

MEETING MINUTES

Merced de Santo Tomas Apóstol del Rio de Las Trampas

Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting, Escuelita in Las Trampas, September 12, 2024

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

Purpose of the Meeting: to discuss and approve a procedure that requires management to review and approve non-standard journal entries, adjustments and reclassifications that are posted to the Las Trampas Land Grant's general ledger; and to discuss involvement in Forest Service management of Common Lands.

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

Key Actions: Reviewed agenda. **Motion by Pat, seconded by Sam, that the agenda be approved as posted. Motion passed unanimously.**

Reviewed the draft minutes for our July 11, 2024 meeting. **Motion by Arnold, seconded by Ruby, that we approve the minutes of our July 11, 2024 meeting as drafted. Motion passed unanimously.**

Reviewed the draft minutes for our August 8, 2024 meeting. **Motion by Sam, seconded by Ruby that we approve the minutes of our August 8, 2024 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussed and reviewed two options presented by Arnold for a procedure that requires management to review and approve non-standard journal entries, adjustments and reclassifications that are posted to the general ledger. **Motion by Pat, seconded by Sam that we approve Option 1 which states that "When required to review and approve non-standard journal entries, adjustments, and reclassifications that are posted to the Las Trampas Land Grant's general ledger, whether by the Treasurer on paper or the Vice President on QuickBooks; after it has been corrected it will be noted and recorded in the minutes at the Las Trampas Land Grant Board of Trustees next meeting." Motion passed unanimously.** Arnold will include this procedure in our Rules and Regulations document, which was approved during our October 10, 2023 meeting.

Discussed the need for us to establish a plan for how we want our Common Lands managed by the Forest Service, including our priorities so that we can communicate those with the Forest Service and promote their implementation. Arnold mentioned that there is a meeting the next day, Friday, September 13, in Taos, where the Land Grant Council will be presenting on the involvement of Land Grants in Forest Service management. We decided to table our discussion for our next meeting to gain insight from the Land Grant Council's presentation during that meeting. Alex, Ruby and Sam plan to attend.

Reviewed 5 new applications for Membership, Chris Joseph Armijo, Kimberly Dawn Herrera, Gino A. Lopez, Philip Shawn Armijo and Candace Nicole Armijo. **Motion by Pat, seconded by Arnold, that we approve these 5 applications for membership. Motion passed unanimously.**

Board of Trustees updates on agreed 2024 Action Plan items:

1. Gravel the Plaza Area – Alex: No change. Waiting for reauthorization from the State regarding excess allocation for the Wood Splitter. Expect to hear in September.
2. Entering Las Trampas Land Grant signs on Highway 76 – Pat: A request has been made to the DOT for one more sign to place in Rodarte at entrance to Llano de San Juan.
3. Land Grant sign for the Plaza Area – Alex: Alex stated that the NM Historical Society no longer place maps on their signs. Alex provided a list of communities within the Land Grant and their location relative to Las Trampas. This will be included on one side of the sign in lieu of the map. Approval by the Historical Society Board is planned for Oct 18. They requested that the exact location for placing the sign be specified. Alex suggested that it be placed within our parking lot and closer to the highway than the existing church sign.
4. Obtaining wood and managing distribution of firewood – Arnold: Forest Service has decided that they will provide wood to Ojo Sarco, Las Trampas, Truchas, Santa Barbara and Picuris. Wood delivery is planned for late September or into October. The latest communication indicates we will get 250 cords of logs. We plan to use the Tomas Romero land parcel across the highway from the Church for processing the logs with our wood processor. Discussed possible amounts to charge per cord once we tie down what our costs will be. Our pricing objective is to recoup our expenses in processing logs to process logs to fire wood. All agreed that we would have a price for members in good standing (fully paid up to date) and charge more for non-members. Specific details will be established later.
5. Obtaining land in Las Trampas for a Headquarters Office – Alex: No land is currently available for purchase. Sam suggested that we need to get more aggressive in finding land for our headquarters. Arnold is waiting for a response on 2 acres close to his home. The owner has not decided on the asking price. Discussed the 11-acre David Fresquez property in Ojito. Jacobo Baca, Land Grant Council, is doing some research on the history of the Fresquez property and how it ended up as part of the Carson National Forest. The Forest Service is considering a long-term special use permit to the Land Grant.
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.
8. Developing a posture size map of the Land Grant by the State Forester’s Office--Pat. Each Board member was asked to review the pdf map that Pat sent to each and to recommend any revisions. At a minimum, verify Forest Service Road numbers to ensure they’re on the map.
9. Development of a Website – Pat: The website is available at lastrampaslandgrant.org. Additional information will be added over time. Board members suggested that approved minutes be included. Arnold mentioned that we need to pay \$139.35 for the annual fee for the website which includes the domain name. Arnold will prepare a requisition form.

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.



Pat Aguilar, Secretary