



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Middle Park HPP Committee

CPW Office - 346 County Road 362, Hot Sulphur Springs, CO

August 19, 2022

8:30 am

Middle Park HPP Members Present: Jeromy Huntington- CPW, Chuck Alexander- Livestock Grower, Doug Bruchez- Livestock Grower, Dave Hammer- Livestock Grower, Conway Farrell- Sportsperson, Seth Jennings- USFS, Chris Clatterbuck- NPS

Guests: Gene Abram- CPW, Jeff Behncke- CPW, Carol Morales

Introductions: Committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report: The budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$98,650.

Old Business: The minutes from the July 5th and July 22nd meetings were approved as written.

New Business:

1. Morales Weed Control- Carol Morales presented two weed control projects for the Morales property and the neighboring Zook property. This project would serve as a continuation of the spring weed control effort funded in part by HPP. Both properties have a large oxeye daisy and thistle infestation. The joint weed control effort was combined into one project. The project was approved for up to \$2,900.
2. Morales Fence Removal- Carol Morales presented fence removal project for approximately 2 miles of high tensile exclusionary fence. The fence was originally implemented with the help of HPP several years ago when the property was in lettuce production. In recent years, the operation has converted into hay production and no longer has a need for the high fence. The fence has caused wildlife entanglements and mortality. The committee shared concerns in paying for the removal of a fence that they had helped to install. However, the committee recognized that property use does change over time and this would allow for additional wildlife forage and reduced fence conflict. The project was approved for up to \$2,500.
3. Williams Peak Pond Development- Conway Farrell presented a pond development project to implement a new pond that would ideally serve as a year round water source in a large pasture that currently only has seasonal water access for livestock and wildlife. The pond would serve as an additional water source in the area and aid in livestock and wildlife distribution across the landscape. Conway abstained from the approval decision. The project was approved for up to \$22,500.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion:

1. FY23 Voucher Programs- The committee approved voucher programs for redemption at Northwest Ranch Supply with the following guidelines:
 - a. Fence Vouchers- Approved for up to \$800 per voucher with a total allocation of \$36,000.
 - b. Herbicide Vouchers- Approved for up to \$700 per voucher with a total allocation of \$14,000.

2. Meeting Schedule- The committee tentatively approved the following meeting dates and associated locations:
 - December 14, 2022 - USFS
 - March 15, 2023 - RMNP
 - May 17, 2023 - CPW
 - July 26, 2023 - BLM

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30 am.