



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Republican Rivers Committee

January 15th, 2020

Bank of Colorado, Yuma

Committee members present:

- Josh Melby, CPW-DWM
- Dustin Wise, Sportsman
- Chris Craig, Livestock Grower
- Don Fritzler, Livestock Grower
- Clayt Cooper, Livestock Grower

- Hanna Cook, Administrative Assistant

Guests: Chase Reed (CPW Wildlife Technician), Larry Conger (CPW DWM), Pat Tucker (HPP Coordinator), Cory Bullen (CPW Wildlife Technician), Claudia Mosher (Area 3 Intern), John Hardwick (HPP State Council)

Meeting called to order at 5:27 PM

Budget Report

The 2020 budget report was reviewed.

Old Business

The RR DMP has been approved by the Wildlife Commission.

New Business

Project Application Proposals and Reviews

Wise Drip Line and Tree Plot Project-Dustin Wise

Dustin is asking HPP for \$2,058.66 for materials needed to install a drip line and replace damaged trees in three windbreak areas. Dustin has already put in 4 windbreaks on his property to improve big game habitat. Some of the windbreaks have drip lines already, and the trees have survived well at those locations. The windbreaks that do not have drip lines installed are losing trees due to drought. Dustin would like to replace the dead trees and install drip line to ensure that the trees all survive through future droughts. HPP will pay for materials and trees, and Dustin will complete the labor. **The committee approved the project for \$2,058.66.**

Craig Fencing-Chris Craig

Chris is asking HPP for \$941 for fencing materials need to replace a tree fence that was damaged by deer. Chris put a tree plot on his property and installed electric fence to keep wildlife away from the trees until they were big enough to withstand damage. The fence was

torn down by bucks, so Chris would like to install a new fence and replace the trees that were damaged by the deer. The new fence will be taller and will keep deer away from the new trees until they are big enough to survive any damage from wildlife. Chris will install the fence and buy and replace damaged trees. The committee suggests that Chris use white wire from the stockpile for the top strand so that it is more visible to deer.

The committee approved the project for \$941 and white wire from the stockpile as needed.

Jean K. Tool, Elliot, Cottonwood, and Dune Ridge SWA Project-Chase Reed

Chase is asking HPP for \$9,230 for herbicide, trees, and seed needed for a habitat conversion project on several State Wildlife Areas. 85 acres will be treated on the Jean K. Tool, Elliot, Cottonwood, and Dune Ridge State Wildlife Areas in order to provide better habitat for wildlife. This should attract and hold big game on public lands and hopefully reduce game damage claims on private lands. The goal is to convert monocultures of Jose wheatgrass and noxious weeds into desirable warm season grass and forb stands. New trees and thickets will be planted, and Jose wheatgrass and noxious weeds will be treated with herbicide and re-seeded with corn and alfalfa as a cover crop. Technicians will continue to spray and re-seed for two years after this to control any residual grass and weed growth, and will then begin the grass and forbs conversion. CPW will pay for equipment, some herbicide, seed, and labor. This portion of the project will be completed in the 2020 fiscal year, and CPW will continue to work on the next phases over the next few years. **The committee approved the project for \$9,230.**

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion

The committee now has 25 rolls of white vinyl wire that can be given out to landowners with an approved voucher.

There are two guzzlers remaining in the stockpile. There are two landowners interested in them right now, so both will likely be given out soon. The committee would like to order more guzzlers at the next meeting. Dustin will get a quote for a new shipment of guzzlers and send it to Hanna before the next meeting.

Pat Tucker let the committee know that he and the State Council are working on revisions to statutes. The revisions/new statute will likely go to legislature in the next few years. He also let the committee know that wolf reintroduction will be on the ballot this coming fall.

The committee asked Pat if the committee boundary can be extended to unit 95. Pat said that it is a possibility if that is what the committee and the area feel is best. The request will need to be discussed with the committee and the area, and then approved by Pat, the State Council, and the Wildlife Commission. Committee members have heard from landowners that are interested in projects, but they are just outside of the committee area so they do not qualify for HPP funding. Josh Melby will discuss this with Todd Schmidt, and the committee will discuss it further at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on March 11th at 6:00 PM at the Bank of Colorado in Yuma.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM

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