**Save Our Bosque Task Force**

Board Session and Public Meeting

Tuesday April 2, 2019 9:00 AM

Meeting Location: Socorro County Annex, 198 Neel Ave., Socorro, NM

**9:00 AM Save Our Bosque Task Force Board Session (Business Meeting)**

Attendees: Doug Boykin, Amy Erickson, Gina Dello Russo, Matt Mitchell, Bob Markwell, Jon Erz, Christina Martinez, Jerry Wheeler, Jack Dickey, Russ Thrun

1. Approve Agenda – *Matt moved and Jerry second, passed with changes.*

2. Approve Minutes from March 2019. *Yasmeen moved and Matt second, passed with corrections: Jerry will get the dumpster and Yasmeen will get the other equipment.*

*To Do List:*

* Jerry will get with Delilah on MOU between SOBTF and County.
* Amy will follow up with John Larson for our spring cleanup.
* Jerry will schedule a dumpster for the cleanup.
* Yasmeen will schedule equipment for the cleanup.
* Doug will talk with Yasmeen about camping in our river parks.
* Fred will talk to John about the status of the greenhouse.
* Jerry will contact FEMA Socorro Valley landowners and let them know that the funding fell through.
* Gina will contact the ES office of FWS about the life span of the BO for FEMA Socorro Valley projects.
* Jerry will check with County staff to see if a dump truck and driver is available to haul crusher fines.
* Doug will check in with Lorenzo to see about a dump truck for hauling crusher fines.
* Matt will work with Lawrence-Devers to assist them with finishing up their documentation on their project.

3. Treasurer’s Report

a. Account activity and bills received – SOBTF funds ending balance for March 28, 2019 is $39,238.17. Insurance and Workman’s Comp billing was reviewed, Gina will take our insurance policies to an attorney for review to make sure we are fully covered. Doug moved and Matt seconded to approve the cost of this review. Amy will get with Michael Olguin on the Workman’s Comp and billing error. Gina moved and Doug seconded approval of payment for Workman’s Comp coverage.

Set up meetings to investigate moving Amy from contractor to employee.

We need to look at funding opportunities for Program Management. Doug and Matt will go and talk with MRGCD on possible agreement with yearly funds.

4. Fundraising Update

a. Potential Cooperative Agreement with Reclamation for 5 years: monitoring, planting and other tasks for Reclamation. We have a small contract with GSA to do the spring monitoring, invasive species, and velocity measurements. Financial officers for the 5-year agreement would be Nyleen Troxel-Stowe and Doug Boykin. Amy sent Nyleen the paperwork to make sure she has this information. NMAC grant submittal through the County was completed. Jerry submitted it with the required signatures from the agencies. We would have the funding by July if approved.

**9:30 AM Public Meeting Session**

5. Project Updates

a. Socorro Valley Trail (existing) maintenance – Bob reported that we put down 12 cy of crusher fines donated by A-1 Quality Redi-Mix. Thanks to them for this contribution. A field crew laid down these fines during a volunteer day recently. Next step is to get with MRGCD and the County to get trucks to haul material to the site. If we can get a stockpile of crusher fines to the site, then we can work getting them to the trail with donated equipment and operators. Doug said he spoke to the mayor of Socorro and he was interested in assisting with the maintenance of the trail. Rio Grande Trail outreach and planning effort – A meeting will be held on April 9, at 4:00-5:00 pm at the Socorro County Annex, with the core team and workgroup members.

b. Socorro County Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Projects Status - 1) North Bosque Project. Jerry reported the 30-day period should be over for the draft Environmental Compliance. He is waiting to hear from the contractor on finalizing compliance.

c. Partners for Fish & Wildlife – Matt’s project is completely done. Taliaferro’s project needs to be completed. Angel, Amy and Gina went out there last week to review the project. We determined that there are six acres needed of wildlife habitat to make this project complete. Armendaris Ranch there is just one remaining watering to be done and then this project is complete. Lawrence-Devers project is nearly complete. Matt will work with them to document what is needed to complete this project. There are remaining funds

d. e. Sevilleta NWR update – Christina is on the NM Invasive Species Strike Team and working with Sevilleta NWR. They are expecting high flows this spring and Unit A’ backwaters are expected to inundate. They are redesigning an area upstream of this unit to return flows to the river before the backwater area. They have completed plantings for this year. Unit B minnow site has water right now and is functioning as designed. Sevilleta NWR had planned to get lease water this year but are instead banking that lease water for a drier year.

f. Tiffany Fire Rehabilitation Project – the RfP for Outreach and Planning is on the street and will be closing at the end of the month. There will be a large Cultural Compliance Survey done in the footprint of the Tiffany Fire and south towards the narrows. Reclamation will be contracting this work out. Jack will follow up on this to make sure the $990,000 funds are ready to obligate.

g. WaterSMART Grant – Amy has been working with Reclamation on this grant. Amy will call next week to keep things moving.

h. 4H/Task Force Greenhouse Status – John gave us an update. It is on the list to do within the next month or so – by the end of April. Gina will follow up with Nyleen on pots available. We will assist with volunteers for the workday. John will let us know when the workdays are.

i. Social Media – Amy has updated the website with the Rio Grande Trail on there. We should capture the spring runoff this year! Upcoming events are out there with a calendar. The board discussed posting the packet of information on undergrounding the SunZia powerline. Yasmeen will discuss with Mike Hamman on posting the packet of information on our website. Gina will send out the packet to the board to review.

6. Other Items: a) following through b) spring cleanup – lunch at Don Juan’s. Russ will bring trash bags and Doug will get some from Raks. c) 2019 Summer Interns – contract pending May 27 – Aug 16. Housed at Sevilleta NWR, d) Bank account signature approval is complete, e) Insurance and workman’s comp - discussed under Treasurer’s report. g) SunZia – discussed under social media. h) Rapid Assessment Training 4/23-4/25 in Santa Fe approval requested. Doug moved and Matt seconded, approved by board. I) camping will be allowed in our river parks if fire pits are cleaned out. Russ said that his fire crews could go out and monitor fire danger. Next week is fire awareness week. Jerry is working to get information out. Amy will work on getting this on the website.

7. Adjourn at 11:30 am. *Gina moved and Matt second, approved.*

**Next meeting will be on May 13, 2019. Same meeting location.**