



**HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES**  
**County Building-500 Broadway, Eagle CO**  
**April 30, 2019**  
**1:00pm**

**Introductions: Members attending the meeting were:** DWM Darren Chacon/CPW, Scot Dodero/livestock grower, Rick Bumgardner/sportsperson, Jim Nieslanik/livestock grower, Hilary Boyd/BLM, Pat Luark/livestock grower & Admin. Samantha Sorensen/CPW. **Guests attending the meeting were:** DWM Brian Wodrich/CPW, Jim Daus/EVLT, Kristy Wallner/BLM, Peter Suneson/ECOS, Mike Lederhause, Rick Mueller, Josh Fitzsimmons.

**General Public Comments:** None

**Budget Report:** Samantha presented committee members with a budget report and the beginning balance was \$84,660.50. Samantha spoke briefly about Joe Hood's FY20 solar well project approved at the last meeting. The project site falls outside the LCR boundary so the Grand Mesa committee needs to decide if they would be okay with LCR funding the project; with the understanding that moving forward Joe needs to present projects to the appropriate committee.

**Old Business:** Minutes from March 14th were presented and approved as written.

**New Business:** Royal Elk Ranch Water Development: Rick began by letting everyone know his property is located 10 miles up Coffee Pot Road. He reworked one pond last year on his own and at the committee's request he redid his application and reduced the project's size from 5 ponds to 3 ponds. The plan is to rework all of the ponds, install drains, line with bentonite and put in head gates to maximize water rights. When asked if he could finish before June 30<sup>th</sup> he said he'd been up to the property over the weekend and 1 site is already free of snow, the other 2 sites still have close to 2ft but the recent weather has been rapidly melting the snow. He will continue to work with Dan on wildlife management; the plan is to make the property available to the public. Rick mentioned that Dan had said the area may not be winter range but elk did winter up there and a game damage claim was filed. The ponds will help during calving and fawning by providing a suitable habitat away from recreation, in area where there isn't a lot of water. There was a discussion over Rick's price per pond. The committee approved \$10,000.00 per pond not to exceed \$30,000.00.

Red Point Forage Enhancement: Mike explained he lets people hunt on youth licenses; 2 deer were harvested in the fall and their stomachs were full of alfalfa. He would like help/compensation for the loss. Darren said his project sounds like more of a game damage claim. Pat pointed out that HPP paid for seed and now he has a game damage problem. Brian

went over game damage qualifications and process. The committee decided Mike needed to go through game damage for the forage loss and HPP would not fund his fertilizer request.

BLM Red Hill Spring Development: Tabled.

Fitzsimmons Stackyard: Josh did not have an application prepared but explained he was looking for help with a 660 stackyard with 2 gates up Gypsum Creek. Darren mentioned the 20 year agreement. Josh went on to say that a stackyard is already in place but the owner is telling him he's got to leave but Josh is trying to hold onto his lease and doesn't want to move out of existing stackyard. Craig Wescoatt was supportive of the request but currently on leave. Pending approval of the landowner the committee agreed to pay for materials through game damage.

Bocco Mtn. Area Weed Treatments: Kristy said the project site is an allotment on 131 across from the landfill. The fire zone has already been reseeded; they spent \$34k. She's looking to get funding for contractor to conduct spot spray treatments; a contractor would have more time therefore could be more consistent. Contractor would either be Todd Schlagel or Cody Metcalf, and HPP would pay contractor directly. BLM would pay for the chemical. The committee approved \$5,000.00 for spot spray labor.

**Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion:** State Council Updates/Next Meeting/Vinyl Wire: Samantha touched on the major highlights from the State Council meeting in March. The State Council is going to start funding weed and fence projects on SWAs. The next meeting will take place in Middle Park on July 30/31. The State Council is willing to provide local committees with \$5k worth of hotcote vinyl wire, if the committee wants it. It would be available starting July 1, 2019. The committee agreed to accept the wire.

Potential Guests for Statewide Meeting: Tabled.

PO/FY Deadlines: Not discussed.

RSVP/Proxy/Applications: Tabled.

Select Next Meeting Date: A conference call was scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup> at 1pm to discuss an amendment to Joe Hood's Habitat Improvement project. The next meeting was scheduled for July 11<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the GWS CPW office. Future Agenda Items: Tabled project.

**Roundtable:** N/A

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 2:29pm.