



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

May 3rd, 2017
Calvillo's Restaurant
6:00 PM- 9:15 PM

Committee members Present:

- Ron Garcia, *USFWS Representative*
- Alvin Kunugi, *Livestock Growers Representative*
- Mike Maldonado, *Sportsperson Representative*
- Paul Minow, *BLM Representative*
- Roy Oliver, *Livestock Growers Representative*
- Jason Surface, *CPW Representative*
- Ty Ryland, *Livestock Growers Representative*

Administrators: Hanna Cook

Guests: Crystal Quintana (Dispersal Hunt Board), Robert Quintana (Dispersal Hunt Board-Chair), Garth Mathes (Dispersal Hunt Board), Andy Espinosa (MBHPP Hunt Coordinator), Conrad Albert (CPW-DWM), Brent Frankland (CPW-Biologist), Frankie Wilson (Landowner), Pat Tucker (HPP coordinator)

General Public Comments

Hunt Coordinators

The new South Costilla Hunt Coordinator Board is made up of landowners from different drainages and was formed to choose and oversee operations for a new HPP hunt coordinator for South Costilla County. The board was able to work quickly and get a new hunt coordinator before the end of the hunting season. A hunt coordinator (Leon Martinez) was selected after an interview process and Andy Espinosa was able to work with the new hunt coordinator to provide some training. Andy and Leon were able to coordinate efficiently and help each other with hunts in both North and South Costilla County. The weather made the hunting season difficult, especially because Leon wasn't brought on until late in the hunting season, but feedback from the board, the public, CPW, and Andy has been positive.

The committee and CPW are impressed with the professionalism, dedication, and efficiency of the South Costilla Hunt Coordinator Board. There were even some landowners who were opposed to the program and did not want hunting on their property have since changed their minds after speaking with board members. CPW gave the board a list of landowners who have the most big game damage, and the board uses that priority list to determine who gets the first hunts. Leon was able to spend the full budget that the committee allocated for the year. If Leon cannot fill

the hunt coordinator position in the upcoming hunting season (due to work restrictions, etc.), then the board will use the same process to conduct interviews and select a new hunt coordinator that is reliable, trustworthy, and is able to work with Andy the way Leon did.

Andy pointed out that hunt coordinators are very important for ensuring the safety of hunters, the public, and other animals when hunting on private properties. The Mount Blanca HPP committee agrees and appreciates what the South Costilla board has done to ensure that a reliable hunt coordinator was selected. They encourage the board to continue to move forward with the efficient, honest, and ethical practice they have been operating with this year.

Ty Ryland pointed out that if landowners involved in dispersal hunts are having any issues with fencing or stack yards then the board should encourage those landowners to come to the HPP committee to discuss solutions and possible funding for projects.

Budget Report

The budget report was reviewed.

New Business

Sid Weaver Fencing Project

There is an outstanding invoice from Sid Weaver that has been disputed because of the property that the work was done on. Usually, Conrad Albert or other DWMs give Sid a list of landowners that need fence repairs from game damage. The invoice in question showed 91 hours spent on a property that Conrad did not approve. After speaking with Sid Ron Garcia and Conrad Albert were informed that the entire 91 hours was not actually spent on that property, but rather was split up between several properties. Sid put all hours on one landowner form because he was unable to track down the other landowners to get signatures. The committee decided that if Sid can account for all 91 hours and that Conrad signs off to show that the work has been done, then they are willing to pay the invoice.

From this point on the committee would like to clarify the process for paying fence contractor's invoices:

- Landowner forms are required with all invoices. Invoices will not be paid without landowner forms accounting for all hours billed. Hours on landowner forms must match hours billed on invoices.**
- Due to the fact that fence repair work often involves many landowners, the committee will allow contractors to fill out the form for the area/drainage where work was completed, rather than for each landowner individually.**
- Forms must be signed by a DWM to be valid. The DWM's signature provides confirmation that the contractor worked on approved fences and that work was completed satisfactorily.**
- The contractor should not complete work on fences unless a DWM has requested it or the contractor has contacted a DWM and they have agreed that damage from big game has occurred and the repair is necessary.**

Conrad will update Sid with this information and will collect landowner forms to account for the outstanding invoice.

****Update (5/8/17): hours have been accounted for and outstanding invoice will be paid.**

Fencing Materials

Earl Rael will need some additional materials for his fencing project. \$250 will be allocated to that project from the fencing materials budget.

Ron Garcia will check on the committee's white vinyl wire supply. An order will be made for additional white vinyl wire and fasteners if needed.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion

Garth Mathes discussed a possible future fencing project. He would like to build an exclusionary fence, but the committee pointed out that this does not fit with HPP statutes. There is the possibility of building a wildlife friendly fence instead, and Garth will work with Conrad to complete an application for a future meeting.

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 25th, 2017 at 6:00 PM at Calvillo's Restaurant.

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