



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

June 7th, 2017

6:00 PM – 7:45 PM

Carnegie Library, Monte Vista

Members Present: Mick Davis, Rick Davie, Dale Gomez, Eduardo Duran, Mark Bechaver, Suzanne Beauchaine, Carol Lee Dugan

Administrative Assistant: Hanna Cook

Guests: Beau Temple

2017 and 2018 budget report reviewed.

General Public Comments

The Fullerton Park well project was drilled and it was a dry hole. HPP will pay half of the drilling costs for the dry hole.

Nancy Butler sent a thank you card to the committee to thank them for their help funding conservation easements. The San Luis Valley HPP committee was mentioned in the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust 2016 annual report.

Old Business

The committee welcomes Eduardo Duran as the new BLM representative to the San Luis Valley HPP committee. The committee will be notified once the appointment has been made official by the CPW Commission.

Project evaluations will be sent out soon and should be completed and returned to Hanna.

The most recent antelope census results from Jack Martin show that the population has remained consistent in the area.

New Business

HPP Expansion

The HPP state council has issued a memo regarding an expansion on the scope of acceptable HPP projects. While conflicts surrounding fence and forage still remain the primary focus of HPP, the state council has expanded the scope of acceptable projects to include those that involve research and address the goal of assisting CPW with game management objectives. The focus of all projects should remain on deer, elk, pronghorn, and moose. Projects that focus on assisting CPW with game management objectives do not need to have a conflict associated with them. Local committees have discretion to limit funding on these types of projects and to

discuss and come up with their own system for how to approach these projects and what will be required of anyone requesting funding for these projects. Discussions will be ongoing and the committee members are encouraged to consider any concerns, questions, or ideas regarding this change and how they would like to adopt it on a local level. The change will be effective on July 1, 2017.

Project Application Proposals and Reviews

USFS Road Closure signs-Dale Gomez

Dale Gomez is asking HPP for \$1,000 to pay for ten signs that will be used by the forest service for road closures. Signs will be used to close illegal roads and to close roads seasonally for the benefit of wildlife in the Rio Grande National Forest. The USFS will match that amount to buy an additional ten signs. Signs that were purchased last year seem to be working well. Signs will have USFS, CPW, and BLM logos on them.

The committee approved this project for up to \$1,000 for FY 2018.

Hale River Ranch CE update

This conservation easement has been put on hold by CPW, and HPP is waiting on more information about when the project will be completed. Due to the fact that this project has already spanned two fiscal years, HPP would like to ensure that the CE does in fact get completed before the committee spends any more money on it. There is currently \$4,040 remaining in the budget for HPP's contribution to the CE. **The committee agreed that the remaining balance will not be reimbursed to the landowner until the CE has been completed. As soon as the committee receives confirmation that the CE is closed, they will reimburse the landowner the remaining \$4,040 out of the FY 2018 budget.**

2018 committee expenses budget-meals/operating expenses

The committee agreed to allocate \$500 for FY 2018 towards working meeting meal expenses. They also agreed to approve future committee recognition awards when needed per the HPP administrative directives.

Landowner fence repair and materials

The committee voted to approve \$5,000 to be allocated to small fence repair projects in FY 2018. Landowners can come to committee meetings to request funding for small fence projects. Approved projects will be allocated from this budget in the form of an in-store pick up or reimbursement voucher. Vouchers will be issued by Hanna Cook upon committee approval.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion

Mick Davis asked Eduardo Duran if the BLM would be interested in using signs for seasonal road closures the way USFS has done. Ed confirmed that it would be a possibility and will look into putting together a project application for a future meeting.

The committee thanks Mick Davis for providing dinner for everyone at the meeting!

Next Meeting: August 15th at 6:00 PM at Carnegie Library.

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