



## HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

CPW Area Office – 73485 Hwy 64

May 16, 2017

7:00pm

**Introductions:** **Members present were:** Rich Parr/sportsperson, Mary Taylor/BLM, Lenny KlingleSmith/livestock grower, DWM Bailey Franklin/CPW, Curtis Keetch/USFS, Jim Brennan/livestock grower and (via phone) Samantha Sorensen/Admin. **Guests present were:** Greg Glasgow, Pat Tucker/HPP Coordinator, Troy Osborn, Paul Sheridan, Mike Grady and Ross McGee.

**General Public Comments:** N/A

**Budget Report:** Samantha reported that \$6,968.12 was remaining in the FY17 budget and \$148,800.00 remaining in the FY18 budget. Bailey updated the committee on the progress of ongoing projects.

**Old Business:** Minutes from April 18<sup>th</sup> were approved as written.

**New Business:** Bailey began by letting the committee know he'd need to order more temporary electric fence materials. Currently there is not enough fencing for all 4 pastures on K/K. The intent is to still bring it down in the fall and make it available to other landowners participating in HPP projects that require deferred grazing. Lenny expressed it would be nice to purchase a trailer to store and transport the materials in. Pat pointed out that equipment cannot be purchased with HPP funds. Since the project did not make it on the agenda, Bailey would like to hold a conference call.

**FY17 Sheridan Bar 7 Ranch Ag Seeding:** Bailey explained that Sheridan Ranches would like to propose a 60 acre agricultural field conversion. It would be a multi-phase project but their goal is to apply herbicide, level the ground and plow the fields before June. Next fiscal year they will apply for phase II which will consist of disking and seeding. The first cut would provide hay for their cattle operation and the 2<sup>nd</sup> would be left for wildlife. The committee approved to fund \$1968.12 and Pat said the State Council would fund the remaining \$1,781.88.

**FY17 Theos Swallow Fork Mechanical Shrub Thinning:** Bailey reminded the committee they'd funded a mechanical hydro axe project on Butch's place three or four years ago and it had turned out well. This project would be an extension of that, proposed a 50% mosaic thinning on

a 60 acre block of mountain shrub communities. There would be no need to reseed since there is a good understory and the results would be beneficial for sheep and wildlife. The committee approved \$3,000.00 for the project.

FY18 Halandras Water Well #3: Tabled

FY18 Grady Lay Down Fence: Bailey presented the committee with a photograph to show what Mike Grady is dealing with. They've done at least 2 lay down fence projects already. Bailey and Mike proposing to convert 0.15 miles of woven wire to 4-strand barbed wildlife friendly lay down fence. Vendor will not be available until July 4<sup>th</sup>. The committee approved \$782.00 for the project.

FY18 Landscape Scale Weed Control: Bailey pointed out that this would be a continuation of what's been done in the past with Troy. Landowners participating in HPP can pay Troy for herbicide and HPP will pay Troy for labor to apply the herbicide. Troy mentioned that hydro axe projects need to go to the ground when there are weeds present; otherwise horses are needed to go in and treat those project sites. Bailey explained that they may need to approve additional sites later on and asked the committee for flexibility to adjust landowners and time/property if need be. Mike Grady asked to be added to the list. The committee approved \$16,800.00 for the project.

FY18 Bulk Herbicide Purchase: Bailey proposed that the committee purchase more herbicide for landowners who would prefer to apply it themselves. He pointed out that he's asking for a little more than last year. Again, landowners are only eligible if they've done an HPP project and there is a known conflict present. The committee agreed that it's a good project that supplements Troy's. Some landowners want herbicide only others labor only. Troy mentioned that he's working with a different mix for leafy spurge. Also, he suggested Bailey replace the Perspective with an Overdrive/Telar mix since Perspective is so easily abused and there's no grazing label. The committee approved \$6,500.00 for the project.

FY18 Etchart Ranch Aerial PJ Spray: Tabled

**Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion:** Pat reminded committee members that the annual statewide HPP meeting will be held in Grand Junction on December 5, 6 & 7. Todd Graham has been asked to present on what doesn't work. Lenny asked if that would be a good time to ask the State Council to fund Todd's project. Pat doesn't think they'll fund it and the challenge is how the project can be made applicable for all other committees. HPP happy to fund but agency needs to pitch in too. The committee voiced concern over the State Council's lack of support. WRHPP doesn't see the 5% they contribute. Bailey requested that Todd be put on the statewide agenda in December.

Pat briefly discussed the HPP expansion that will go into effect July 1, 2017.

The committee was told that the financial sustainability bill was shot down. The director said they'll try again next year. Despite the great support they believe the bill failed because it was too big to introduce and run through the last 2 weeks. Apparently there is a lot of concern about how the agency is currently spending money.

**Roundtable:** N/A

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM. Conference call scheduled for 5/22 at 7:30AM.