



Dear Desert Sage Members:

In mid-2020 the Desert Sage Board of Directors and CEO began conversations of the future of our credit union and how a small credit union such as ours could remain viable in today's market. In the scope of credit unions Desert Sage is of smaller size and as the market changes, it has become more difficult to maintain products, services, and technology that most banking customers today expect. Through these conversations, talk of finding a merger partner emerged and we started to discuss which local, Idaho credit unions might be a good fit for our field of membership and would continue to serve our members with the same level of service that we have since 1953.

In November of 2020, we met with Pioneer Federal Credit Union, who is headquartered in Mountain Home, Idaho, with 14 branches throughout southwestern Idaho, and immediately felt like we had found a great fit for our membership. Their values align with Desert Sage's and Pioneer offers an extensive array of products, services and a large branch network that can serve our members effectively and with continued great service. Pioneer offers extended service hours from 7 am to 7 pm, Monday through Saturday, in their drive ups and on a video chat app that you can do your banking from anywhere in the world on your mobile phone. It's tools like this that we felt would positively impact our Desert Sage members that led us to choose Pioneer for a potential merger.

Due to the worldwide pandemic, COVID-19, 2020 was a challenging year for our whole country. COVID-19 impacted Desert Sage and our financial standing. This led us to pursue a merger at a much more rapid pace with Pioneer so that we could move our members to a credit union that was financially stable and that could continue to effectively meet their banking needs. The National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) approved this rush merger request on 2/19/2021. Soon you will receive a second notice in the mail and an email regarding your membership at Pioneer Federal Credit Union. Please open any notifications you receive from them as it will contain important membership information and details on how they can serve you and your family!

We hope that you welcome the opportunity for Pioneer Federal Credit Union to serve you just as we have through all these years. We know that they will welcome all our members and partner with you for financial success! You can learn more about Pioneer on their website at www.pioneerfcu.org.

Thank you, Desert Sage Board of Directors

Katie Bledsoe
Wayne Cochrane
Reynaldo Basaldua
Chester Rosenberger
Hernan Zarazua