



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

CPW Area Office – 73485 Hwy 64

October 2, 2018

7:00pm

Introductions: Members present were: DWM Bailey Franklin/CPW, Jim Brennan/livestock grower, Mary Taylor/BLM, Curtis Keetch/USFS, Butch Theos/livestock grower, Lenny Klingsmith/livestock grower and Admin. Samantha Sorensen/CPW.

Guests present were: Landon Smith/BLM.

General Public Comments: Landon has worked with MPHPP in the past; mostly habitat projects such as prescribed burns or mastication. Samantha clarified what HPP could fund for task orders.

Budget Report: Samantha presented committee members with budget reports. The remaining budget for FY19 was \$65,515.00.

Old Business: Minutes from July 30th were approved as written.

New Business: Ball Gulch Waterline: Bailey explained that the M/R White River Ranch is looking to do 3 separate waterline projects on the property. Rob Walton is the owner and Chris Harris manages the ranch. There is an old pipeline that is no longer working like it used to but the spring and a pipeline to private is still good. The plan is to redo the line to the two existing tanks then rip a new line to a third location. Lenny explained that the project would help to distribute cattle plus benefit wildlife as well. Jake Haskins would rip the pipeline in the spring. Line would be about 3 feet down and gravity fed; would be drained in the winter. Lenny grazes it. The committee approved \$15,401.18 for the project.

LK/MCR Waterline: The plan is to connect two different existing water systems. One system includes a deep well that feeds storage on the hill which then flows down to tanks; the other system is within 1800 feet. Tying them together would reduce redundancy and allow them to eliminate the need for a generator. The committee approved \$2,547.48 for the project.

TI Waterline: Waterline project #3 includes an existing waterline that needs to be extended. Water would be pumped into two different draws to 2 new tire tanks. The committee approved \$6,717.40 for the project. All three waterline projects will be combined into 1 purchase order.

Bar 7 Ranch Ag Reseeding: Bailey pointed out that the property was seeded last year but they had a crop failure; probably due to drought and landowner used NRCS drill to do it himself.

Now the area is infested with weeds. John Etchart would be contracted to do the drilling this time. Buckshot will spray, disk and harrow as in-kind. It's a 70 acre project and HPP is being asked to do a 50/50 cost share on seed and drilling costs. The area was mowed in the spring, before weeds went to seed; also sprayed with round-up recently. Mary expressed she's worried it's too late to spray for some annuals. The committee agreed they don't want to see the area turn into a weed pit and approved \$2,304.50 for the project.

R Lazy J Ranch Water Improvement: CPW holds a hunting easement on the property. There is an old well that still has water but needs a solar pump. Property is leased for grazing and the water would also benefit deer and sage grouse. Rotational grazing would have to be implemented, has to comply with provisions of the easement. Committee members voiced concern about the high cost to rip new pipeline. The committee approved a 50/50 cost share on the listed materials/labor from GJ Pipe and Supply plus Water Pump Supply and Service, not to exceed \$7,000.00.

On a side note, it was mentioned that in 2017 the R Lazy J Ranch Ag Seeding project (that the committee helped fund) was not mowed as instructed before it went to seed. The area has become infested with weeds and now Shawn wants to kill everything except the alfalfa, which Bailey doesn't understand or support because that would kill all of the seed HPP helped pay for. Mary asked Bailey to communicate with Shawn Bolton how disappointed the committee was to hear about the seeding.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: New HPP Flier: Samantha pointed out that she'd included the new HPP flier in the member packets. The fliers will replace the old brochures and will be made available online and in CPW offices.

Select Next Meeting Date: TBD

Roundtable: Bailey and Pat spoke after the Halandras project approval. Pat would like to see BLM contribute some money, not just NEPA, to future projects that take place on their lands.

Mary has communicated with everyone in her office to keep HPP in mind when working on projects. She also thought that as the Halandras' come in for future phases the committee should ask for a couple public hunts. The public access is marginal and not very reasonable.

Samantha let everyone know that the next State Council meeting is scheduled for October 30 and 31st and would probably take place in Glenwood Springs.

Jim heard that the bear project in Piceance Basin was more successful this year with 28 bears, compared to only 25 last year.

Butch mentioned he'd verified 110 lambs this year; mostly bear but some lion. Trapper took 15 bears off his property.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.