



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Middle Park HPP Committee Meeting
May 17, 2023 at 1:00 pm
CPW- Hot Sulphur Springs, CO

Committee Members Present:

- Jeromy Huntington- CPW
- Chuck Alexander - Livestock Grower
- Doug Bruchez - Livestock Grower
- Dave Hammer - Livestock Grower
- Conway Farrell - Sportsman
- Vacant - BLM
- Amy Birtwistle - USFS
- Isabel de Silva - NPS

Attendees Present:

Elissa Slezak- CPW
Carole Weller- Applicant
Dudley Mitchell- Applicant
Jesse Hamlin

Administrative Assistant Present:

Marian Cole

Introductions

Committee members and attendees were introduced.

Budget Report

The remaining budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$24,880.70. The agenda contained projects for FY24 and majority of the FY24 budget had already been encumbered with preapprovals. With this in mind, FY24 budget encumbrances approved at this meeting would be funded by Michael Blanck, HPP Manager.

Old Business

Minutes- The minutes from the March 15th meeting were approved as written.

New Business

Summit Valley Horse Center Weed Control- Carole Weller presented a weed control project to target noxious weeds on approximately 80 acres. The property was previously abandoned for a few years and has been infested with weeds. The project was approved for up to \$800.00.

Bull Run Ranch Pond Development- Dudley Mitchell presented a pond development project to provide water access for livestock and wildlife. Water in the area usually dries up midsummer to early fall. The new pond would provide a more reliable water source for a longer duration. The committee posed questions about the pond's

location, water rights, and construction. Conway abstained from the approval decision. The project was preapproved for up to \$30,000.00 in FY24.

*Administrative Note- \$30,000.00 of project funding approved by the HPP Manager.

SRD Backcountry Weed Control- The annual project to target noxious weeds within the Sulphur Ranger District of the USFS was unable to be completed during FY23 due to contractor issues. The project has completed 20 years of weed control work with the assistance of MPHPP. The committee was in support of continuing the project next fiscal year. The project was preapproved for \$7,000.00 in FY24.

*Administrative Note- \$7,000.00 of project funding approved by the HPP Manager.

Remaining Committee Business

Meeting Schedule- The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for the following date and associated location:

July 6, 2023- BLM Office

Roundtable

CPW Big Game Update- Elissa Slezak, Area 9 Terrestrial Biologist, presented mule deer, elk, pronghorn, and moose population updates for the Middle Park committee area.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:45 pm.