



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Middle Park HPP Committee Meeting
September 20, 2023 at 8:30 am
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

Administrative Assistant Present:

Marian Cole

Attendees Present:

Michael Blanck- CPW
Gene Abram- CPW
Lori Nelson- CPW
Ray Aberle- CPW
Elissa Slezak- CPW
Danielle Johnston- CPW
Caitlyn Taussig- Applicant
Vicki Taussig- Applicant
Carol Morales- Applicant
Han Smith- Applicant
Jesse Hamlin

Introductions

Committee members and attendees were introduced.

Budget Report

The budget was fully encumbered at the July 24th meeting. All additional budget encumbrances through June 30, 2024 (FY24), will be funded with approval from Michael Blanck, HPP Manager.

Old Business

Minutes- The minutes from the July 24th meeting were approved as written.

New Business

Taussig Ranch Tire Tank- Caitlyn and Vicki Taussig presented a tire tank project to replace an existing tank that serves as a year round water source for livestock and wildlife. The current tank is in disrepair and takes several hours to refill. Deer, elk, and pronghorn frequent the area and utilize the water source, in addition to cattle and horses. The committee requested that escape ramps be implemented. The project was approved for up to \$3,086.00.

*Administrative Note- \$3,086.00 of project funding approved by the HPP Manager.

Morales Weed Control- Carol Morales presented a weed control project for fall and spring treatments. The weed control would continue to mitigate noxious weeds for

the upcoming growing season. The committee discussed the surrounding properties and opportunities for additional weed mitigation efforts. The project was approved for up to \$4,600.00.

*Administrative Note- \$4,600.00 of project funding approved by the HPP Manager.

Rusty Spurr Ranch Fence- Han Smith presented a wildlife friendly fence project for approximately a half mile of new fence. The property was recently acquired and does not have a perimeter fence. The goal is to implement a new fence and ensure that it is built to wildlife friendly specifications. The project was approved for up to \$5,000.00.

*Administrative Note- \$5,000.00 of project funding approved by the HPP Manager.

Remaining Committee Business

Elk Herd Management Plan- Elissa Slezak presented an overview of the upcoming revisions to the Middle Park elk herd management plans.

Colorado Seed Tool- Danielle Johnston presented the new Colorado Seed Tool phone application that is now available for download.

Meeting Schedule- The committee has tentatively scheduled the following meetings:

December 13, 2023, 1:00 pm - USFS

March 13, 2024, 1:00 pm - RMNP

May 15, 2024, 8:30 am - CPW

July 17, 2024, 8:30 am - BLM

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:45 am.