

Save Our Bosque Task Force
Tuesday, April 7, 2015 Minutes

Attendees: Doug Boykin, Gina Dello Russo, Nick Smokovich, Matt Mitchell, Fred Hollis, Bear Albrecht, Connie Robnett, and Yasmeen Najmi

9:15 AM Save Our Bosque Task Force Meeting

1. Approve Agenda. *Motion made by Nick to approve, second by Yasmeen, approved.*
2. Approve Minutes from March 2015. *Motion made by Fred, second by Matt, approved.*
3. Treasurer's report
 - a. Total SOBTF fund: \$5918.85. Total in account = \$6,364.44. Again thanks to donors.
 - b. Bill for reflective vests of \$79.90 paid.
4. Project Updates
 - a. Rhodes Project: Tabled.
 - b. Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Project: No word from FEMA yet. County has received funding to update their Mitigation Plan which will expire in October of 2016. They are estimating one year to write the plan and 6 months for review when it is submitted. In terms of fuel reduction, State Forestry can authorize Socorro County to use their cost agreement for fuel reduction for this year. People can bid and get their company's name on a list for this work. Prescriptions will be needed for each Bosque thinning agreement. will be sending in a letter of intent soon for another phase of this work. The Notice of Intent to submit a proposal to FEMA for this year will go in in May and the applications are due in July. The NOI was a broad description of area of need so what the group would need to do is refine this based on what we have done, the present proposal's footprint and what needs to be done elsewhere. With the new proposal, group is hoping to address some of the very fire prone areas in the north of the county. Tracy will plan a meeting to discuss new proposal within the next few weeks. If the present proposal is approved this summer, will spend the first months writing prescriptions (Doug, Nick, Nyleen and Will to write, Gina and Matt to review). We can also do in-kind outreach to find partner funding.
 - c. Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program: Work has begun on the Gonzales property. Gina will contact family and/or Angel for an update. Gina will check with Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program on funds for 2015 or 2016.
 - d. Riverine Parks/SNA: The Inmate Work Crew is done in Unit 2 (Otero Street to the North Diversion) and is working in Unit 3 (Hope Farm to Brown Arroyo) with additional funding from NMSF and MRGCD. They are almost to the burned area. County is going to apply for YCC funds for the Summer of 2016. We need to start thinking of good projects for them, maybe work in the parks before they open back up. We will arrange a separate meeting with maps to update the work plan for the river parks and wood cutting areas. Target around those areas we have worked to expand protected and public access areas. Need to get BLM involved as well. Yasmeen and County have maps ready to work with, could need some updated information. CAP could help us. Gina will meet with Gail to explain our needs and see what she has so far.
 - e. Healthy Kids Socorro: Signs for bike trails around town are great. Isaac is leaving this position. Good luck Isaac on your next adventure. We will wait to see if they will hire and next person would like to work with us on trails and parks.

- f. Other Projects: 1) There is a new trail guide for the Socorro area written by Robyn Harrison. Gina submitted a request that the SOBTF contribute to the production of this guide. Doug made a motion and Connie seconded that the SOBTF contribute \$100 towards this guide. The Bosque Trail is included in it! 2) Sevilleta NWR will host a tour of their Bosque projects on May 5 after the Task Force meeting. 3)
5. Trash Pickup Day and Levee Project tour logistics – April 17, 2015. Grace Haggerty of ISC would like to attend the levee tour, Gina will send her email. Matt, Connie, Doug, are attending as well. Trash pickup will meet at San Antonio River Park and work north and south of there. Lunch in San Antonio before heading to the Levee Tour. Levee tour begins at 1:00 pm. Update: Levee Tour Cancelled.
6. Any updates on other funding opportunities? None to report.
7. Website update – please send pictures of projects to Bear and the website.
8. Calendar: Next meeting is May 5, 2015 followed by a tour of Sevilleta NWR bosque projects. Bring a sack lunch, meet at the M Mountain Coffee shop at 11:00 a.m. to car pool if interested. The Drought Response workshop follow up meeting is April 22. The Trash Pickup Day and San Acacia Levee Project tour is April 17, lunch provided. SkyWarn training is May 7, there are two sessions: 1-4 pm and 6:30 to 9 pm. Contact Jerry Wheeler at the County Extension Office if interested. Public meeting for the Drought Response Planning effort on May 13 at the County Extension Office, two open meetings: 11:30 am to 1:30 pm and 6 pm to 8 pm. Check with Jessica Smith, Socorro County Extension Officer for details.
9. Other agenda items: Gina sent Fred greenhouse proposal for County consideration. No word yet from him.
10. Individual Reports: Bear and Yasmeen traveling locally and farther afield, Nick's NM olive doing well, Connie trying a bare root experiment in her yard.
11. Adjourn: *At 11:10 AM, Connie made a motion to adjourn, second by Fred, approved.*