



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

HPP State Council Committee
April 19 1pm - 5pm; April 20, 2023 8am - 12pm
In Person/Zoom Virtual Meeting; Hampton Inn, 177 Meraly Way, Silverthorne, CO

State Council HPP Members, Manager, Assistant Present: Ty Bevan, Gary Visintainer, Robbie LeValley, Sheil Lamb, Brian Dreher, Michael Blanck, Teri Polley

State Council HPP Members Virtual: Todd Peterson

Additional Attendees & Guests: John Hardwick, Riley May, Gary Melcher, Ray Aberle, Casey Cooley, Maddie Rehn, Kelly Crane, Kristy Walner, Adam Bianchi, Jeromy Huntington, Stephen Jaouen, Kara Vigneau

April 19 1:00 - 5:00

The State Council conducted two in-person interviews with Riley May and Gary Melcher for the HPP State Council Crop Producer vacated by John Hardwick. Four candidates expressed interest in the position. Riley May was appointed by Acting Director Heather Disney Dugan.

For committee inventory FY24, the council approved a bulk purchase of 200 rolls of the Kencove white wire.

Base budgets for FY24 were approved with no additional percentage.

The Colorado Seed Mix Tool team (Danielle Johnston, Dani Neumann, Nathan Nelson) presented a thank you letter of support with an update of the application to the State Council. The team is actively looking for experts in the agricultural community to interview over the next two months.

On March 2 the State Council approved extended funding for state wildlife weed and fencing projects for three additional years.

The State Council approved \$150,000 for the construction or repair of stackyards affected by FY23 winter conditions in Area 6 and Area 10.

After 22 years of service on the HPP State Council, John Hardwick was recognized and presented with a retirement award.



April 20 8:00 - Noon

Baldy Mountain Landscape Resilience and Habitat Improvement Project in Ouray County was approved \$140,000 for FY24.

Kristy Wallner, Rangeland Management Specialist/BLM was awarded \$50,000 FY23 for the East Sopris - Light Hill Mastication project.

Casey Cooley introduced CPW's Statewide Habitat Conservation and Connectivity Plan to the state council. The plan prioritizes landscapes, using CPW wildlife data, for the purpose of habitat conservation and connectivity and will be a tool to help guide CPW's Habitat Conservation Unit and field staff. There will be opportunities for the council to engage in the planning process that is expected to be completed by June 20, 2024.

Adam Bianchi USFS District Ranger, Dillon; Jeromy Huntington, AWM Area 10; Stephen Jaouen and Kara Vigneau, NRCS discussed local issues/projects with the state council.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 28/29 in Craig to include a BBQ with landowners affected by the Northwest Colorado Winter Operation Project.