



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES
Zoom Video Conference
September 9, 2020
1:00 pm

Introductions: **Members present were:** Seth Jennings/USFS, Chris Clatterbuck/NPS, Dave Hammer/Livestock Grower, Tiffany Rubalcaba/BLM, Chuck Alexander/Livestock Grower, GW Horine/Sportsperson, Doug Bruchez/Livestock Grower, and Admin. Samantha Sorensen.

Guests present were: AWM Jeremy Huntington, Conway Farrell, Matt Ninesling, Brad Cory/CCALT, DWM Rachel Sralla, DWM Elissa Slezak, and DWM Gene Abram.

General Public Comments: Chuck congratulated and welcomed Jeremy.

Budget: Samantha gave a FY20 and FY21 budget report. Samantha brought up the earmarked funds for the Mule Deer Winter Range Enhancement project and the committee asked her to remove it from the budget until the project was proposed.

Old Business: Approval of Minutes: The draft minutes from June 10th were presented and approved as written.

New Business: Elk Mountain Ranch Conservation Easement: Cory and Brad spoke about the CE in progress. The 637 acres is located up Corral Creek and a CE would ensure the ranch would remain in the family. Hunting is currently leased to the neighbor. The property is excellent big game habitat and placing it in a CE eliminates 15 potential homesites. The committee approved \$10,000.00 for transaction costs.

Hunt Coordinator(s): Samantha explained that Ted Zagone already has kids lined up for hunts this season but that it would be his last year coordinating hunts. The committee discussed the fact they were still without a coordinator on the east end of the county. The committee approved \$5,000.00 for one hunt coordinator.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: Sportsperson Representative Interviews/Nomination: Conway Farrell introduced himself and pointed out that he's been to a number of meetings in the recent past. He runs an outfitting business, enjoys HPP and thinks the program provides good opportunities. Ben Butler was unable to attend the meeting but he did provide a letter of interest that Samantha shared with committee members. After some discussion the committee decided to nominate Conway as their new sportsmen representative. Samantha explained that she will need to submit Conway's info to the Commission for an official approval before he is permitted to vote. GW mentioned that Ben might be a good candidate for a future youth hunt coordinator and wondered if Ted would be willing to let Ben shadow him this season. Samantha will reach out to Ted and see what he thinks.

Committee Member Recognition: Samantha shared with the committee their options as far as awards for exiting members. The committee decided on a plaque for Lyle with a picture of a sage grouse.

Next Meeting Date: December 9th beginning at 2:30pm. Future Agenda Items: TBD

Roundtable: Chuck mentioned that Tillotsons did well with daisy spraying. Other landowners may come forward with a similar proposal.

A discussion was had pertaining to the Mule Deer Winter Range Enhancement project.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00pm.