**Save Our Bosque Task Force**

Board Session and Public Meeting

Tuesday January 8, 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, Fred Hollis, Matt Mitchell, Jerry Wheeler, Kit Cornelius, Todd Haines, Bob Markwell, Yasmeen Najmi, and Kristen Cornelius .

1. Approve Agenda – *Matt moved and Fred second, passed with one addition to agenda.*

2. Approve Minutes from December 2018. *Fred moved and Matt second, passed.*

*To Do List:*

* Yasmeen will let Doug and Amy know when she is going to present to MRGCD board so she can invite us up to the board meeting - pending.
* Doug and Fred will make sure crusher fines get out to trail locations for volunteers. Status – Fred spoke to Lorenzo (MRGCD) and they will deliver at the North End and at the Stumps. Doug and Fred will follow up.
* MOU between County and Task Force – Jerry will follow up with Delilah.
* Amy will work to get a more detailed landownership map from the County to send to NPS and ask if there are other tasks for us this month.
* Jon will work with Amy on this potential volunteering efforts in early to mid-February.
* Amy and Matt will schedule harvesting day and then a planting day at his property for February 2019.
* Gina will speak with ED and Carter on this donated lands and the opportunity to donate to the ranch.
* Amy will draft a letter to the County concurring Miranda’s hourly rate for the Task Force.
* Amy will get with John Larson on an article for the Central Socorro Bosque project.

3. Treasurer’s Report

a. Account activity and bills received – SOBTF funds ending balance for December 31, 2018 is $74,722.89. Two deposits were made: one from Sierra SWCD (Tiffany Fire PM) for $1,717.12 and one from RGALT (monitoring of easements) for $1,390.48. Both of these deposits cover our Program Director’s salary to complete work for these projects. Bills include P.O. box 62.00, to Matt Mitchell for reimbursement under his Partner’s project $487.50, and ACE for internship program for $12,000.00. Bill to Wix for website $168 and $20 to Taosnet for our domain name. There is $62,257.97 in the Program Management Account as of December 31, 2018. There is a balance of $6,377.88 in the SOBTF general fund. There is $1,508.80 in Turner Youth Grant. We received $169.79 from BLM (for next year’s bus scholarship for BCD in the fall). Thanks Fred for acting as Treasurer all these years and to Nyleen for her continuing support of the Save Our Bosque Task Force.

4. Fundraising Update

a. Potential Cooperative Agreement with Reclamation for 5 years: monitoring, planting and other tasks for Reclamation. Financial officers at this point would be Doug Boykin. Doug will speak with Nyleen about being the backup officer.

b. River Stewardship Program RfP (Proposals due Feb 21st): It is in our area, could sync with the restoration we are planning. Gina, Jerry, and Amy will look at this further.

**9:30 AM Public Meeting Session**

5. Project Updates

a. Socorro County Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Projects Status:

Socorro Valley Wildfire Project: Update from County if they have informed landowners? Gina and Amy had a meeting with Ondrea about possible funding for some of the projects proposed under FEMA. Amy and Doug will get a letter to the County concurring Miranda’s hourly rate for the Task Force.

North Bosque Project: The Draft EA has been sent to the County and FEMA for review. TetraTech, Inc. is sending to the Task Force for an additional review. Then FEMA will go out for a 30-day public review.

b. Partners for Fish & Wildlife – Status of funds for each CA: there are $10,628.00 in FY16 funds. All these funds will be spent with Matt Mitchell’s project. The additional $44,000 in the FY16 CA is going to an Armendaris Ranch project. There will be remaining funds in this CA that we could do an additional small project. We have one project under the FY18 funds; we are looking at other projects. For Mitchell’s project, February 19, 2019 SWCD will dig holes for poles.

c. Rio Grande Trail, Socorro Valley Trail Efforts – Amy reported that she reached out to NPS for an update on when our project could get underway. NPS are working on the list of tasks for us in our assistance program. No word yet. Crusherfines will be delivered to the stumps and confluence for trail maintenance by volunteers.

d. Sevilleta NWR update – tabled.

e. Central Socorro Bosque Severance Project Status**:** All work is done, final invoice is paid. There is still work on the ribbon from Brown Arroyo on-going with the IWC. Doug will continue to work with the contractor on quality control. If people would like to see the plantings, there is one between Confluence and the stumps, one down by Hope Farms and one north of Brown Arroyo.

f. Tiffany Fire Rehabilitation Project – Dustin is working with BOG to get their permit for analysis work. We would suggest bringing SHPO down to look at the project area. Amy will work with Travis on a SHPO tour and will help us schedule a planning meeting for next week.

g. WaterSmart Grant – We had a call with Bureau of Reclamation on November 27 to discuss the financial paperwork needed to finalize the grant. Amy, Gina, and Doug have gotten all the paperwork requested to them. We are expecting to have an agreement for signature this week.

h. 4H/Task Force Greenhouse Status – Fred spoke to John and they will look at when the greenhouse can get built.

i. Social Media – Amy is working on updating our website. Amy could use some postings for our Facebook page. She is working on the Central Socorro Bosque project to highlight that project. Announce that we are working to get some trail maintenance done to see if there is interest in helping.

6. Other Items

a. Synergy Group Update – next meeting December 13, 4-6 pm at Gina’s house. Amy, Don, and Gina met and discussed possible 2019 grant funds. Amy met with the Director of MRGEDA to see about partnerships and to learn about our efforts and how we might work together. Amy went to the MRGEDA board meeting where they discussed sustaining small businesses and economic development. Michelle Cavenaugh of US Senator Udall’s office sent us a list of possible grant opportunities. Amy and Gina will look this over and see if there is anything we would like to pursue.

b. County representative on board – Jerry Wheeler has been appointed Interim Emergency Manager. We will edit our bank signatory list to include Jerry Wheeler. Fred moved and Yasmeen second that he become our 6th board member and add him to our bank signatory list, passed.

c. Donation of land – Gina will speak with ED and Carter on this donated lands and the opportunity to donate to the ranch.

d. Fire Run book for Socorro County would be great to have for all firefighters in the area. May be something we could do with the update of our CRP.

e. Amy reported that she will be going to the RiversEdge West conference in Phoenix in February. This coincides with our next meeting. She will present and have a poster. Amy also would like to attend the NM Water Dialogue meeting, board approved covering her costs to attend. Gina explained the NM Water Dialogue.

7. Adjourn at 11:00 am. *Matt moved and Fred second, approved.*

**Next meeting will be on February 12, 2019. Same meeting location.**