

## WRC UCF Minutes

August 7, 2018

Public Meeting

### Those Present:

John Moodry – BSB/MHCD/WRC, Bruce Thomas – WRC/Landowner, Rem Mannix – WRC/Powell County Commissioner/ landowner, Will McDowell – WRC/CFC, Doug Martin – NRDP, Beau Downing – NRDP, Glen Green – NRCS, Casey Hackathorn – TU, Pete Dallaserra –MHCD/WRC/landowner, Dan McQueary – WRC/landowner, Carl Hamming – Powell County Planner, Fred Staedler – WRC, and Ted Dodge – WRC

### Agenda:

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Bruce Thomas.

#### Treasurer Report:

- Invoices were reviewed and approved at the previous Board meeting.

#### Project Updates:

- **NRDP Deer Lodge North & South** – Ted and Fred met with landowners Sherm Anderson, Terri Jo Anderson, Mike Applegate, Even Johnston and Jeromy Nicholson on potential projects.
- **Philipsburg West** NRDP project area – A landowner in this area has  $\frac{3}{4}$  of his ranch for sale but wants to continue with projects on the land they are keeping. The projects are beaver mimicry, removing a culvert, riparian fencing and bio weed control.
- **Little Blackfoot River** – two weeks ago Will met with the owner and manager of the Cross-Canyon Ranch to talk about their fencing project. Will didn't think the landowner and manager were too excited about doing projects. Will would like to start talking to Don Beck about projects.
- **Browns Gulch** – Ted received a call last week from Confluence who has a TO for the Brother diversion that is located on the Webb property. Ted is asking Brother's and Webb's to both sign a landowner agreement. Webb's want to leverage some projects on their place before they sign an agreement. Ted told the Webb's that it is up to NRDP and FW&P if they are interested in doing projects on their place. Randy Brothers has order all the materials for his bridge project. For the Meyers project just waiting to hear from the Contractor on the construction schedule for this project.
- **Blacktail Creek** – last month Ted, Jason Lindstrom and Pat Cunneen met to discuss projects on Blacktail. Ted thinks there is a good chance projects will be moving forward.
- **Cottonwood Creek** – Will said that they are moving forward of Cottonwood Creek. NRCS Engineers were out this summer looking at the projects. NRCS wanted extra work to be done that would cost an additional \$14,000. Will is waiting for Sherm Anderson to get back with a planning design for a pivot project.

- **Flint Creek/Boulder Creek** – Spencer fencing project is getting completed. Beau stated that the Army Corp of Engineers wants to do a compliance inspection on Boulder Creek on August 13<sup>th</sup>.
- **CREP** – (Conservation Reserve Program) FSA – Ted had a meeting in Bozeman with a Washington DC representative on the CREP program. DC would like to get rid of the range practice in CREP. It would cost \$38,000 to update their computers with the software to be able to make those payments. Ted would like to see CREP dollars go into cost sharing projects on the ground instead of rental payments. Ted would like to see range practices set aside separately and CREP cost share 50% of projects. The representative from DC will take these suggestions back with him and then get back to Ted.
- **RCPP** – Glen wants to make sure that WRC and NRCS coordinate with each other on what landowners everyone is talking to about what projects. Glen thought it would be a good idea to have a RCPP meeting every month after the WRC meeting to update everyone on what they are working on with RCPP.
- **Garnet Terrestrial Proposal** – Dean Dutton has allowed access on his property, so Will can start the stream assessment. Other landowners will also be contacted.
- **WCS Basin Creek grant** – Wetland delineation is done and hope to install projects this fall.
- **Wildlife Conflict Grant** – John Moodry will set up a meeting with BSB and Uelands on the composting. BSB needs to modify their license to take composting.
- **FW&P's SKT Committee** – there will be another meeting after the next WRC meeting to see what WRC wants in the contract for outreach.

**New Business:**

1. DEQ update was given by Doug Martin.
2. Appointee to NRDP Advisory Council was discussed. WRC would like a landowner from Powell County to sit on the Advisory Council board. There are two members of the WRC that are interested in submitting an application to the Governor's office for this position.

Partners report were given.

Next meeting September 11, 2018

Submitted by: Susie Johnson, September 4, 2018