

Sierra Avalanche Center Board Meeting  
 Tuesday, December 6, 2022 - 6:00 pm  
 Parasol Foundation, Incline Village, NV



	Board of Directors		Forecasters
✓	Chris King - President	✓	Brandon Schwartz
✓	Mark Bunge - Treasurer	✓	Andy Anderson
	Zach Tolby - Secretary		Steve Reynaud
	Jonathan Laine		
x	Todd Offenbacher		<b>SAC Staff</b>
	Jason Oelkers	✓	David Reichel - Executive Director
✓	David Fiore	✓	Travis Feist - Education Coordinator
	David Bunker	x	Jason Bilek - Observer
✓	Peter Stanton		
	Tasha Thomas		<b>Advisory Board/Public</b>
✓	Sara Davidson		
✓	Kerry Stendell		

AGENDA – Items may not be heard in the order they are listed

- A. CALL TO ORDER - Establish quorum / Introduction of guests
1. Completed
- B. AGENDA AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL - Tasha Thomas brought up goal to vote on approving Murph as member of the board - CK indicated that will be voted on during closed session
- C. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES - Tasha Thomas moved to approve, Sara Davidson seconded, followed by unanimous approval of remaining board members
- D. PUBLIC COMMENT - *Any member of the public may address the Board of Directors on any matter that is not listed on the agenda. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes. Should discussion be required the item will be placed on a future board agenda.*
1. None.
- E. PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS (5 min) – Chris King
1. Please honor your commitments on the fundraising front. Sheet has been sent out.
- F. FOREST SERVICE UPDATE (5 min) – Brandon Schwartz
1. No new avalanches reported today - makes two days without new avalanche activity. Went out to view natural activity from the last
  2. Collection agreement is good to go. Found someone to fix the issue without correcting the SAM.gov problem - but we need to fix that going forward. Grants and contracts are on a 45 day backlog. Brandon’s ranger told them everything is good to go - continue with expenditures and that will get sorted out. Unless we correct the SAM.gov problems,
  3. We may be moving to the actual scary accident time - people are starting to step out, but we haven’t seen avalanches, and with storms coming up we may see new.
  4. Pageviews up 200%. Andy - we may have set an observation record. “Not too many observations yet, not causing problems”. 23 observations on Friday.
  5. Todd - ‘the message is getting out - lines that would normally be skied on Carson Pass are not’.
  - 6.
- G. ED REPORT (20 min) – David Reichel
- Epic Promise grant - radio silence. We would have received tickets from them about a month ago. Epic Promise stated they should have mailed letters last week.
  - California grant 21 is wrapped

- G22 project agreement is finalized. Met w new grant administrator yesterday, knows nothing.
- G23 agreement will be smaller. The overall funding pool will be smaller in GY23, will probably impact the agreement next year.
- PT event last weekend - 70 people attended. Another one this Friday. Granite Chief Beers and Brats this Friday.
- Tahoe Fund is putting on a backcountry awareness week. Point is to talk about safety in the backcountry. David is working w PIO's to echo SAC messaging.
- Tahoe Donner \$1,000 donation.
- TV interview with KTVN -
- Fund the Forecast - brought in just over \$7k, up about 30% from last year
- Visiting Truckee Tahoe also gave us \$1,000.
- Muir Energy - \$1,000 (half product / half money)
- KTEK campaign is up. In addition to forecast reads, we have the
- Newsletter is about to go out
- Balance sheet and profit and loss complete
- Data vis and observations explorer - up and about 90% of what it will finally be. Waiting for tweaks to two new graphs and a couple tweaks to improve graphs that have been published.
- Reached out to Cody, Jeremy and Michelle asking them to push it out.
- January 7 - Tahoe Adventure Film Festival - need volunteers
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- Gifts (\*note - need to confirm)
  - Alpenglow sent \$1K
  - International Alpine Guides \$1200
  - Blackbird Guides credits
  - LT Snowmobilers \$2,000
  - Flylow skis and outerwear kit
  - Jones Solutions split board and an outerwear kit
  - Martis Camp Foundation Grant \$3K
  - Manitou Fund sent grant for \$10K, pending
- Newsletter forthcoming
- Swag
  - Beanies, hats, etc. lined up ready to go
- Data visualization project coming along with Giant Rabbit, pretty close to being unveiled
  - Getting the word out with pro skiers and other professionals in the space
- Google employees are giving \$35,000

H. EC REPORT (10 min) – Travis Feist

- Nick Bliss and Sara Newsom doing in-house rescue and first aid on the 17th and 18th - board training event.
- Awareness events are starting to wind down - become more one-off events after Jan 1.
- Kids programming, SAR teams in the new year
- State of the Snowpack - weekly - goes to youtube, IG on Thursdays.
- SnoMo classes are enrolling. All four rescue classes are full or rapidly filling.
- Will be doing staff SnoMo training
- Avalanche Alliance - SAC is signed up as a member and we expect to receive a grant this year
- There are ongoing outreach events with LTS
- Rescue class with a SAR team coming up
- Nevada OHV video is coming along well.
- Mike Ferrari is not dead and is not retired. Very much wants to continue the Bill Foster event. Will do a spring event.
- Awareness events - pre-covid there was a time when every shop or bar wanted to have us for events. COVID disrupted that. Events are coming back this year. It seems like many of the less successful events are not coming back and we are reaching more people with
- NPS has asked us to do professional training for Yosemite - no decision on whether we will or not.
- AAA pro training - there will be atleast one private provider applying to offer pro training in the Tahoe area.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES (20 min)

- Budget/Finance – Mark Bunge
  - \$56k in checking, \$106k in savings, \$814k in reserve account
  - \$33k in individual giving already, before donor push.
  - Bunge Motions to amend budget by \$35,000 for additional services, Peter seconds - unanimous approval.
  - Should get reimbursement from California in the next month for G22.
  - Emails and pop-ups
- Development – Peter Stanton
- Strategic Planning – Peter Stanton
  - Have summary of all day planning session back
- SM/Marketing – Tasha Thomas
  - Software program to streamline SM workflow
  - Found a spelling error in persistent deep layer
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  - Budget
- Education/Outreach – Jason Oelkers
  - Committee met several times
  - Scholarships
    - 93 applicants - 49 female, 43 males
    - Best sources were IG, SAC website
    - 57 skiers, 28 snowboard, 5 snowmobilers, 2 snowshoers
    - 2022 SAC Course Awards Count
      - AVALANCHE RESCUE - 5
      - LEVEL 1 - 16
      - PROFESSIONAL AVALANCHE 1 - 1
      - PROFESSIONAL AVALANCHE 2 - 2
      - RECREATION LEVEL 2 - 6
      - Grand Total 30
  - Budget was \$18k - \$17,525
    - 16 female, 14 male
    - 19 in California, 11 in Nevada
  - Wrapping up scholarship program this week

- o Follow up meeting on 11/14 to judge, then communicate with winners and non-winners through David Reichel
  - Currently 67 applications
- o Will post about it on social media

L. ADJOURNMENT - CK moved to adjourn the meeting.

Next meeting January 3, 2023