



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Republican Rivers HPP Committee Meeting

March 6, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Yuma, CO

Committee Members Present:

- Josh Melby - CPW
- Chris Craig - Livestock Grower
- Clayt Cooper - Livestock Grower
- Don Fritzler - Livestock Grower
- Dustin Wise - Sportsman

Attendees Present:

Justin Peterson - Applicant (Virtual)

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kimberly Berscheid

Introductions

The committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report

The remaining budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$27,350.80.

Old Business

The minutes from the February 2, 2023, meeting were approved as written.

New Business

Peterson Water/Wildlife Project-

Justin Peterson is asking the committee for \$15,000 for a contractor to convert a traditional windmill to solar and drip line supplies to provide water to newly planted trees on the property. The project will create critical habitat coverage and forage for deer and reduce game damage to neighboring agricultural lands. In addition, the project will encourage wildlife to stay on the property and reduce the number of vehicle collisions on Highway 24 and I-70. Justin will provide the labor to plant the trees and install weed barrier and drip lines. Josh Melby offered to do a site visit to suggest placement for a wildlife guzzler to increase the benefit to wildlife.

The project was approved for \$15,000 for a water development on the Peterson Ranch.

Noble Ranch Tree Project -

Josh is asking the committee for \$2,780 for seed mix, trees, shrubs, weed barrier fabric, staples, and shipping costs to re-establish an erosion control tree planting on the property. Due to severe drought and winds, previous plantings did not survive. **The project was approved for \$2,780 for seed mix, trees, shrubs, weed barrier fabric, staples, and shipping costs.**

Herron Habitat Project -

Luke Herron is asking the committee for \$5,500 for trees, seed mix, weed barrier, polymer, planting supplies, and a wildlife guzzler for a food plot along the Arikaree River. The food plot will provide crucial cover and forage for wildlife and help reduce pressure on neighboring crops.

The project was approved for \$5,500 for trees, seed mix, weed barrier, polymer, and planting supplies for a food plot. The committee will also provide one wildlife guzzler from the inventory.

Remaining Committee Business

Meeting Schedule-

The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 12, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., Bank of Colorado - 420 E. 8th Ave., Yuma, 80759.

Roundtable

Dustin told the committee he is interested in pursuing the HPP State Council Committee vacancy. He requested a letter of support from the RR Committee. The committee provided their support and agreed to give a letter.

Don Fritzler will retire from the committee, and the vacancy must be announced. Kim will order a retirement statute and draft a vacancy announcement for the committee to review.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15 p.m.