

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
of
Friends of Cibola NWR
An Arizona Non-profit Corporation

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Friends of Cibola NWR was held on the 11th day of February 2023 at 11:05 a.m., held at 66600 Cibola Lake Road, Cibola, AZ 85328. John Rosenfeld, Andy Anderson, Skip Wallace, Rick Francis, Dan Bliss, and Rebecca Notarangelo, were present and participated in the meeting, being all the Directors and officers.

Carissa Rosenfeld, Secretary of the Corporation, and treasure acted as the secretary for the meeting and the Chairman.

The Chairman announced that a quorum of the Directors was present, and that the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with its business.

1) **Reading of the previous minutes**

- a) The previous minutes were read. Dan bliss made a motion to accept the minutes as read and Skip Wallace seconded the motion, the motion was carried.

2) **U.S Fish and Wildlife**

a) **Personnel Updates**

- i. Refuge Manager-still working on job description regarding supervising duties.
- ii. Biologist-still working on job description. Hopes to advertise in the next few weeks.
- iii. Biological Technician-going to repost the position end of next week.
- iv. Other personnel in the complex: Admin Officer-hoping to have someone in the next month, Facilities supervisor-just received the list of eligible people for the position and will be getting a hiring panel together soon, Deputy Complex manager-position will remain open and unfilled due to budget cuts.
- v. Currently there is a 40% vacancy rate across the three refuges.

b) **Budgets**

- i. Fish and Wildlife Service received a 4% increase.
- ii. Federal employees received a 4.6% salary increase.
- iii. So Fish and Wildlife Service really received a .6% decrease in funding.
- iv. Washington did an exercise as to what Fish and Wildlife needs to really operate which was something like \$2.3 billion. Current funding is something like \$586 million.

c) **Trail**

- i. Interpretive signs have arrived; will require installation.
- ii. Photo blind- needs some rehab work and brush/camo cover.
- iii. Path to blind needs a bit more work-personnel will remove some stumps.

d) Unit 1 expansion

- i. Area of Unit 1 around the wildlife drive will get planted to trees this spring.
- ii. About ½ of the area to the south has been cleared; various work being done.

e) Unit 2

- i. Some areas will likely get replanted in alfalfa that did not come up very well.
- ii. Still looking into replacing disabled accessible blind-current quote for concrete blind was \$29,000.
- iii. Repair of some swing gates over the blinds is needed. -will do during fall Friends group workday. Will look at modifying the gates.
- iv. Camelthorn (invasive plant) found along road on the NE.
- v. Pump replacement is still on hold until electrical panel arrives; estimate switch over to be this fall.
- vi. Need to have a separate meeting for Unit 2 discussion.

f) Hart Mine Marsh

- i. Completed the flush and are currently refilling. -this is annual maintenance.

g) Island Unit

- i. Planting in various units-wheat and millet
 - 1) Wheat will be planted in the pond on the island unit closest to the high levee road, and the first two ponds south of the parking lot. Refuge will purchase the seed and work the soil. The Friends group will plant the seed.
 - 2) Millet will be planted in late July to early August.
- ii. Replacement of dirt ditch- DU/CA Waterfowl project
- iii. Replacement of pump-don't have an update.

h) Cibola Lake

- i. Will continue to explore options for opening boat launches better.

i) Friends meeting at NCTC (National Conservation Training Center)-Moving Friends forward April 28-May 1.

j) Other: Working to get various signs replaced, various on Quarters to be ready for new employees, funded for some work on the Visitor Center.

3) Treasurer's Report

a) Membership: 185

b) Scholarship Fund: \$20

c) Financial Report: \$8,345.52

- i. 02/06/23 CK# 1040 \$755 Mead's Taxidermy for Coopers Hawk & Trumpeter Swan

- ii. 02/06/23 \$792 Halby's 72 hats
- iii. 02/10/23 \$10 ACC Renewal
- iv. 02/10/23 +\$10.01 Amazon Smile discontinued.

d) Jr. Waterfowl Savings Account: \$2,226.26

e) Secretary Budget Remaining: \$273.36

f) Volunteer Hours:

- i. 10/01/21- 9/30/22: 387 hours

- ii. 10/01/22- current: 292 Hours

4) **Old-unfinished Business:**

a) Logo Decal Order-will be ordering soon.

b) T-shirts-will be ordering soon.

c) Deer Crossings Unit 1- Will look into working on soon.

d) Unit 2 Pedestrian Gates- February

e) California Waterfowl Association-will be coming out in the fall to look at the Island Unit project.

f) Plan for Future Walk Events/Catfish Tournament- possible catfish tournament in May

g) ACC Renewal February-done

h) Workday for storing seasonal material-was cancelled for 2/11/23 due to youth hunt only weekend and the Audubon Society also visiting.

5) **New Business**

a) Lapel pins/different hats & mugs-will try printing different images on the mugs, will look into expanding hat selection, and will look into offering different animal lapel pins.

6) **Call to public**- No comments.

7) **Next workday**- 03/25/23 @ 8am to store seasonal materials for the Island Unit and Unit 2 as well as place benches on the Nature Trail.

8) **Next Meeting**- 04/15/23 @ 10am to be held at 65771 N. Currey Lane, Cibola, AZ 85328

Next meeting will be held April 15th at 10am to be held at 65771 North Curry Lane, Cibola, AZ 85328. There being no further business to be transacted, upon motion duly made by Dan Bliss to adjourn the meeting, Andy Anderson seconded and carried the motion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:43pm.

SECRETARY/Carissa Rosenfeld

I the undersigned Director of Friends of Cibola NWR hereby approve the contents of the foregoing minutes from the meeting held on the 11th day of February 2023.

DIRECTOR