



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

February 3, 2022

6:00 PM

Virtual/Conference Call

Committee Members Present:

- Brent Woodward, *CPW Representative*
- Mark Bechaver, *Livestock Growers Representative*
- Carol Lee Dugan, *Livestock Growers Representative*
- Richard Davie, *Livestock Growers Representative*
- Dale Gomez, *Sportsperson Representative*
- Eduardo Duran, *BLM Representative*
- Kevin Duda, *USFS Representative*
- Suzanne Beauchaine, *USFWS Representative*

Administrative Assistant: Kimberly Berscheid

Guests: Michael Blanck - HPP Manager, Mick Davis - Landowner, Beau Temple - NRCS, William Miedema - DWM, Rosalee Reece - Stewardship, Rio Grande Land Trust, Jeff Williams - BLM, Cathy Hagan - BLM, Tyler Cerny - DWM, Pete Clark - Landowner.

Budget Report

The 2022 budget report was reviewed.

Old Business

The meeting minutes from previous meetings were approved.

New Business

NRCS/BLM Water Distribution System - Mick Davis

Mick Davis is asking the committee for \$24,889 to pay for the labor to install a water distribution system on BLM Property in Saguache County. This project would begin after July 1, 2022 and would be requested out of the FY23 Budget for the San Luis Valley HPP Committee. The water distribution will provide reliable water resources for livestock and wildlife in an area that is largely without. This will promote better grazing distribution and reduce damage to heavily utilized riparian areas. The project would consist of 7 miles of pipeline and 7 tire tanks spread over the range. The current Memo of Understanding would provide permittees access to the system for 3 years (03/01/22 - 02/28/2025). This would allow for a permanent water source to be located and installed below the private parcels to ensure future usage. All maintenance of the system will be completed by the grazing permittees with guidance from BLM.

The committee approved up to \$24,889 to pay for Labor associated with the NRCS/BLM Water Distribution Project. Carol Lee Dugan abstained from voting on this project.

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Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion

Project Updates:

Sanderson Pipeline - this project has been completed.

Augua Ramon Well Project - Rick Davie is waiting for the ground to thaw at which time he will install the remaining components of the solar well system. All materials have been purchased and are ready to go.

Davie Ranch Well Project - This project was unsuccessful, the well was dry all the way to 700'. Rick Davie is waiting for the invoice from the driller and will submit for reimbursement for ½ the cost of the drill up to 400'.

Water Development Materials - The tire tanks have been purchased and picked up from the Monte Vista Coop. They are being stored at the CPW Office in Monte Vista.

Potential Upcoming Projects:

Clark Habitat Improvement Project - Tyler Cerny and Pete Clark

Pete presented his project idea for developing water sources that are located on the Monte Vista Wildlife Refuge. This project would allow for better grazing distribution throughout the 2,240 acres the Clarks lease as well as the Refuge as whole. Additionally, it would decrease the amount of damage sustained to riparian areas. Overall, Pete presented the preliminary project to receive feedback on committee support. The committee agrees this would be a valuable habitat improvement project and would welcome an official application in the future.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion:

Admin Leave Planning: Kimberly Berscheid will be taking FMLA leave beginning March 7, 2022. An admin from the Western Slope will be covering in here absence. Details will be sent to the committee prior to leave starting.

Next Meeting: TBD

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