

MEETING MINUTES

Merced de Santo Tomas Apóstol del Rio de Las Trampas

Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting, Escuelita in Las Trampas, May 9, 2024

Present: Alex Lopez, Arnold Lopez, Sam Lopez, Ruby Lopez and Pat Aguilar

Purpose of the Meeting: to agree on Interim budget due June 1, 2024; to decide on Capital Outlay Request; to decide obtaining a Surety Bond quote, to draft the agenda for our June 2, 2024 Annual Membership Meeting and to approve 5 new members.

Meeting called to order by Alex Lopez at 10:00 a.m. Five Board members present constitutes a Full Quorum.

Key Actions:

Reviewed agenda. Arnold suggested that we add item 7 (a) Approval of ICIP Resolution. **Motion by Pat, seconded by Sam that the revised agenda be approved with item 7 (a) added. Motion passed unanimously.**

Reviewed April 11, 2024 Draft meeting minutes. **Motion by Pat, seconded by Sam that the April 11, 2024 minutes be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

Reviewed current budget and made the following changes for next year's interim budget submission which is due on June 1: Add \$50,000 to Item 10102 Restricted Cash to increase amount planned for Land purchase from 108,577 to 158,577. This would leave \$54,570 remaining for programming into other line items. Arnold noted suggestions from the Board for various line items. We agreed that the remaining balance off of the \$54,570 would be programmed for project contracts.

We agreed to submit a Capital Outlay Request for a Skid Steer for moving logs to the wood splitter. Arnold will consider a joint submission for Capital Outlay for this with the Acequia de Chamisal y Ojito since they are considering requesting the same. Arnold feels we could share one unit with them.

Reviewed ICIP Resolution No. 2025-1, for adopting an infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan drafted by Arnold. **Motion by Pat, seconded by Ruby that we approve ICIP Resolution No. 2025-1 as submitted by Arnold. Motion passed unanimously.** The copy was signed by Alex and Pat and provided to Arnold for submission.

We discussed the need for a Surety Bond Quote. Arnold will look into getting a quote from Tomas Gutierrez in Taos.

Reviewed last year's Annual Membership Meeting Agenda and suggested changes to Arnold for preparation of the agenda for our up-coming June 2, 2024 Annual Membership Meeting. **Each Board Member will review the Bylaws and suggest any changes we would like to propose for our annual membership meeting to Arnold before May 22 so that he can include them on the agenda.**

We reviewed the application forms from 5 proposed new members. This included Virgil V. Vigil, Eddie Randy Tafoya, Oliver Vigil, Jose Ismael Sandoval and Jose A. Armijo. **Motion by Pat, seconded by Arnold that these five applicants be approved for membership. Motion passed unanimously.**

Reviewed Progress by Board Members on 2024 Action Plan Items:

1. Gravel the Plaza Area – Alex: Waiting for reauthorization from State regarding excess allocation for the Wood Splitter. Expect to hear after new fiscal year begins, perhaps by September.
2. Entering Las Trampas Land Grant signs on Highway 76 – Pat: Both signs have been installed by the DOT. Arnold will review the placement of the one south of Ojo Sarco and decide whether it needs to be moved.
3. Land Grant sign for the Plaza Area – Alex: Alex presented a handout with the draft wording he is suggesting for the sign. Board members provided feedback and noted by Alex.
4. Obtaining wood and managing distribution of firewood – Arnold: Forest Service has decided that they will provide wood Ojo Sarco, Las Trampas, Truchas, Santa Barbara and Picuris. Wood delivery is planned for some time in the Fall. Pat expressed concern that Ojo Sarco is part of the Las Trampas Land grant and should be included as part of Las Trampas by the Forest Service.
5. Obtaining land in Las Trampas for a Headquarters Office – Alex: No land is currently available for purchase.
6. Managing and Coordinating Legislative requests for tours and meetings – Ruby: No requests.
7. Sharing knowledge of Land Grant corners and boundary lines on-the-ground with Land Grant Board and members – Arnold: Arnold will schedule a date for Board Members to view corners on the ground this coming summer/Fall.
8. Developing a posture size map of the Land Grant by the State Forester’s Office--Pat. Pat presented the third version of a map drafted by the State Forester’s Office in Santa Fe. Board reviewed the map and suggested letters be of smaller font size.
9. Development of a Website – Pat: The website is available at lastrampaslandgrant.org. Additional information will be added. Board members suggested that approved minutes be included.

Arnold presented Property Disposition flow chart regarding procedure that must be followed in order to sell the Dump Truck obtained from the DOT surplus equipment last year. Arnold will follow the flow chart to move forward with selling it.

Sam stated that there’s 3 acres of land for sale in Ojito that could possibly meet our needs for setting up our wood splitting project. Arnold suggested that an abandoned homestead parcel of land may be acquired from the Forest Service. It is located just in from HWY 76 on the Ojito road. The board agreed that we should consider these. Both Sam and Arnold will obtain more information on each parcel.

Motion by Arnold, seconded by Ruby that meeting be adjourned. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.



Pat Aguilar, Secretary