## Approved Meeting Minutes Pinedale Anticline Project Office Agency Managers Committee Meeting May 21, 2015 8:00 a.m. Pinedale Field Office, Bureau of Land Management

Attending: Scott Talbott, Adam George, Todd Parfitt, Doug Miyamoto, Shane DeForest, Eric Decker, Sheila Keating, Pete Guernsey, John Lund, Joy Ufford, Nikki Blunner, Erika Tokarz, Dylan Bergman, Theresa Gulbrandson, Jeremy Perkins, Darla Potter, Shari Meeks, Tambi Calvert, Chris Wichmann, and via teleconference were Kelly Bott and Debra Stanberry

Welcome, introductions and approval of agenda (Scott Talbott, Chairman, Director, Wyoming Game and Fish Department) Mr. Talbott welcomed all to the meeting, introductions were made and there were no modifications to the agenda.

Review and approval of December 4, 2014 meeting minutes (action item, Chairperson) There was a motion to approve the minutes by Mr. Parfitt; then a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. George that was approved unanimous by the Board.

**PAPO Budget update** (information, Sheila Keating, Budget Administrator contractor) The report summary included all project commitment costs through May 2015 and salary/administrative projections through 2020.

**Funded Project Summary** (information, Eric Decker) The project summary is information about each project approved by the Board in the past six years. Eric mentioned that the summary is on the website. Eric asked staff to update the Board on a few of the projects. Eric also mentioned staff is currently working on a more detailed project summary that will include all JIO/PAPO projects funded to date. Eric hopes to have this project document on the website within the next year.

**PAPA Greater Sage-Grouse update** (information, Theresa Gulbrandson) Refer to board packet tab "Sage Grouse Update" for information details that included a response to comments received on the 2013-2014 PAPA Greater Sage-Grouse report and a description of implemented sage-grouse projects.

Mesa Fertilization Data Collection project (action item, Eric Decker/Dylan Bergman) Refer to board packet tabs "Mesa Fertilization Report" and "Fertilization Recommendations" for project information details. Based on the results from the project report, the Team did not see enough of a positive result to warrant continuation of this project. Eric explained there is \$161,000 left in this project that will go back to the General Fund if the Board approves not to continue funding additional fertilizer treatments.

There was the following motion made by Mr. Miyamoto: "to discontinue the Mesa Fertilization project and move the \$161,000 back to the General Fund"; there was a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Parfitt and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

PAPO Proposed Projects for 2015 funding (action item, Eric Decker) See board packet tab "2015 Project Ranking" for details on each project that was ranked by PAPO Team members.

Greater Sage-Grouse mitigation projects: (not in your packet of information)
The PAPO Team designed this project. The request was for \$50,000. Mr.
Miyamoto provided the following motion: "motion to approve \$50,000 for sage-grouse mitigation contingent on continued collaboration with the upper Green River sage-grouse working group"; there was a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Parfitt. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Sagebrush Mower:** The requested amount is \$10,000. The PAPO Team recommended funding this project since in part it is a 50% cost share with the Mulie Fanatics organization. Mr. Parfitt provided the following motion: "to approve the \$10,000 for the purchase of a mower"; there was a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. George. There was some discussion on who will own the mower and it was decided that the Wyoming Game and Fish Department should own it. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**PAPA Weed Inventory and Treatment:** The requested amount is \$25,000. The PAPO Team recommended funding this project. There was a motion by Mr. Miyamoto "to move forward with \$25,000 to fund this project"; with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Parfitt.

Then there was some discussion on who the partners should be on this project.

Partners should include the following: Sublette County Weed and Pest, Wyoming Game & Fish Dept., Wyoming Dept. of Agriculture, the upper Green River sagegrouse working group, Wyoming Range Mule Deer Project, and the Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Flushing Bars for Hayland Producers: The requested amount is \$15,000. The PAPO Team recommended funding this project. There was a motion by Mr. George "to approve the \$15,000 for the flushing bars"; there was a  $2^{nd}$  by Mr. Miyamoto and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Webb Draw Sagebrush Treatment:** The requested amount is \$2,000. The PAPO Team recommended funding this project. There was a motion by Mr. Parfitt to "approve the Webb Draw Sagebrush Treatment Project for \$2,000"; there was a  $2^{nd}$  by Mr. Miyamoto and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Bunchgrass/Forb Inter-seeding Pilot Project:** The requested amount for this project was \$184,448. The PAPO Team did not recommend funding this project. There was no motion to move this project forward. There was some discussion from the Board for the Team to work with the applicant on the positive merits of the project and perhaps develop a revised project that was more cost-effective.

## Public Comment (Scott Talbott, Chairman)

There were no comments from the public. Mr. Talbott reinforced the importance of working aggressively on sage-grouse mitigation and encouraged the Team to come back to the Board for additional funding if they complete projects and can do more. Mr. Parfitt also reiterated that we should be focused on mitigation and as triggers are hit that is where the focus should be. He believes getting the summaries of the projects on the website is a very positive step.

**Next meeting and Adjourn** Chairman Talbott proposed the next meeting be in Cheyenne on December 3 and 4, 2015 at the Wyoming Game & Fish Department headquarters office. The Board agreed with the meeting place and dates.

With no further business, Chairman Talbott adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m.