

INPS Board Meeting Minutes, July 9, 2015

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Idaho Native Plant Society was held July 9, 2015 in the Alta Wyoming library commencing at 4:08 p.m. MDT 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 (part time via conference call); Sawabi, Bob McCoy; Upper Snake, Rose Lehman; White Pine, Susan Rounds; and Wood River, Cynthia Langlois.

Below are listed items and information in *italics* provided by LaMar to all board members prior to the meeting. The minutes of the meeting 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 April 29, 2015 Board Meeting.

The minutes are on the INPS website. Please review before the meeting at http://idahonativeplants.org/inps/boardmeet_2015_04_29_draft.pdf. The State Board information is reached by clicking on "About INPS" and scrolling down to "meeting minutes".

Derek moved, Steve seconded and the board approved a motion to approve the April 29th minutes.

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

Attached are the reports provided by Elaine.

Elaine's budget report was passed out and motion was made by Steve, seconded by Derek to approve the report for audit. The board approved the motion.

In summary, 2nd quarter income was \$3,795.98, expenses were \$2,348.15. Assets were \$17,994.43 and liabilities were \$14,972.27 with total funds at \$17,994.43. These minutes do not include either the treasurer's nor the membership reports.

Item #3 2016 annual meeting

The White Pine Chapter is the lead chapter for the 2016 meeting.

The meeting will be held Friday June 10 through Sunday June 13 and possibly Monday, June 14, 2016 depending on an optional day trip.

Two field trips are planned – one to the Lochsa/Selway area and another in the higher elevations nearer Grangeville. The two trips will take place on Saturday and be repeated on Sunday.

One problem is that the Fish Creek campground cannot be reserved until January 1, 2016.

"The 2017 annual meeting will be arranged by the Loasa/Wood River Chapters; Calypso will host the 2018 meeting.

Item #4

Discussion on the future of the Upper Snake Chapter.

This item was discussed at the April 29, 2015 meeting, but no decision was made. The following was the report provided at that time.

Rose has provided the following information:

"The Upper Snake Chapter had a meeting last night (April 21, 2015). It looks like it needs to be added to the agenda for the board meeting next week that the chapter is looking at dissolution following the society's bylaws for doing so. I will forward our meeting notes from last night once we have them finalized. Basically it makes sense for us to encourage people in the area to become affiliated with the Sawabi Chapter and to stay active in creative ways as INPS members even though we will no longer have a chapter in Idaho Falls. Thanks, Rose."

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."

After some discussion, Derek moved and Alan seconded a motion to make the Upper Snake an inactive chapter and transfer all funds to the State which can use them as the board approves. The board approved the motion. Rose will be the contact for the inactive chapter, and remain on the INPS board. She will send out an email indicating that Upper Snake members will become Sawabi Chapter members unless they request otherwise.

Wood River Chapter had also been considering dissolution but new officers have been found and the chapter will be continuing.

Item #5

Presentation of Committee Reports

a. Bylaws Committee

Nothing to report for the bylaws committee.

Nancy will look into convening a committee to look into modifying the bylaws regarding election of officers. We currently do not function according to them.

b. Conservation Committee

The following report was submitted by Derek Antonelli

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 Dale
Turnipseed, Loasa Chapter*

2. *The next Rare Plant Conference will be held February 9-11, 2016. Holly Beck will be leading the effort to organize the RPC. INPS members are encouraged to observe and participate in the RPC/RPWG process.*

3. *The Conservation Committee still has not reached a consensus on the issue of wilderness versus national monument status in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.*

The board decided not to take a position regarding the monument versus wilderness issue.

4. *We submitted comments on BLM's National Seed Strategy. They were received and appreciated. They will be compiled with other comments. Thanks to Karie for taking the lead on this effort.*

5. *We were going to prepare additional comments for the Paradigm Project, but Karie recently found out that it is going to be implemented and there will be no further appeals on the project.*

c. ERIG Committee

Committee Chairperson, Janet Bala, has provided us the following report:

ERIG report July 1, 2015

Projects Completed in 2014:

Corrine Coffman Pocatello Zoo:

Title: Wild About Idaho's Native Plants.

Awarded: \$985

Completed and report sent to Sage Notes editor

Panhandle Animal Shelter:

Title: Native Plant Landscape.

Awarded: \$350

Completed and report sent to Sage Notes editor

Projects still in progress:

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

Nothing has been paid out for this project as of 4/23/15. Janet Bala requested updated status June 2015.

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.

Rebecca Stubbs PhD

Title: Into the Cold: Montane Idaho as refugium for alpine-artic Micranthes.

Awarded: \$1,000

Completed September 2014. Janet Bala requested report for Sage Notes, June 2015.

Bruneau Elementary School:

Awarded: \$1,000

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. The balance is \$284.09. Janet Bala requested updated status June 2015

2015 Grants awarded:

Hawthorne Elementary Native Habitat Teaching Garden, Hawthorne Elementary School, Boise, Idaho

Awarded: \$1,000

The school is a small title 1 neighborhood school with large outdoor space. The school wants to create a native plant garden that will provide for pollinators and wildlife, and create an outdoor learning space and provides hands-on science learning experiences. They have assistance from the BLM and are also hoping to include the Idaho Botanical Garden as a consultant.

Idaho's Flesh-eating Forbs, A Comprehensive Guide to Idaho's Carnivorous Plants:

Awarded: \$1,000

Lauren Studley, Pahove member is the project leader. The first part of the project is to collect data on 8 species of carnivorous plants in Idaho including taking photos, surveying surrounding habitat, and mapping GPS locations. The second part of the project is to

develop educational materials including small identification cards with photos and plant information to help with easy identification, a coloring book identifying key structures of wetland/peatland ecosystems to encourage conservation, and Sundew Velcro hand puppet. The plan is to hand out the educational material at the Foothills Learning Center, Idaho Botanical Gardens and MK Nature Center and have them survey the materials before making them available to more groups. As a committee we think this proposal met the guidelines with some exceptions including, no collecting specimens and no localities given for plants on the INPS Rare/Watch plant list.

ERIG donations: 2015 to date \$282 (as updated by Elaine).

d. Membership Committee

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

Elaine had volunteered to provide training on the new membership system at the annual meeting. At the April 29, 2015 meeting we had talked about using the library where our board meeting will be held on Thursday. Our time at the library is restricted to the 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm time frame for all our activities. As there is internet access at the library she might still do a quick presentation, if we could get through our board meeting quickly enough.

Elaine did not bring her computer to demonstrate the new system but is willing to travel around the State and tutor chapter personnel.

Elaine's membership report was distributed and shows there are 461 INPS members with the largest chapters being Pahove with 162 members, White Pine with 143 members and Sawabi with 81 members.

e. Nominating Committee

The president and secretary positions are up for election. LaMar and Steve have been working to try to find individuals to fill those positions. Steve has agreed to run for the president's position and Janet Bala has agreed to run for the secretary's position. Due to the delay in finding someone to run for the secretary's position, we were unable to get a ballot out to the membership either through Sage Notes or by mail. At this point we have a couple of options for filling those positions – (1) the Board could make the appointments, or (2) we could hold a vote by ballot or voice vote at the annual meeting. The latter is not provided for by the INPS bylaws, but is common among other organizations. It also appears to have been used in the past by INPS.

The board decided on a show-of-hands election at the annual meeting. In previous years, a ballot was provided in Sage Notes but later special mailings were necessary because of the delay in obtaining candidates for office. Initially the vice-president position will be vacant but the board can approve a person to fill the vacancy.

f. Photo Contest Committee

There is no active Photos Contest Committee. We need a chapter to take this on for next year.

The board would like to see what can be done to continue this effort in some manner. New software expands the possible uses of photos to easier use in calendars and possibly notecards. No decision was reached but LaMar will look into the calendar possibility.

g. Rare Plant Conference Committee

The next Rare Plant Conference will be held on Feb 9-11, 2016 in Boise. Information on activities leading up to that conference was provided above under the Conservation Committee.

h. Sage Notes Committee

A couple of issues with Sage Notes distribution and notification of members have come up. Some copies of the last issue of Sage Notes were sent to the INPS PO Box instead of the INPS members. The error seems to have been at the Post Office where the return addresses were read instead of those of the addressees. Being able to send a mass email to all INPS members about the posting of the newest issue of Sage Notes on our website is also something that would be most helpful for getting the word out.

Michael Mancuso would like to present Alexi DiNicola with a gift of \$200 for designing the new cover of Sage Notes. Derek moved, Susan seconded a motion to approve such a gift and the board approved a special Thank You gift. LaMar will write a note to accompany the gift.

i. Website Committee

The Website Committee consists of Diane Jones, Nancy Miller, Karie Pappani and Paul Shaffer. The committee has been working with several website designers to get bids on a new design for the INPS website. The possible designers have been narrowed to two. Bids should be available soon.

Karie will work with Diane Jones to get a mockup of the INPS web page and a bid from the person that did Diane's website. A second bid is also to be obtained from Teresa Madsen. A decision was made to stick with Word Press.

Item #7

Additional Items

Next Board meeting will be held in October. The date will be discussed at the meeting.

Quarterly board meetings will be held: Wednesday, October 14th via conference call at 7:00 MT and 6:00 PAC; February 8th or 9th (Monday or Tuesday) in conjunction with the Rare Plant Conference; Wednesday, April 13; and at the annual meeting on Thursday, June 9th, 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. MDT.

Respectfully submitted by:

Alan Crockett

Secretary, INPS

August 13, 2015