

10-7-2011

Meeting Minutes, October 7th, 2011

National Smokejumper Association Board of Directors

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**NSA Board of Directors Meeting
October 7 – 8, 2011**

Place: Missoula, MT

Meeting was called to order by John Twiss at 8:08 am.

INTRODUCTIONS, UPDATES, LOGISTICS, OPENING REMARKS

JOHN TWISS

SMOKEJUMPER BASE MANAGER'S REPORT

JARED HOHN (BLM-Boise)

Jumpers are a National resource. NIFC BLM does not have a host unit. It is its own 'state' to improve utilization and avoid confusion. They had a moderate season; 105 fires, 3 aircraft with one split with Alaska. New last season; they jumped in Wyoming out of Lander for about a month, and had a spike base operated early season from Canyon City, CO. Also jumped on the Boise and Salmon National Forests. About 40% of use is FS business. Had 6 rookies last season with 4 completed. Base had 47 jumpers this year. They continue to develop type 3 teams. It is desirable to have a minimum of 1 type 3 IC on each jump load. They are working with FS R1 on use of the ram air system for the Forest Service. R1 has 36 jumpers in the program. It is important to keep jumpers on Type 1 and 2 teams to promote program, but they don't short their own jump program. They created a CD with smokejumper program information for education and briefing purposes. They stay involved with studies being conducted to make sure their information/utilization is captured to show benefit of the program.

DOUG MACKEY (BLM- Alaska)

Below average season in Alaska; 400 flight hours, 220 jumpers out the door, 39 fires jumped and only one injury, a twisted knee with less than a week out of service. Last fire was at the end of July. They have a strong paracargo program to support jumpers as well as other fire fighters. They have palletized zodiac boats, ATV's, etc. that are dropped. There are 55 jumpers on the roster and about 1/3 are certified for motor boats. This is the 3rd year with no rookie class. Budget is planned for a 10% decrease each year for the next 3 years. They only have 5 permanent full time positions. Morale is high.

The Interagency Base Manager's meeting will be in Boise in November.

NSA INVESTMENT POLICY GUIDELINES

Bob Dayton: Concern – transparency is vital for a non-profit. There are now 60 IRS agents in Ogden to oversee nonprofits. We need a policy for asset allocation, quality of investment vehicles, etc. Do we need conflict of interest form? Our funds have surpassed S&P. Need to address risk and returns. Use active re balancing.

John Helmer: For asset allocation, category performance of past versus future may have no relevance. Suggests specific anomalies versus category. Bob suggests category vs. individual re balance.

Jim Cherry: Predetermination of % by type of categories. Less about % allocation and more about asset used. Bob and John did not agree on how best to invest the NSA Life Membership Fund.

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John Helmer: Diversification? Bob suggested corporate vs. equity. No investments in global arena. Chuck thinks this would require a manager. What about fee for this manager vs. John is free? Bob said we need a policy first, then an RFP to firms for a manager. We would need an investment committee to provide re balance direction. John: We're doing things differently than other non profits in the same situation. Need to consider other alternatives. We do have a policy in place but it's vague, intentionally. Ad hoc better than rigid rules. Rules would eliminate current portfolio. Current stock value is \$171,515.00. Bob: There is an issue of liquidity with current holdings. John: To make money it shouldn't be liquid. Backed up by Morningstar. Jim: Liquidity, what is demand/necessity for NSA to keep funds liquid? Bob: Emergencies and to be consistent with other nonprofits. No day trading for NSA.

Jim: Concern – If something happens to John Helmer what happens to portfolio. John: They keep going thru his office but pro-bono would be a problem. John won't be doing this indefinitely due to health problems. Charlie Brown: Need to determine long term needs for board. Consider index funds. John H: "prudent man rule" indicates we should invest as an individual would. (1830 MASS court decision, Harvard College v Amory 9 Pick. (26 MASS) 446(1830)). The prudent man rule directs trustees "to observe how men of prudence, discretion and intelligence manage their own affairs, not in regard to speculation, but in regard to the permanent disposition of their funds, considering the probable income, as well as the probably safety of the capital to be invested." A copy of the Prudent Man Rule is also known as the Restatement of Trusts 2d.

Guy: We need to consider the expectations of donors. They want to know how we are structured to manage their money. They need to know what our policy is. We need a third party manager so there is no perceived conflict of interest.

Chuck: Compromise. Keep new donations separate from John's accounts. Bob: Compliance and policy. John: Larry said we need to transition. There is a lot of money in the bank not getting full use. He is nervous about current investments. Charlie: S&P has recovered more than a few of our stocks in the current portfolio. John: I hate to sell off stocks just because they don't meet criteria under proposed new policy. John T: Wants to move forward with Bob's proposed new policy. He is uncomfortable with current stock investments.

Guy – motion: President is authorized by BOD to charge investment committee to finalize Bob Dayton's proposed policy taking into consideration all comments and concerns, including current portfolio. Jim C: Reformulate committee. Other input from presentations needs to be included in decision. Life membership funds current source of John H's investment funds. Charlie: Is it possible to leave old funds alone and put new funds under new policy? Jerry: What is our goal? Don't agree with Larry L that we need bigger return. Bob D: Policy will address scrutiny needs required. Guy – **Motion"Investment Committee needs to develop a final investment strategy based on the BOD comments** John H second. **Motion passed.**

NSA PLANNED GIVING

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Jim Cherry – John Packard will be available later today, Linda Reed Saturday morning. Both say NSA need's an endowment statement and case for support. NSA needs to be the author of the statement and guidelines. Montana Community Foundation would help our foundation(s). Umbrella. National Smokejumper Foundation would function under NSA's mission statement. Foundation could do events to sponsor/promote the future of the smokejumper program. Mailed document template for planned giving program. Motion to adopt document as template for further refinement toward the end goal to establish a National Smokejumper Endowment Fund. Ron S - second. Jim C: NSA BOD would submit to Foundation BOD for funding requests in support of NSA mission. Accountant: Caution on administrative needs of new organization. Endowments are usually restricted by donor. We have quasi endowment, no restrictions from donor but from BOD. Jim C: Our intention is to solicit unrestricted funds. We currently have one coming. Accountant: What is the cost benefit of a foundation vs. the current NSA. Jim C: endowment funds can be managed by current BOD or Foundation. But who's going to do the work? Bob D: If NSA solicits deferred restricted gifts we don't have a mechanism to deal with the gift. Accountant: His opinion that another legal entity is not required. Would have to research. Chuck: Advantage of Montana Community Foundation is they have management expertise for a fee. Bob D: Flat fee. Jim C: Reference web page 'why deal with us'. John T: Other options available so how would policy statement change. Jim C: Change language to address required name. Mike: Any disadvantage of foundation vs. NSA Endowment, does Foundation limit ability for grants? Accountant: Fees for small organizations can be high. Investment advantage due to large pool of money but may not be actively managed. Statements generated which is good. Bob D: What value added for third party soliciting gifts? NSA would have to identify prospect and they would sit down to address tax issues. Accountant: They can calculate taxable amounts, generate paperwork. Delay vote until presentation tomorrow.

**AMENDMENTS TO NSA BYLAWS
HURLBUTT**

GUY

NSA is not operating in compliance with our current bylaws. Currently written as member driven organization but we operate as BOD driven. Could lose 501(c)3 status. Members would have to address legally changing to BOD driven organization. Recommend continue as we are but have to change filing with Secretary of State with new bylaws. John H: Why don't we leave as is and operate in compliance? Guy: Requirements for member meetings and conducting business are very difficult. You need a quorum of members to conduct business. Jim C: Quorum based on paid members. Chuck S: Would need about 225 people or proxies to conduct business. Guy will volunteer to try to unravel for a BOD driven organization. We will need a spring meeting for members to vote either by e-mail, proxy, or in person to make changes. Jim C: NSA originally a social club so member driven. Mike: Use gotomeeting.com for spring meeting. **Motion to make the change to a BOD driven organization and seek vote of membership to approve that.** Second by John H. **Motion – approved** with one nay – Jerry W. NSA needs to prepare an explanation/position paper for members. Guy: We have to resolve since we are not in compliance with bylaws. **Guy, Chuck S, Jim C will work on strategy to proceed for member vote.**

Changes to bylaws:

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The Board of Directors of the National Smokejumper Association, at its Regular Meeting in Missoula, Montana on October 7 – 8, 2011, after first determining that a quorum was present, resolves to restate and amend the Association’s By-Laws as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the By-Laws of the National Smokejumper Association be amended as follows:

(A). Amend Article I, “Purpose and Location” to read as follows:

“1. **Purposes.** The purposes of the National Smokejumper Association (Corporation) are to preserve and promote the history **and lore** of smokejumping, ~~its associated activities, and to support past, current, and future smokejumpers and their families.~~ **maintain and restore our nation’s forest and grassland resources, and respond to special needs of past, current and future smokejumpers, smokejumper pilots, and their families.** To further these purposes, the Corporation is to assemble and maintain a registry of those men and women who have served as smokejumpers **and smokejumper pilots** and who have actively participated in fire **management** activities. The Corporation may establish, administer, and promote activities devoted to the promotion of safety, fire **management** and the wise use of natural resources, and may do so in cooperation with governmental, educational, and civic organizations. It may also carry on such other activities permitted to be carried on by organizations exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code including the acquisition of property for its corporate purposes by grant, gift, devise, or bequest, and to dispose of the same, subject to such limitations as are prescribed by statute.

2. ~~**Principle al Office.**~~ The principle al office of the Corporation shall be located in Missoula, Montana.”

PASSED ____XX____

FAILED _____

(B). Amend Article II, paragraphs 3, 4, and 6 to read as follows:

“3. **Qualifications of Voting and Nonvoting Members.** The National Smokejumper Association shall have two classes of members: Full Voting Members and Associate Nonvoting Members. A Full Voting Member is an individual who has completed smokejumper training **or who performed as a smokejumper pilot.** An Associate Nonvoting Member is an individual who has not trained as a smokejumper **or performed as a smokejumper pilot** but who supports the mission and purpose of the National Smokejumper Association. A Full Voting Membership shall be automatically granted to any qualified person upon receipt of his/her application and payment of the required dues.”

“4. **Annual Meetings.** The regular annual meeting of the members for the election of Directors and such other business as may come before the meeting shall be held between the first day of ~~April~~ **March** and the thirtieth day of June in each year on a date and at a time and place fixed by the Directors.”

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“6. **Notice, Waiver, Purpose.** Meetings of the members shall be held on written notice mailed to each member (~~first class, postage prepaid~~) **or posted to the Smokejumper Website** not less than ten nor more than **ninety** days before the date of the meeting. If notice of the meeting is mailed at less than first class postage, the notice must be sent to the members not less than thirty days nor more than sixty days before the date of the meeting. Notice of any meeting need not be given to any member who submits a signed waiver of notice whether before or after the meeting, or who attends the meeting without protesting, prior thereto or at its commencement, the lack of notice. A notice, or waiver of notice, of any special meeting shall specify the purpose of the meeting.”

PASSED XX

FAILED _____

(C). Amend Article III, paragraphs 7, 8, 9, and 12 to read as follows:

“7. **Removal.** Any Director may be removed ~~by the vote of the majority of the entire Board for misconduct or other activities not performed in accordance with the Articles, Bylaws, and direction of the Board~~ in accordance with the procedures set forth in Montana Code Section 35-2-421.”

“8. **Compensation.** Directors shall serve as such without compensation **unless compensation is approved by the Board of Directors.**”

“9. **Honorary Directors.** ~~The Board may designate from among former Directors and other persons interested in the Corporation’s activities one or more Honorary Directors. Honorary Directors shall be invited to attend meetings of the Board and shall be available to the Corporation for consultation and advice, but shall not have voting rights or any other privileges, duties, obligations, or responsibilities of Directors.~~”

“12. **Notice, Waiver, Purposes.** Meetings of the Board shall be held on written notice to each Director sent electronically or mailed (~~first class, postage prepaid~~) not less than seven nor more than ~~forty~~ **ninety** days before the date of the meeting. Notice of any meeting need not be given to any Director who submits a signed waiver of notice whether before or after the meeting, or who attends the meeting without protesting, prior thereto or at its commencement, the lack of notice. A notice, or waiver of notice, need not specify the purpose of any regular or special meeting of the Board, unless so required by statute.”

PASSED XX

FAILED _____

Amend Article V, paragraph 2, to read as follows:

“2. **Term.** Each officer shall hold office for the term of ~~one~~ **two** years or until the election and qualification of a successor.”

PASSED XX

FAILED _____

- 1) Purpose doesn’t include “and advocating for “ Needs to be included at next meeting.
- 2) Voting – members vs. directors. Directors don’t have to be members to vote. (JUNE 30TH)

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John T: Needs approval to compensate BOD with lunch and dinner today. Vote – approved.

TRANSITION OF FINANCIAL RECORDS AND TREASURER POSITION

CHARLIE BROWN

BOB DAYTON

June 30th was Charlie's last day as NSA Treasurer. Good last year. FYE 6/30/11 shows a total of \$11,383 Retained Earnings. Membership dues revenue continues to decline. Money in the GSF does not appear in the Retained Earning amount since it is a closed account.

July 1st Bob Dayton became Treasurer. Brent Russ is CPA and keeping records. Brent: Everything will change to QuickBooks. Need to decide formatting for reports. There are new requirements for nonprofits for 990 filings. We will need to provide "copy of 990 available upon request" or provide link. The 990 has to be approved by organization. There are requirements for various policy statements. First priority is conflict of interest policy for NSA. – Decision

Financial statements will be quarterly. Can have reports at any designated interval. Bob D will get monthly statements. Any check over \$250 will get his ok. SJ magazine bills will be sent directly to Russ for payment to be sure that we are timely. Questions go to Bob first and then to John T. Brent will bill monthly.

2011/2012 NSA BUDGET PROPOSAL

CHARLIE BROWN

BOB DAYTON

The proposed budget for FYE 6/30/12 shows a negative Retained Earnings of (\$8,584). Need decision to be more conservative on 2012 budget. Brent recommends using FMV accounting. Charlie: This would give us another \$20,000.

If not NSA will spend more in 2012 than we bring in. Vote on budget postponed until tomorrow.

FUTURE OF SMOKEJUMPING

ED WARD

Retired FS with 30 plus years in smokejumping. Money from jumpers/NSA in support of his son resulted in the purchase of hyperbaric chamber which now helps the community. His personal view is that the dispatch system is broken. Missoula is training smokejumpers for IC team qualifications. He suggested that we need to educate and promote the program to voters and politicians. There is no strategic plan for the future of the SJ Program. To attract base managers to NSA we should ask them how NSA can help them. Suggested a Symposium hosted by NSA to provide a platform for the future of the SJ Program. Recommends that NSA engage politically.

CHALLENGES IN THE FOREST SERVICE FIRE PROGRAM

JOHN MARKER

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He prepared a report for the FS retirees group that is 'all dressed up and no place to go'. Collaborating with American Wildlife Group representing 4.5 million voters. They have common interest in managing fire appropriately. Will ask BLM retiree group if they are interested. National Association of Counties as well as state agencies upset. Send comments on report to jf37m@aol.com.

If no fire plan, put the fire out. Need to do better job to pre-plan where and under what conditions to let it burn (use fire when appropriate) or fight fire when appropriate. When timber program diminished, fire program lost a lot of depth in fire fighting program. Fire management is not the problem, land use is the problem. 2% of fires account for about 95% of costs. Prescribed fire has to be done multiple times, not just once.

COMBINING NSA AND ART JUKKALA SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AND OBJECTIVES

Janeen Jukkala endorsed the combination and name change of the Art Jukkala fund. (\$20508) John T: we will need to maintain reserve to provide capability to treat future requests of smokejumper KIA's (fire or military) surviving children with education. McBride estate donation was 'in memory of' to the Art Jukkala fund. Jim C: Do we need to fund scholarships out of operating fund or out of scholarship fund/endowment? **Scholarship committee will recommend how to combine the funds and present at next meeting.** Consider as an endowment fund maintaining a minimum balance with surplus used for scholarships. Consider line item in budget in lieu of scholarships, show contributions into scholarship endowment so fund can grow. Provides flexibility in budget. The McBride money is in CD's with Met Life. He directed that the funds not be invested in stocks.

Scholarship Committee will rename the fund, combine objectives and draft announcement. Present recommendations in spring Motion:. Second by Charlie B. **Motion passed.** NSA plans to award 3 scholarships for 2012. Donors contributing to NSA should have the option of designating for scholarship, GSF, or no restrictions.

Bob Whaley: Art Jukkala funds distributed to Mackay family; Daughter Leslie Ann Mackay \$2000 to finish cosmetology school in Hamilton with another \$2000 for advanced training; Son Robert \$4000 for Spartan aviation school; Mother \$2000.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

CHUCK SHELEY

Membership continues to decline. Of current members about 1500 jumpers, 22 pilots and associates, and 263 life members. There are currently about 410 active jumpers nationally, BLM and FS. We need to continue to find a way to recruit these employees into NSA.

PLANNED GIVING

JOHN PACKARD

John Packard works for North Western Mutual in life succession planning. He made a presentation to the BOD at the Spokane meeting and is an NSA member.

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When a donor makes a planned gift to a nonprofit entity, the donor irrevocably parts with the asset and cannot retrieve it if it is needed in the future. Donors can make a gift that (1) pays a stream of income for life, (2) increases the yield they may currently receive from other investments, (3) provides a charitable income tax deduction, and (4) reduces or eliminates capital gains taxes or estate taxes. The organization must invest the gift to produce a yearly income stream to the donor; it does not have use of the principal of the gift until the donor dies.

It is imperative that the nonprofit clearly state:

- The mission of the organization
- The purpose(s) of its fund raising efforts
- The benefits to recipients of grants and gifts

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm. NSA social began at 5:30.

Reconvened Meeting Saturday morning at 0730.

Continued discussion with John Packard regarding a Planned Giving Program. Types of funds. Management fees. Preparation for questions to ask Linda Reed.

MONTANA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

LINDA REED

Linda Reed is President/CEO and has been with them about 10 yrs.

An endowment is the 3rd leg of any financial plan. The purpose of an endowment is to provide an established stable financial basis for the future of the organization. The investment manager(s) are the fiduciary agent. They use money managers and monitor their activities. (Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (MCA 72-30-101).) 7% distributions are imprudent. Strive to preserve capital, keep purchasing power, and make distributions. Investment management is a dynamic process. They use Craig Anderson and John Hedge, part of Merrill Lynch. They are paid consultants that provide oversight of money managers. Re balance consistently through out the year. There are multiple investment mgrs. Viewed asset allocation guidelines for Montana Community Foundation (MCF). Once contribution made donor loses control of asset. MCF can't spend the principle. They have \$55 mil currently in endowment, about \$62 mil total assets. Need to keep operating funds or quasi endowments within NSA. February is distribution month and they're paying 4% right now. Community Foundations started in 1968. There are about 700 through out the US. MCF started about 1991 and has 6 staff with 13 on the board. Performance since 1991 is .2% loss of real value. They are a member of the council of foundation peers. Perform well with peers. MCF is conservative so they perform weaker in a strong market and better in a weak market. Distributions can be reinvested if not required for programs in NSA. Administrative services provided: donation processing/acknowledgement, accounting, distribution payments, records retention,

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compliance with regulations, and fiduciary accountability. Must be transparent and accountable to manage funds. MCF is also 501(c)3. In a contract between non-profits, donations cannot be retrieved unless something happens to MCF. NSA will loose fiduciary responsibility and control of money. Cannot spend endowment principal whether with NSA or some other investment company. Unrestricted funds can be in quasi endowment/reserve account and can be spent anyway NSA sees fit. Clientele list on best site. About 500 funds. Majority of funds benefit 501(c)3 organizations. GSF should remain within NSA control. Agency fund minimum for investment is \$100,000. Thereafter individual donor any amount. Can't spend principal, only earnings. Donor designated \$25000. Distribute about \$2 – \$2.5 mil per year as grants, \$4 – \$500,000 as scholarships. Grants are given to the community foundation that makes distribution. MCF is fiscal sponsor but doesn't decide on projects. MCF can also act as short term/back office support for a special project such as honor flight. Will write template letters for NSA that NSA will mail (legacy giving, planned wills, contribution letters, etc.). Project type letters remain with and are NSA responsibility. MCF can link to NSA website. NSA Fund will be listed on web site. MCF can help with fund raising/marketing: planned giving, board training, listing on website and annual newsletter. Not financial advisors to donors. Donor needs their own council for protection. MCF knows laws, but not licensed as advisor. Board training would include: talking points, bullets of estate planning to solicit funds. Put tip in newsletter: have you remembered the NSA in your estate – You can name NSA as beneficiary on IRA's, life, etc. There is no tax burden to non-profit. Donations should be acknowledged with phone call, not letter. One or two annual appeals is enough. But other communications appropriate. Variance power – power from IRS – for people that manage money. Allows MCF board to assume responsibility of funds if NSA no longer exists.

Discussion: Have over \$300,000 in life memberships, about \$165,000 in stocks. Need infra-structure to deal with results of solicitations for planned giving/bequeaths. \$25 cost per member per year for magazine, newsletter, etc. Jim C: **Motion to move forward with MCF with minimum investment of \$100,000 from life memberships.** Ron S second. Jerry W – Concern: issue of member vs. BOD driven not resolved and making irrevocable donation to endowment. Until then look at other organizations for investment. **Voted – passed.**

MERCHANDISING AND WEBSITE
SHELEY

CHUCK

Developing new products starting in Jan. Inherited 15 cases of old merchandise. Bargain bin on website. \$2500 last quarter net. Estimate \$1600 clear this quarter with about \$4000 for year. New order form/flier. Cut shipping to \$3.99 plus \$1.50 per item. Max of 2 days turn around on orders. Looking at cooperative ordering opportunities with Barry Hicks and also trails group. NSA needs to handle merchandise at reunions. Store up and running. About 75% of people ordering on web are non-members.

Chuck provided a report on web site status. Jon Robinson is still the web master but his time available for the next 3 months is minimal. (Teaching class at U of WA). Bob D: Facebook is up now for NSA. Currently has Earl Cooley photo but thinks logo should be used. Larry L: Adding button to NSA site for sponsors in

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January. NSA needs back up for web site. Cost would be about \$50/yr. for service. NSA gets about 1000 hits a month to site. If down results in loss of revenue. Concern about how long it is taking to bring web back up, still in progress. John T: There is committee tasked from BOD to deal with web issues. (Chuck, Roger, John McDaniel, John T, and Larry L). Committee is slowly working on ideas to improve the website. Larry L: Potential for \$10,000 annual income from advertising on web If site is improved.

DONATION/LOAN TO THE NATIONAL SMOKEJUMPER CENTER

**JERRY WILLIAMS
BARRY HICKS**

NSC is asking for a grant/loan of \$1000. In the past we loaned \$6000 which has been repaid, plus 2 gifts of \$1000 each. There is an imminent need for the sewer hook up. About \$17,000 needed and is the basis of this request.

Several crews have donated time to restore/repair facilities. Barn and shop on new concrete pad. House being moved to new location this week. NSC had over \$25,000 in gifts and donations. Contractors have donated their time.

NSC continues to evolve. In this phase the focus is on moving the building. FS decided to put lot up for sale. Buildings are from 1924 and have historical significance. FS paid for moving buildings. Underlying mission is to educate kids and elder hostel groups. Mission ties to smokejumping . Focus has been on using seniors with youth to teach youth about the outdoors. Back drop is fires of '88. Trying to get grandparents and kids back together. Missoula is also teaching kids about outdoors. Their mission statement is on their web site. Guy: **Move to give them \$1000 (gift)**, second by Chuck. Fund raiser this year raised about \$15,000. They have been operating on personal loans with promises of more personal loans. NSC Board just voted to charge a \$5 fee. Previously had been free. Activity in May: Service Project for retired groups from public. Activity in September: GE group service project with matching funds program. **Vote – passed.**

NSA TRAILS PROGRAM

JIM PHILLIPS

The program is using a self-directed team management model now. The team consists of Bob Whaley, Interim Director; Chuck Fricke, Finance; Gary Weyermann, Logistics; Jim Phillips, Operations; Fred Cooper, Planning Director; and Jim Cherry as a silent member. This advisory board meets about twice a year.

There were 19 projects last summer. The Annual Trails Report (which Fred wrote) will be published online at the NSA website later this year. Looking at 60/40 split (member/associate) for crew composition. Some members want all jumper crews but numbers available don't always make that possible. Jim C handles registrations on line. Window to register is about Feb – April.

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MOU with R1 expires next year. Need MOU at national level. Jon M had storage shed for materials. His son has been gracious to date. They came up with \$2500 donation and bought a storage shed which is really a shipping container. There is a web site for determining volunteer labor costs. Trails use the general labor rate. Trails have projects in 9 states and are expanding services to include restorations. NSA thanks all the people that stepped up to take over the program after Jon died. The maximum number of volunteers that can be accommodated is 150 – 200 and we are about there. It is a self sustaining, self supporting organization, with potential for expansion. Barry will offer opportunity to work NSC project thru trails program for those that can't or don't want to hike trails. A few 'younger' people are becoming involved.

MANN GULCH

JIM PHILLIPS

Request to NSA to draft a formal request to Helena FS to task a formal plan be developed to maintain Mann Gulch. A National Historical Site requires a formal management plan. Helena NF is out of compliance with public policy for 16 years. Only one authorized trail into site. Others not maintained. Current one will probably go away due to fires and rain. Meriwether Canyon filled in and can't get in to pump out toilets. FS has money to abandon site, \$100,000. Only public access is on a pioneer trail from bottom of gulch. Site is in wilderness study area. Markers are coming out of the ground. Jerry W: Need to tone down request and offer to help write the plan, due to budget short falls and other priorities. What about an organization adopting the site? Agency and DOD use site for training, leadership. John T: **Jim P and Jim Hagemeyer will draft letter to Helena NF for meeting to discuss NSA/trails adopting site and assisting in the development of a management plan.**

ERIKKSON ESTATE DONATION

GUY HURLBUTT

Amount has still not been resolved.

BUDGET FOR 2012

Agreed to FMV accounting method which adds \$20,000. \$100,000 coming in before fiscal year end. Ron S: **Move to accept budget.** Bob D second. **2011/2012 Budget Approved.** Discussion on use of Eriksson funds later.

BOD POSITIONS THAT NEED TO BE FILLED

Bob Dayton wants to focus on planned/gift giving, solicitations however after discussion he is willing to consider treasurer job with Brent performing work. **Bob will continue for another year or two.**

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John Twiss will step down and resign from BOD at next mtg. John recommends that the president position be filled by someone currently on the board.

Jerry Williams is resigning from BOD. He won't be at next meeting and has missed several in past.

John T: The BOD will need people on the BOD with current connections with the BLM and FS. Need to recruit new person with networks still in place. John Packard, Fred Cooper and Mike Overby proposed as new board members.

Guy: As a member driven organization the BOD can only replace people leaving. At next meeting members would have to vote on person. BOD can appoint advisors.

Bob D: Motion to have Fred Cooper fill Jerry W's position, John Packard and Mike Overby be appointed as advisors and will become board members at next meeting. Vote – Passed.

Ron Stoleson considering retirement from BOD as well.

PLANNED GIVING GUIDE

Motion for Jim C to be lead on planned giving guide for other than endowment fund. Vote – passed.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM

No assignment.

BOD MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS

JOHN TWISS

Next meeting will be in Phoenix, AZ on March 16- 17-18, 2012 at the Talking Stick Resort.
The fall meeting will coordinate with the Redmond Reunion. The reunion is 9/21 - 22.

CRITIQUE OF MEETING

Good facilities. Good support. Learning opportunity. Heavy agenda, a lot accomplished. Frustration with investment policy delay. President will commit to doing better follow up on work to be done in next 6 months. Good social – Doug Houston planned beer and pizza is a template for future socials. Incorporate acknowledgement and comments from old timers at next social (by oldest decade present). When organization becomes BOD driven consider survey on web to maintain grass roots feel. President did a great job steering thru the agenda. Made major strides today to move ahead. Thanks to Roger S on data base work. (He is up to 1971. Needs help to get rest). Consider a non-voting member at large rep added to BOD.

Adjourned at 1:15 pm.

