

NSSHA SPRING BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Via Zoom

Call to Order: Tony Franks called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. He asked the secretary, Nancy Allen, to call roll to establish a quorum (5 officers/directors required). Those attending were Tony Franks, Nancy Allen, Paul Hugo, Mike Blote, Meredith Randall, Linden Beck, Caroline Peterson, Lisa Long, Stephanie Holson, and Julie Newlin. Jen Huntley joined us a bit later. Dawn Johnson and Mary Clarke Ver Hoef did not attend. A quorum was established.

Welcome new members: Tony officially welcomed our new members – two new area representatives – Linden Beck, Area 2 and Stephanie Holson, Area 7. We now have representatives for all nine areas.

Officer Vacancy: The nominating committee put forth Jen Huntly to fill the position and term of Editor after Kathy Lewin retired. A motion was made by the board of directors to accept her nomination. Nancy made the motion and Meredith seconded. The vote was unanimous to accept Jen as our new editor.

Approval of minutes and Treasurer's report: The minutes were sent out prior to our meeting for review. A motion was made to approve the minutes from our last meeting. Paul made the motion and Meredith seconded. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as submitted.

Mike Blote presented the Treasurer's report: Since July 1, Mike has added \$2935.96 in dues to our account and made one expense payment - the cost of our annual meeting. There was some discussion about the difference in the number of checks received as opposed to online payments. Currently our bank account has a balance of \$49,795.44. Paul moved to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted. Jen seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Review of 2025 Annual Meeting at Camp Sacramento: It was our first time at Camp Sacramento since the Sciots tract club house was unavailable due to construction. Tony asked for our thoughts on the new location: pros and cons. Most of us liked Camp Sacramento as a venue. We felt the parking was sufficient, perhaps better. Some suggested that the membership may have been confused about the location and therefore did not come. Camp Sac was a last-minute decision because of the Sciots tract construction, and people may not have heard about the change. Meredith suggested that earlier notice and better signage, maybe having the Boy Scouts direct traffic, would all help. Meredith commented that it was a great way to highlight Camp Sacramento, especially for those who live in the Sacramento area. Nancy commented on how nice and accommodating everyone was. Others said it was cooler and more comfortable inside. Paul wondered about this year's availability on the date needed. He will contact Camp Sacramento to find out if we can use it again.

Tony asked for a motion and a vote on the location for this year's annual meeting pending availability. Lisa suggested that Sciots may be a better location since it's in the heart of several cabin tracts and people can walk to the clubhouse. Question: is the construction at Sciots clubhouse complete? Tony said yes that he

thought it was. Paul made a motion to have the annual meeting at Camp Sacramento. Tony amended the motion to have the meeting at Camp Sac, and if it is unavailable on the June 27, to move it to Sciots tract. Meredith seconded the motion. We voted to accept motion. Julie verified by text that the Sciots clubhouse is complete and that we are on Sciots calendar.

Quarterly meetings with the El Dorado Forest Supervisor: Tony, Paul and Meredith and some others have been meeting with David Fournier, the current Forest Supervisor, from the Placerville ranger district. They have been trying to get some others to join from the surrounding ranger districts - Pacific and Amador. Question: when they meet with the forest supervisor, are they meeting on behalf of CCORP or NSSHA? Answer: both. One area of discussion has been the permit renewal process, O&M plans, burn permits, trees, etc. It's been more about basic cabin issues than burned cabin issues. Meredith added that since they have been having these meetings, they have met with three forest supervisors, and one interim forest supervisor, district rangers, permit administrators, and forest supervisor's key staff. Mike asked if this information is being communicated to the NSSHA membership? Answer: it should be.

Communications from NSSHA: We need to communicate with cabin owners via email, regular mail and the website. Paul has admin rights to the website. He can make changes to it if someone wants something added. Tony suggested more frequent newsletters and/or e-blasts, providing that we have a good email database.

Jen, as the editor, asked about help with software, if need be. She asked about social media, Facebook, or Instagram? What would drive people to the website? What is the best way to communicate with people? Paul mentioned that we have over 1000 cabins in our association, but only a small percentage go to the annual meeting.

Meredith asked how many email addresses do we have? Paul will find out. Paul suggested a different model for communication, for example sending our communication to tract leaders and having them disperse our communication to their tracts. Meredith suggested going to tract meetings as NSSHA representatives. Paul suggested that the board members should try to go to other tract meetings.

Satellite meeting on Hiway 88: Tony and Paul want to go to Amador to reach out to the Amador district. They asked Stephanie to find a location. Meredith suggested that they break up the meeting into three sessions based on location. Julie asked how many tracts there are. Paul will find out. Julie also asked when the bulk of dues came in. Mike replied mostly after the newsletter goes out and after the annual meeting.

Yearly NSSHA calendar: Tony suggested a 2-year calendar of events, having our meetings and communications scheduled in advance. Tony particularly spoke about the March 11 meeting concerning the CPRA (Cabin Program Restoration Act). Tony asked for input. Julie asked if board meetings are on Wednesday nights. Tony said yes. Nancy asked Meredith about the CPRA now that Representative LaMalfa passed away? Meredith replied that they are looking at a replacement and will have more information about that in March. Nancy asked about the schedule and asked if the meetings could be later – maybe at 7pm. Tony said that's a possibility. The idea is to have more meetings but make them shorter.

Mike asked who the owner of the annual newsletter is. Mike and Paul did it last year. Jen is the editor. She should be able to take over most of the work.

Tony asked for a motion to approve the yearly calendar. Nancy made the motion to approve “with possible changes”, Meredith and Mike seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Lisa asked if we could announce the date for the annual meeting in an e-blast earlier in the year before people make their summer plans.

Forest Service Updates: Tony, Paul and Meredith recently had a meeting with Supervisor David Fournier. It was productive, he was gracious, he is an experienced forester who knows the ins and outs of government bureaucracy.

Linda Babcock is currently working on the Lassen NF as Acting District Ranger. Jami Martin is working as the Acting Resource Officer dealing with cabin issues reporting to Andrew Mishler who is the District Ranger.

Hazard Tree Mitigation and Fuels Reduction: Tony and Paul believe that NSSHA should provide a service to the cabin owners for the dues they pay. One of those services could be fuels reduction to help with fire resilience in our cabin tracts. As a non-profit NSSHA can secure grant funding to do fuels reduction in the cabin tracts. Also hazard tree mitigation. The lower tracts received some attention, but the upper tracts did not due to lack of funding. There is a new round of funding and RCD is leading the charge. The contractor is SVE (Sierra Valley Enterprises). There is a second project, not yet begun, called the Huckleberry Project (Caldor Fire Burn Scar Restoration Project).

RCD may be working on obtaining grant money on behalf of NSSHA to finish what they started last year before they ran out of money.

Tony also promoted the creation of Fire Safe Councils within the tracts. Fire Safe Councils have access to chipper programs. Julie mentioned that Sciots tract has become a Fire Wise Community linked to the Strawberry Fire Council.

Adjournment: Tony made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:51pm. Nancy seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Allen, Secretary
February 28, 2026