



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES
Conference Call
May 22, 2017
1:00 PM

Introductions: Members present: Chuck Alexander/Livestock Grower, Dave Hammer/Livestock Grower, Duane Scholl/Chairman, AWM Lyle Sidener/CPW, John Mack/NPS and Samantha Sorensen/Admin. **Guests present:** Amy Sidener/Grand Co. DNR, Pat Tucker/HPP Coordinator.

New Business: 640 Acre Minimum: Chuck began by explaining he'd been out to Tillotson's and they were upset they were cut out of the voucher program. Yet in years past HPP has spent a lot of money on properties that did not meet the 640 acre minimum. There had been some concern that without the acreage minimum folks with small properties would still benefit from a program intended for agriculture. Chuck suggested giving Amy the authority to make exceptions. Dave pointed out that the county has plenty of deserving folks that could participate if the minimum was brought down to say 160 acres. Lyle reminded the committee that their HMP allows for flexibility, sees a benefit to keeping the minimum at 640 while allowing for exceptions. Amy said she would be willing to screen participants accordingly but in order to do so she needs to have parameters and guidelines laid out by the committee since it is their program. The committee agreed to give Amy Sidener the authority to approve vouchers for applicants that do not meet the 640 acre minimum as long as the landowners have legal Ag zoning and/or there is cooperation taking place among neighbors. The committee also expressed they would like to continue the discussion at the next meeting.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: Next meeting is scheduled for June 14th at 1:00PM. Lunch will be provided.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:25pm.