

Save Our Bosque Task Force

Socorro County Annex
198 Neel Ave.
Socorro, NM
Tuesday March 6, 2018



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

Attendees: Doug Boykin, Gina Dello Russo, Fred Hollis, Carlos Vega, Matt Mitchell, Miranda Kersten, and Yasmeen Najmi (by phone).

1. Approve Agenda – *Yasmeen moved and Fred second, passed.*
2. Approve Minutes from February 2018, *table until next meeting.*
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Account activity – SOBTF funds: Amazon Smile donation of \$8.77 and charge of 174.90 for trencher, balance of account is \$11,056.86. Restore Our Rivers program two payments to Program Director, balance equals \$41,044.25. End February balance in the bank is \$54,825.94. For PFW there was one bill from SSWCD for the Armendaris Ranch, one round of watering of \$1,280.00. For Sevilleta NWR coop agreement, we had two bills from the contractor for a total of 4,000 poles totaling \$19,000.00. This has been paid.
 - b. Bills – Some March bills that have shown in the bank balance \$3,500 to ACE and \$350.00 for Tax form 990 to accountant. Socorro County of Chamber of Commerce for membership = \$100.00. *Fred moved and Yasmeen seconded, passed.* Bill for liability insurance of \$1,937.00, coverage from February 2018 to February 2019. On March 14, 2018 the Board voted on purchasing Board insurance. The total bill will be for \$820.00 annually and cover the board with \$1,000,000.00 in insurance with a \$1,000.00 retention amount. Matt moved and Yasmeen seconded to purchase this insurance, passed. Miranda will move forward on purchase.
 - c. Fundraising update – McCune Foundation we should know by the end of March. Submitted grant for seed for Greenhouse RSF Bank seed fund for new projects. For this grant we will know in July.
4. Director's Update – Miranda attended a Riparian Restoration Conference held in Grand Junction, CO and was on a panel, attended a luncheon for Restore our Rivers Initiative, gave a presentation and presented a poster. She went to the fundraising workshop during the conference as well. Fred and Miranda went out to two FEMA sites. She went to InterMountain West Joint Venture and Bureau of Reclamation meeting on the Escondida Burn project with Gina and Yasmeen. She is part of the committee working on the Bosque Conservation Day preparation. She attended a synergy building meeting last week. Working with the Cross Watershed Network to organize the workshop in April. She

went to the Santa Ana Pueblo Nursery last Friday with others and had a tour from Mike Halverson. She planted in the nursery, gave some of our whips to Sevilleta NWR, they planted 800. Santa Ana Pueblo Nursery took the rest. She and Gina and Rio Grande Agricultural Land Trust had a conference call with Attila Bality with National Park Service and we will probably be putting in for this assistance grant.

5. On-Going Projects – Important Updates

- a. Goodding's willow nursery update – we planted in February and the refuge will be watering through the growing season. We will discuss later what else we might like to do there.
- b. Tiffany Fire – Sierra SWCD found out that the Governor signed the WTB funding. Our next meeting is April 12. Doug got a MOU signature from Sierra SWCD. Friends signed it and so did PFW. We are current with signatures on our partners. APHIS is needing to reach out to entities and address the impacts of the Tamarisk leaf beetle. Gina called APHIS with no response, so Doug and Fred will reach out to Kai Caraher to see if they will respond to our request for information.
- c. Greenhouse update: waiting for 4H to have time to work on it, probably construct this month.
- d. Sevilleta NWR update. Harvest contract done for this year. Thanks to Darrel Reasner and crew, our contractor, for working with us to get this work done.
- e. Synergy meeting update-met this last month and discussed our draft mission, vision. RGALT hosted this meeting and notes should be coming out soon. The group is meeting to discuss the NPS initiative for Rivers, Trails, and Communities on April 10. Time and place to be determined. Friends of Bosque del Apache will host the next regular meeting, tentatively scheduled for May 8, 2-4 pm. Topics for next time include potential shared positions, other priorities for partnership.
- f. Extension of trail from Confluence to Escondida Park and Rio Grande Trail segment in the Socorro valley. NPS assistance could help with the larger effort while the grant we applied for can assist with the smaller project that would complement the BOR river restoration project in the area. Liability and maintenance are questions to discuss for both scale of trail project. Fred will work with Yasmeen to see if the County would assist with this for the small segment we will work on first.
- g. RAID grant – unofficial cross roads in the ribbon. Blocking off trail and park areas to vehicle use. Fred, Miranda, Felipe, will work with Delilah to get our needs in the grant application before March 15. Then we need to sit down and have a comprehensive plan for protecting the bosque. Yasmeen will take the lead on having a meeting this summer to discuss long-term efforts to protect our levee system.
- h. Severance project – there is firewood ready to be picked up, get a permit from State Forestry. They worked from Confluence to Bosque parks and are now working north of Brown Arroyo. Crews are continuing to work. Spraying will be done in fall with the elm and RO treated this fall

as well. Planting will be fall and spring. Doug, Miranda, and Gina will look at other planting requirements.

6. New Board Members, Advisory Board discussion. Suggested members of an advisory were brought forward. Others to be considered and we will come back to this topic in May.

7. Board Liability Insurance – Miranda will send us a quote when she gets it. We are going for a one million dollar coverage and either a \$1,000 or \$2,500 retention.

8. Bosque Conservation Day – We have 12 presenters, with 193 and 240 for food purposes. Gina will volunteer all day, Marian and Matt and possibly others from Sevilleta NWR, and others. We have a good number of volunteers. Doug will help cook. Everyone get there at 8 am. 4H will be the escorts. BLM has an UTVs. Schedule needs to be done. Miranda will take this since Amanda is out sick. Send out presenter note for 8 am show up.

9. Public Meeting – Poster from Doris is printed, Miranda, Doug, Gina, Fred. A Public Meeting is scheduled for March 2018 and will be posted on the website, widely advertised. We will have these each quarter from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at the County Annex. We will present our projects and invite a guest speaker to each of these quarterly meetings. Speakers: Reclamation's April Fitzner and MRGCD CEO Mike Hamman are guest speakers.

10. Date for Spring Trash Pickup - April 19.

11. Calendar items

- BCD March 8.
- Our Public Meeting is on March 13.
- Next board meeting April 3, 2018.

12. Adjourn at 11:25 am. *Matt moved and Fred second, passed.*