



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES
CPW Office in Hot Sulphur Springs
June 13, 2018
1:00 pm

Introductions: **Members present:** Dave Hammer/Livestock Grower, John Mack/NPS, RC Lopez/BLM, Chuck Alexander/Livestock Grower, Barry Smith/Sportsperson, Doreen Sumerlin/USFS, Doug Bruchez/Livestock Grower and Admin. Samantha Sorensen/CPW.

Guests present: Katlin Miller/MPCD, DWM Gene Abrams/CPW, DWM Tom Davies/CPW, DWM Elissa Slezak/CPW, Gary Horine, Conway Farrell, Megan Knott/CCALT, and Bob Anderson.

General Public Comments: Dave Hammer presented outgoing board member Barry Smith with a plaque to show their appreciation for his commitment to HPP. Everyone wished Chuck Alexander a happy 80th birthday.

Budget: Samantha presented committee members with a budget report. The remaining budget for FY18 was \$26,118.85 and the remaining budget for FY19 was \$118,000.00.

Old Business: Approval of Minutes: Minutes from March 14 were presented and approved as written.

New Business: Knorr Ranch Conservation Easement FY19: Megan Knott explained that the Knorr family listed the property for sale in 2017. Two of their neighbors formed an LLC solely for the purpose of buying the ranch to conserve it. Shawn is getting a long-term Ag lease for his portion; the Summit portion will be left for wildlife where no trails will be allowed except for maybe one access trail. There are zero development rights and Shawn might look into allowing hunting. \$10,000.00 was approved for the project.

MPCD Weed Brochures FY18: Katlin pitched a proposal on behalf of Amy. 675 books were printed last year and they were very popular. Cost per book should go down since the layout has not changed. The plan is to continue placing booklets anywhere the public can access. The committee approved \$5,000.00 for the project.

Reclamation Seeding FY19: Katlin explained that the purpose of this program would be to reclaim areas that have been stripped for fencing, ditches and logging, etc. Landowners would be required to submit before and after photos. Each landowner would be eligible for a free ten

pound bag of custom seed mix to reduce the risk of weeds taking over in disturbed areas. The committee approved \$2,499.20 for the project.

HWY 34 Wildlife Signs: Chuck voiced that he was extremely upset about the fact there were still no wildlife signs installed yet. Apparently CDOT didn't feel the signs were necessary. Dave mentioned that the committee had assisted financially with the HWY 9 project. It was pointed out that typically CDOT requires there be at least 5 animals hit in an area over a 1 year period before they'll consider additional signage. Even then sometimes the agency will decline requests for additional signage based on the thought that too many signs can be a distraction. Dave said he would send out an email to committee members so they could collaborate on another letter addressing the lack of signage on HWY 34.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: Sportsperson Representative: Conway Farrell expressed his interest in becoming the next sportspersons representative on the committee. He's been outfitting for six years; leases a bunch of ranches. He said he's always walking fence lines and looking at benefits to Ag and wildlife. Gary Horine expressed his interest in the soon to be vacant sportspersons rep position. He let everyone know that he's from Silverthorne and has an inherent love for wildlife. Without a healthy habitat we'd have no wildlife. He's involved with the Elk Foundation and sees a need to preserve and protect for the future. He enjoyed listening to the committee's discussions and thinks he can leverage folks in Summit. Jesse Hamlin and Josh Richert also expressed interest in the position but were unable to attend. The committee decided to table a nomination until the September meeting.

Agenda Items for 9/12 Meeting: Nomination of Sportsperson's Representative, HWY 34 Wildlife Signs Comment Letter, Hunt Coordinators.

Roundtable: Sam mentioned the need to fill the 2nd hunt coordinator position. Everyone was informed that Brian Lamont was hired to fill Kirk's position.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:03pm.