



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES
Craig Chamber of Commerce-360 East Victory Way
April 9, 2019
7:00PM

Introductions: **Members attending the meeting were:** DWM Evan Jones/CPW, Chad Green/Livestock Grower, Gary Visintainer/Livestock Grower, Gary Nichols/Sportsperson, Curtis Keetch/USFS, Toni Toelle/BLM and Admin. Samantha Sorensen/CPW. **Guests attending the meeting were:** Nick Charchalis, Jesse Schroeder, and Jake Lewis/USFS.

General Public Comments: N/A

Budget Report: Samantha presented committee members with a budget report; the remaining balance was \$56,224.13.

Old Business: The minutes from November 20th were presented and approved as written.

New Business: Moffat County Weed Mgmt.: Jesse presented committee members with applications and explained the program was cloned from last year; asking ½ of chemical cost. The county has 3 year agreements with private landowners; they are on their 3rd year so next year they will review the list of landowners. Gary Visintainer asked for reporting from previous years; Jesse said he can provide application records at the very least. Toni asked if GIS records were needed. Sam said that if she were provided with project site UTM's HPP is moving toward mapping projects; Jesse said he could start with FY19 sites. Chad asked Jesse if the county's agreement states HPP as a contributor and Jesse said yes. The committee approved \$5,000.00 for the project.

Charchalis Water Development: Nick stated that he had help from NRCS last year to install 3 troughs. This year he would like to install 4 more fiberglass troughs along the same pipeline. Kendall Smith helped him design additional storage. Nick would like to see the area turned into cattle grazing and CRP; traditionally it has just been CRP. Water is an issue in the area and Evan mentioned that a lot of elk are on the property. Nick wants to continue managing for wildlife and good grazing. When asked about cooperators he said NRCS money is tied up for this year. Gary Visintainer explained that HPP typically only funds 50/50; Nick had heard otherwise. Sam gave some examples from other committees but explained each committee operates differently. Committee members encouraged Nick to rework numbers and include fuel, cost of contractor, equipment, etc. Gary Nichols agreed with Gary V. and Evan in that he could see both sides. Nick Charchalis agreed to revamp his application then email it to Sam so she could share with the committee and set up a conference call.

Vincent Water Development: Tabled

USFS Lost Park/Salt Park Noxious Weeds: Jake explained that he was looking for FY20 funding to perform noxious weed treatments similar to this year. Any funding short falls would just reduce the size

of the project, not halt it. Troy Osborne was the contractor last year. Salt Park was 100% houndstongue; elk drag seeds from Milk Creek on up. RMEF funding is still pending but they've been a reliable partner in the past. Jake will pass along GIS shape files. Curtis pointed out that it's nice to work between two different forests. The committee approved \$5,000.00.

Nottingham/BLM Brush Manipulation: Tabled

Nottingham/Monument Water Dev.: Tabled

Nottingham Water Development: Tabled

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: Review Fence Voucher Lists: Samantha provided committee members with a list of landowners who had turned in conflict forms; she will mail out fence vouchers on Thursday. There was a discussion regarding landowners who are unaware of the required conflict form; Evan thought a press release next spring might help. Toni asked Sam for a conflict form.

Distribution Management Plan Update/Timeline: Samantha let the committee know that a finalized draft of their DMP will need to be submitted to Pat Tucker by September 1st; everyone's input is important.

State Council Updates/Next Meeting: Samantha touched on the major highlights from the State Council meeting in March. The State Council is going to start funding weed and fence projects on SWAs. The next meeting will take place in Middle Park on July 30/31.

FY20 State Council Vinyl Wire: The State Council is willing to provide local committees with \$5k worth of hotcote vinyl wire, if the committee wants it. It would be available starting July 1, 2019. Rolls would need to be picked up from regional office and stored locally. The committee agreed to accept the wire for use on larger projects only and will continue to use the voucher program.

Potential Guests for Statewide Meeting: Samantha reminded committee members of the biannual statewide meeting scheduled to take place in Grand Junction December 3-5th. The topic will be water. Same as last time each local committee is encouraged to invite 2 guests. The committee decided to invite Kendall Smith and Stan Storjom.

PO/FY Deadlines: Samantha reminded committee members of purchase order and fiscal year deadlines.

RSVP/Proxy/Applications: Samantha asked committee members to be sure they RSVP for future meetings by the agenda deadline; if a quorum cannot be established by then the meeting will need to be rescheduled or cancelled. She also reiterated how proxy voting works and let everyone know that HPP applications should be downloaded directly from the website to ensure the most current form is being used.

Select Next Meeting Date: The next regular meeting will be held on May 13th at 7pm. A conference call will be established to further discuss Nick's water development. Future Agenda Items: Nottingham projects.

Roundtable: Evan mentioned that 40 distribution hunts were used this year. Elk bailed west earlier this year than normal.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50pm.