

Save Our Bosque Task Force

Tuesday, August 2, 2022 @ 3:00 pm

Save Our Bosque Task Force Monthly Board Meeting
Meeting Location: Socorro County Annex & virtual via Zoom



Minutes

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88112697953?pwd=QXlHYXhBdjFWYmg5NzIMQ2dxc3BhQT09>

Meeting ID: **881 1269 7953**

Passcode: **033183**

Call-in Number: **(646) 568-7788**

Action items:

Danielle will decide and inform the Board/membership about the interns' end of summer lunch/event on Monday, 5 PM, Aug. 15.

Danielle will bring to the next meeting the compiled June 18 Farmer's Market questionnaires

Danielle and Gina will meet with NRCS, BOR, and Doris Rhodes Aug. 3 on this large restoration project

Jerry will make some calls to our last contractor to get cost updates due to increases on Phase IV on the Pack South and the Pack North sections projects

Danielle and interns assessing the density of salt cedar from to Escondida Lake to Otero Park (Zones 1 and 3) re MRGCD/Capital Outlay

Jerry will contact a possible new project with a landowner near Escondida Bridge & Pueblitos re Fish & Wildlife projects.

Christie will pick a park for the first new monthly park pick-ups. She will send the choice and ideas for needs to Danielle.

Danielle will talk to Jerry or Mr. Hawkes re signage for the parks re possibly getting the County, City or MRGCD involved with personnel, funding, or pick-up trucks. She will work on trying to find grants for signage.

Danielle will present a Google Earth map and actual signs for examples at the next meeting

Danielle, Jeff, and interns will work to get the cameras set up in the parks

Meeting started, 3:06 PM

1. Approve Agenda –approved
2. Introductions: Gina (Treasurer), Danielle, Christie (Secretary), Ron, Jerry (Pres), Jeff (VP) (online)
3. Approve Minutes for July 2022—motion to approve: Ron; second: Jeff; approved

4. Treasurer's Report

a. Budget Summary

July 31: \$31,617 This reflects payroll, supplies, gas for the truck; we can pay with those for the Bureau of Reclamation funds, according to Gina.

b. Fundraising –Danielle snagged a new member, and is working on the newsletter to encourage more folks to continue as members; and Jerry suggests we add the County Commissioners, the Mayor, City Council, Donald, and Lloyd in Operations too.

5. Program Director update—Danielle has a place to live!

- a. Interns –August is the last month for the interns; we'll have an event for them on Monday, 5 PM, Aug. 15. Lunch, picnic? Danielle will decide and inform us. Presents?
- b. Danielle will be bringing the complied Farmer's Market questionnaires for the next meeting with a Google Earth and actual signs for examples.

6. Project Updates

a. July Projects Update

- Reclamation Cooperative Agreement –Danielle and the interns have been out finishing the veg surveys on the Rhodes property; she is working with GSA and Reclamation to get the spraying started/planned. Danielle is meeting with NRCS, BOR, and Doris Rhodes tomorrow with Gina. This is the biggest restoration project we've ever done; 500+ acres; NRCS holds the easement. The recent floods have deposited lots of sediment.

- New Mexico Counties updates—Jerry: SOBTF and Socorro County (with match funds from BLM and County (\$70K this year) are working in our Phase IV on the Pack South and the Pack North sections on finishing of the old projects with the burgeoning salt cedar and getting the new spraying started; Jerry will make some calls to our last contractor to get cost updates due to increases; we're using state contractors. We may have to do less work due to cost increases, per Jerry and Danielle. We are trying to get down to the river, if possible, for a fire break.

- City of Socorro updates—Danielle: the City is finished installing new table and grills at Sandbar and Bosque Park; we need to order more and get them installed, possibly by the winter

- MRGCD/Capital Outlay; Yasmeen is on vacation; Danielle and interns assessing the density of salt cedar from to Escondida Lake to Otero Park; Zones 1 and 3; some of it will need to be "cut-stump" and herbicide applied to cuts; foliar spray is less expensive.

- NMDGF –fiscal year is over; we have been reimbursed; we are on a new contract (\$4999) with them. Carrie Parr is the contact with NMDGF. Parr wants to a new revegetation project on the east side of the River south the Escondida Bridge. We have access to up to \$60K for this. Gina asks if we can have any funding for watering for the reveg over a three-year time frame. What are prices for plant materials? We want to be sure to cover our time and personnel with this plan. They have been helpful and flexible. NMDGF has an *America the Beautiful Grant*; there may be some money we can use for the project. FYI: Our employee's salary is partially funded thru G&F; MRGCD covers some of it, as does Bureau of Reclamation (which also pays for the interns).

c. Partners for Fish and Wildlife

- F18 project status updates

1. For a property owner in between Lemitar and Polvadera—Danielle went out with the Archeologist recently to seek artifacts and survey the ancient acequias since the 1700s;

2. Another property owner near Pueblitos --the north end of Bosquecito Road; we are doing native plantings; pond and fencing improvements

3. Jerry will contact a possible new project with a landowner near Escondida Bridge & Pueblitos

Gina says we have a bunch of extra native grass seeds; we have no trouble getting volunteers to help us plant shrubs; we can borrow or rent bobcat with auger.

d. Parks and Trails

- Park and trail opportunities—

We will start a monthly trash pick-up, one park per month; not just trash but also glass raking, weed-whacking the weeds, painting concrete tables. We'll start monthly pick-ups with Saturday, Sept. 17, 9-noon. Meet at Otero and go up to Island I together to work. Christie has volunteered to be the Board person to help organize this, though Danielle is still the official contact. Christie will pick a park per month and assess what needs to be done there with Danielle and others.

The twice yearly pick-up is October 22 or 29.

- Park and trail signage-- Danielle will work signage on the parks within city limits first, getting the process going; she's met with Kay Krehbiel, with the Socorro County Historical Society and Friends of the El Camino Trail. A timeline for this process would be helpful. Danielle will also talk to Jerry or Mr. Hawkes re possibly getting the County, City or MRGCD involved with personnel, funding, or pick-up trucks. She is working on trying to find grants for signage.

- Henry Taliaferro Eagle Scout project-- met with Danielle and signed a contract; he plans to work on pathway improvements/clean-up/vegetation improvements; Danielle wants to make some aspect of this "an event"; there's money from the Scouts for some of this.

Cameras in the parks: Danielle has offered the interns to help get them set up. Jeff has set them up at home and has tested them there. Jeff suggested that we do a trial run at the parks with our own cars/trucks after we get the cameras up to see if we can see license plates.

e. Outreach

- Nusenda Community Rewards Opportunity—they are making a video on community work that their grant has funded; shooting is on Monday, Aug. 8 in Albuquerque. Danielle has a conflict. Gina notes that our funding from them has focused on the Bosque Conservation Day for 5th Graders out to the Socorro Nature Area for environmental education; Matt has helped with this every year. It's been going 30 years. Matt is busy on Monday; maybe Amy can do it since she's been involved in the Bosque Conservation Day; as have Sandra Knoll and Doug Boykin.

f. Website, Facebook, and Instagram accounts—Danielle says she's posting sometimes. Socorro Public Library had a Bosque project, so Danielle connected with them. The interns look over social media for us with their young eyes and sensibilities when they can.

10. Other -- Gina: Let's not forget our Tour plan of the SOBTF projects so the Board can see our past, present, and possible future projects. Sept or Oct would be good. We'll open it up to our members.

Jerry mentioned the upcoming Zoom Webinar on Aug. 8 noon for the Wildfire Grant thru the Dept of Agriculture/Forest Service; Danielle will register for that. It's due Sept. 23. Either we or one of our partners should be able to qualify for these grants. Apparently it's not a problem that our Bosque isn't itself adjacent to the Forest Service lands. Lots of federal monies for this for fire prevention, CWPPs, hazardous fuels reduction. More than one of us should attend. Danielle will try; Jerry will try too.

11. Adjourn 4:35 PM