Secretary, Nancy Miller; Calypso, Derek Antonelli; Loasa, Kelvin Jones; Pahove, Karie Pappani; Sawabi, Bob McCoy; Upper Snake, Rose Lehman; White Pine, Susan Rounds; and Wood River, Carol Blackburn. Sonia Lewis, White Pine, also was on the conference call.

Below are listed items and information in italics provided by LaMar to all board members prior to the conference call. The minutes of the conference call discussion follow in standard text format (not italicized). The meeting did not necessarily discuss items in the order presented below.

Item #1      Approval of minutes of the Oct 30, 2014 Board Meeting.  
*The minutes are on the INPS website under State Board. Please review before the meeting at [http://idahonativeplants.org/inps/boardmeet\\_2014\\_10\\_30\\_draft.pdf](http://idahonativeplants.org/inps/boardmeet_2014_10_30_draft.pdf). The State Board webpage is reached by clicking on Local Chapters and going to the bottom of the list (not obvious).*

There was considerable discussion as to whether the budget table as provided by Elaine should be included in the minutes when posted on the INPS website. Alan and Nancy will look into how other NPS and nonprofit organizations report their finances in meeting minutes.

Susan moved and Derek seconded a motion to approve the minutes with the changes suggested by Nancy and including both the membership and budget tables as provided by Elaine. The board approved the motion with two abstentions.

Item #2      Presentation of treasurer's reports – review and accept.  
*Attached are the reports provided by Elaine. (not attached to minutes)*

For the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, the INPS had income of \$933.09 and expenses of \$1370.83. For calendar year 2014, INPS had income of \$8,256.90 and expenses of \$7,043.76. Overall, assets total \$15,798.55, with liabilities of \$4,475.16 for a net of \$11,323.39. Following Elaine's presentation of the budget, Janet moved and Derek seconded a motion to submit the budget to audit. The motion was approved by the board. There was discussion about Sage Notes printing schedule and costs. No Sage Notes bills were paid in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter but the YTD costs are \$1379.25.

Item #3      Update on 2015 Annual Meeting.  
*The July 10-13, 2015 joint Annual Meeting of the Wyoming and Idaho Native Plant Societies will be centered in Driggs, ID and will feature field trips to both the east and west slopes of the Tetons. Trips will range from easy walks to all-day, strenuous hikes and include chair lift rides for tours of high alpine areas.*

*Our basecamp will be a Forest Service group campground in Teton Canyon that has been reserved for the weekend. It can accommodate both RVs and tents. There are numerous other camping options in the canyon. There are a small number of cabins near Driggs that can be reserved at Teton Valley Cabins (208-354-8153, [www.tetonvalleycabins.com](http://www.tetonvalleycabins.com)). They fill up quickly so reserve soon if you want one! The dinner meeting will be held in*

*the Driggs Senior Center the evening of Saturday, July 11. Mark your calendar and reserve the weekend for an alpine adventure!*

The discussion noted that more detailed information needs to be posted on the website soon and be included in Sage Notes. There were questions as to whether the group campground will be adequate and whether some individual campsites should also be reserved. Rose reserved one of the four nearby sites.

2016 Annual Meeting.

*The White Pine Chapter is the lead chapter for the 2016 Annual Meeting.*

The preliminary plan is for the meeting to be based in Grangeville the weekend of June 11-12, 2016 with field trips to the Three Rivers Area (Lochsa, Selway, Middle Fork Clearwater) and to the river canyon breaks area.

Item #4

Discussion on the future of the Wood River Chapter.

*There are only 9-10 members in the Wood River Chapter, some of whom hold membership in other chapters. Of these, there are only 5 or 6 members that are active. Some members are only in the Wood River area seasonally. The Wood River Chapter president, Carol Blackburn, has asked for a discussion on steps to be taken if the chapter wishes to dissolve or combine with the Loasa Chapter.*

*The INPS bylaws state the following:*

*“Section 14. Chapter Dissolution*

*The Society Board may by a two-thirds (2/3) vote dissolve any Chapter when it is satisfied that the Chapter is inactive and that there is no reasonable hope of its immediate revival, or when it is satisfied that such action is in the best interests of the Society. A Chapter may also petition the Society Board requesting dissolution of the Chapter. Chapter dissolution shall not affect Society membership status of any member affiliated with this Chapter; a member may choose to affiliate with another Chapter or to remain unaffiliated. Upon dissolution, all Chapter funds and assets shall revert to the Society, and use of the Society’s name as a Chapter shall cease.”*

Elaine’s records show only 4 members in the Wood River Chapter. After discussion, it was decided to let the chapter work out what the members want to do and petition the board if they want to dissolve. Chapter dissolution and transferring membership to a member’s chapter of choice seemed more practical than merging chapters.

Item #5

Discussion on what to do with copies of books received by INPS and advertising such books in Sage Notes.

*Elaine has received an advance copy of the book Outlaw Weeds of the West. Since it was addressed to the Newsletter Editor, they may want us to advertise/promote the book in Sage Notes. Do we want to do that? Do we want to mention books like this in Sage Notes? And what do we do with the book we received? Give it away as a door prize at the annual meeting? Or? We don’t keep a library anywhere, but perhaps we should establish a library for such books. Elaine and LaMar don’t know if this has been addressed in the past. Other Board members may have some thoughts on this or know of past board action.*

The book will be given to Mike Mancuso who may find someone to review it for Sage Notes. The board was against advertising the book in Sage Notes. LaMar liked the idea of offering the book as a door prize.

Item #6

Discussion on Native Plant Appreciation Week.

*Nancy Miller will update us on Native Plant Appreciation Week.*

The board wants the State to declare the week of April 26 to May 2, 2015 to be Idaho Native Plant Appreciation Week. Sonia had some ideas on how to rewrite the proclamation and will provide a new draft to the board. Alan and Nancy will work on the preparing the required paperwork.

Item #7

Presentation of Committee Reports.

a. Bylaws Committee

*At our last meeting the Board talked about making the membership chairperson an INPS board member. If there is a desire to do that, our bylaws will need to be amended to make that possible and the issue should be sent to the bylaws committee.*

No action or discussion.

b. Conservation Committee.

*Derek has provided the following report on the Conservation Committee's activities:*

*1. The Conservation Committee members:*

*Derek Antonelli, Calypso Chapter*

*Beth Corbin, Pahove Chapter*

*Bob McCoy, Sawabi Chapter*

*Rachel Newton, Pahove Chapter*

*Karie Pappani, Pahove Chapter*

*Sonia Lewis, White Pine Chapter (added during Board meeting)*

*It would be good to get participation from the unrepresented chapters. This would help us with work issues in all regions of Idaho. We now have enough members to spread the workload so new members on the committee should not be overburdened.*

*2. There are no current conservation issues being worked by the committee. We looked briefly at commenting to our Congressional representatives on language concerning the Endangered Species Act implementation inserted into the Defense Appropriations bill, but Congress took action on the bill before we completed our research.*

*3. The next Rare Plant Conference will be held in fall of 2015. Holly Beck will be leading the effort to organize the RPC. The regional Rare Plant Working Groups will be active this winter and spring preparing for the RPC. No RPWG meetings have yet been scheduled. INPS members are encouraged to observe and participate in the RPWG process.*

No action or discussion.

c. ERIG Committee.

*Committee Chairperson, Janet Bala, has provided the following report:  
Projects Completed in 2014:*

*Rebecca Stubbs, Department of Biology, University of Florida*

*Title: Into the cold: Montane Idaho as refugium for alpine-arctic, Micranthes (Saxifragaceae)*

Awarded: \$1,000.00    Paid out: \$1,000 for camping fees, fuel, and food.

Stephen Love, University of Idaho, Aberdeen R&E Center

Title: Acquisition of High Elevation, Dwarf and Compact Forms of Idaho Penstemon Species for Horticultural Use

Awarded: \$450.00    Paid out: \$450.00 for motor vehicle related costs (rental and fuel). Stephen has also published his project in the December Sage Notes and completed a report to the Treasurer.

Mandy Evans, Panhandle Animal Shelter

Awarded: \$ 350.00    Paid out: \$350.00 for native plants and soil.

Dr. Rick Williams, Idaho Museum of Natural History, Ray J. Davis Herbarium

Title: The Idaho Natural History Garden Plant Identification Signs

Awarded: \$250.00 Paid out: \$171.86 for aluminum plant name plates. The IMNH Native Garden is just waiting for the bill to pay for the hardware to mount the new tags. The balance is \$78.00 (Will submit article for Sage Notes in the summer when the plants are blooming.)

Projects in Progress:

Corrine Coffman Pocatello Zoo:

Title: Wild About Idaho's Native Plants

Awarded \$985.00    Paid out: \$609.05 for tools, planting supplies, and 40 native plants. They still need to complete with signage which should use the rest of their funds. Bruneau Elementary School purchased 100 native plants from Draggin Wing Farm, total \$398.00. Trees were purchased from TN Tree Nursery for \$125.91 and posts from Parma Post and Pile for \$192.00. The balance is \$284.09.

Jeffrey P. Rose, Department of Botany, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Title: Evolution and Biogeography of Polemonium (Polemoniaceae): the Polemonium pulcherrimum Species Complex in Idaho

Awarded: \$550.00    Nothing has been paid out for this project as of 1/23/15  
The taxonomic group Polemonium pulcherrimum species complex has been interpreted to contain three species. Idaho lies at the intersection of the range of all three species. Jeff's research will include sampling from the Mount Harrison area in Cassia County where collections identified as P. pulcherrimum may actually be P. delicatum, an intermediate species between P. californicum and P. pulcherrimum. P. delicatum has not been reported in Idaho at this time. He will also be looking at the genetics of the newly described P. elusum described from the Salmon River area by Josh Irwin (Irwin et al 2012). The funds will be used for collecting costs and lab work.

Unclaimed awards:

Rockford Elementary School - \$106.41

ISU Natural History Garden - \$78.14

Rolling Hill Public Charter School - \$500.00

I believe we have already absorbed the Rolling Hill money back into the ERIG fund but would also recommend doing the same for Rockford Elementary and ISU Natural History Garden.

Need for 3 new committee members:

So, I will remain chairperson for ERIG if the board agrees, and Rose Lehman has agreed

*to another year, but I would like to add 3 more committee members. Could the board suggest members or contact members that they feel would be good to fill these positions? Michael Mancuso has resigned due to accepting the editor position.*

*Funding for 2015:*

*I couldn't find my notes from the October board meeting but I think you agreed to fund ERIG at \$2,000.00 for 2015. If not, then I would request that we do because I think we see better grant proposals when they know they can get up to \$1,000.00.*

*Sincerely,  
Janet Bala*

ERIG was funded at \$2,000 at the last board meeting. Susan moved and Alan seconded a motion to add Sonia to the ERIG committee. The board approved. LaMar noted that he has a Loasa member as a possibility and White Pine has Judy Ferguson as a possibility.

d. Membership Committee.

*Members of the membership committee are: Sarah Funk, Jessica Irwin, Steve Love, Bob McCoy and Elaine Walker. Steve Love is the interim chairman.*

*The committee held its first meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>. The committee made the recommendation that all membership renewals and new memberships should go to the state and the state will return the chapter's portion of the fees back to chapters. A system will be set up through which the state will enter all memberships into the chapter membership rosters. Fees can still be paid to the chapters, but only as a pass through to the state. The board needs to take action on this recommendation.*

*The membership committee will also send a December email or have a reminder in Sage Notes reminding members of the need to renew their membership. Feb 1 an email blast will be sent to those who have not yet renewed their membership. On March 1 a snail mail reminder will be sent.*

*Elaine will train members of the membership committee on the program that she, Bob and Paul have worked on.*

*Other items the committee will work on include: (1) a letter to be sent welcoming new members, (2) a system for keeping a list of those members requesting a printed copy of Sage Notes, (3) a system for assuring that new and renewing memberships are entered into the state and chapter rosters, (4) a recommendation for membership fees.*

As of January 27, 2015, there are 448 INPS members. One hundred and thirty members have renewed and 296 have not. Elaine reported that when a person is a member of two chapters, she assigns that person to just one chapter so as to not double count in her reports but splits the dues between the two chapters. Out-of-state memberships were also discussed.

There was discussion of membership identification numbers which need to change to minimize work in the new membership system. This would result in losing some information on when members originally joined. The committee will work on preserving that information while moving to the new system. There was resistance to making the membership committee chairperson a board position since none of the other committee leaders are board positions.

The new plan for membership is for all membership applications and renewals be passed to the State, with membership funds. The plan is for a centralized system. The board would like to see more information for further discussion and review by chapter treasurers. Elaine volunteered to provide this information.

LaMar asked the committee to look at the rate structure of memberships

e. Nominating Committee.

*A nominating committee is needed for the 2015 election. The president and secretary positions are up for election. Please come with recommendations for this committee.*

Steve Love will be a candidate for president in the next election and if he wins, the position of vice president will be open and a new vice president will be appointed. The position of secretary is open and candidates for both positions are needed. With no volunteers for the committee, LaMar will call around.

f. Photo Contest Committee.

*The Pahove Chapter implemented the photo contest in 2013. The results were published in the March issues of Sage Notes. There was no committee for 2014. There have been no volunteers yet to take this over for 2015. Is there a chapter that would like to do it this year?*

Upper Snake is interested in possibly running the photo contest and will consult with Karie. A suggestion was made to link INPS web page to Flickr. Nancy suggested showing the links on the INPS web page to the Flickr groups Idaho Native Plants and Idaho Native Plant Society in order to encourage photo sharing of native plants and INPS activities. Nancy asked Michael to mention Flickr groups in the next issue.

g. Rare Plant Conference Committee.

*As stated in the Conservation Committee report above the next Rare Plant Conference will be held in fall of 2015. Holly Beck will be leading the effort to organize the RPC. The regional Rare Plant Working Groups will be active this winter and spring preparing for the RPC. No RPWG meetings have yet been scheduled.*

h. Sage Notes Committee.

*The printed copy of the combined Sept/Dec edition of Sage Notes went out the latter part of Dec. The next issue of Sage Notes is the March issue. Articles should be submitted soon for that issue. March 1, 2015 is the deadline to submit articles for the March Sage Notes.*

i. Website Committee.

*Paul Shaffer has made many changes to our website. Karie and Nancy have been working with Paul. On Jan 20<sup>th</sup> Karie sent out an email regarding the website to the board. Her comments are reiterated below:*

*“Can we add some time for a discussion regarding the website? Nancy, Elaine, and I have been working with Paul on this.*

*I think Word Press (for posting) will be much better. Paul walked me through it last week and it was easy to understand. Paul said he was willing to provide tutorials to folks that were interested and I would recommend that to everyone.*

*The only glitch was when I tried to log in and the site certificate gave me major problems that were difficult for me to understand how to fix even with Paul's help. So we purchased a certificate (\$16/yr.) that way we can avoid this problem. Paul said that it is our responsibility to encrypt personal information such as name, addresses, etc. and that the certificate is for security purposes. We also bought a dedicated IP address (\$2/yr). The website address will be updated in a day or so. I couldn't get onto the site today. Lastly, I think we need to consider paying for website design unless we have someone who is willing to do this. This would be a onetime cost until we want to change it in the future. Paul said that isn't his forte. I sent out some ideas on design to Paul and Nancy awhile back based on other site designs. Nancy also has been working with Paul and may wish to share her feelings at this point about the new website. Paul has been invited to join us at our meeting to update us all on the website.*

*On a final note Diane Jones has volunteered to work on the website committee. She maintains her own website for Draggin' Wing Farms at <http://waterthrifyplants.com>.*

Nancy Miller, Karie Pappani, Paul Shaffer and Diane Jones will form the Website Committee. The board was asked to send suggestions to the committee for website improvements within two weeks. Karie will send out her earlier comments and suggestions on the website to the entire Board. The Website Committee will bring recommendations on a new website design to the Board.

Item #8      Additional items.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. MST. The next INPS Board meeting will be held Wednesday via conference call, April 29, 2015 beginning at 7:00 p.m. MST.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Alan Crockett  
Secretary, INPS  
February 2, 2015  
Revised February 5, 2015  
Rerevised February 24, 2015