

Morrow County Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2023
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present In-Person

Committee Members: Chair Dean Robinson, Al Scott, Paul Hisler, Bob Mahoney, Commissioner David Sykes. Others: Steve Cherry, Brian Snyder, Mike Radcliff, Steve Puntenney, Roberta Lutchner

Committee Members Absent

Cameron Sweeney, John Gould

No Attendees Via Zoom

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call: 7:01 p.m.

Election of Officers

Mr. Hisler nominated Dean Robinson as Chair and Al Scott as Vice Chair. Mr. Mahoney seconded. Unanimous approval.

Minutes

Mr. Scott moved to approve the minutes of November 15, 2022, as written. Mr. Hisler seconded. Unanimous approval.

Agency Updates

Steve Cherry, Biologist, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

- Copies of the new Area of Known Wolf Activity map (AKWA) for Morrow County were provided. He said it showed areas for the Washington wolf and for the Fivemile Pack.
- ODFW has been gathering end-of-year counts, statewide, that will be released in March.
- Local ODFW Office was not contacted about any depredations, therefore, no investigations took place.

Review Producer Claim Applications

The Committee reviewed the two application received:

- Bar Plus Seven Cattle Company, LLC (owner Jenny Turner): Requested \$2,000 under Category 3 – Non-Lethal Preventive Techniques
- HM Ranch* (owners Robert & Mike Mahoney): Requested \$6,480 under Category 2 – Missing Claims; and \$1,500 under Category 3 – Non-Lethal Preventive Techniques

*Robert Mahoney, as a Committee member, did not participate in the decision involving his application.

Discussion.

Bar Plus Seven Cattle Company Application

Mr. Hisler moved to decline the application from Bar Plus Seven Cattle Company, LLC due to a lack of documentation. Mr. Scott seconded. Aye: Mr. Hisler, Mr. Scott, Commissioner Sykes. Nay: Mr. Mahoney. Motion carried.

HM Ranch Application

Mr. Hisler moved to pay the accepted percentage for a missing claim (two missing at \$1,080 each) of \$2,160 to HM Ranch, contingent upon documentation received by January 17th. Mr. Scott seconded. Unanimous approval; Mr. Mahoney abstained. Chair Robinson commented missing claim applications are funded in the next grant cycle. (Note: HM Ranch is the landowner, while Jeff Wiersma is the cattle owner.)

The Committee decided to reevaluate the Bar Plus Seven Cattle Company application at the conclusion of the HM Ranch applications.

Mr. Scott moved to award \$1,500 to HM Ranch for Range Riders. Mr. Hisler seconded. Unanimous approval; Mr. Mahoney abstained.

Bar Plus Seven Cattle Company Application

Mr. Scott moved to remove the first motion for Bar Plus Seven Cattle Company, LLC. Mr. Hisler seconded. Unanimous approval.

Mr. Hisler moved to award \$1,000 to Bar Plus Seven Cattle Company, LLC, contingent upon documentation submitted by January 17th. Mr. Scott seconded. Unanimous approval.

Good of the Order: The Committee members welcomed new Commissioner Sykes to the Committee.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 15th. Topics of discussion will be the end-of-the-year report due to the Oregon Department of Agriculture, which Chair Robinson said he hoped would be an effort by the entire Committee. Also to be discussed – grant application for the upcoming year.

Adjourned: 8:25 p.m.