

Black Hills Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: July 24, 2014

Time: 5:30 – 8:00 P.M.

Location: Mystic Ranger District Office
8221 South Highway 16
Rapid City, South Dakota 57702

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This is the first meeting of the Black Hills Resource Advisory Committee for 2014.

Agenda:

Welcome and housekeeping –Deb Black (interim Chairperson)

- RAC members present: Deb Black (Pennington County), Ervin Berg (Pennington County), Lori Litzen (Pennington County), Patty Brown (Pennington County), Dan Conrad (Pennington County), Jim Glines (Pennington County), Ken Edel (Pennington County), Skip Tillisch (Pennington County), Rex Harris (Custer County), Don Hausle (Pennington County), Gerry Bennet (Lawrence County), Bruce Outka (Lawrence County), Mike Carter (Custer County), Urla Marcas (Lawrence County), and Dianne Miller (Lawrence County).
- RAC members not present: Bill Coburn (Lawrence County), Ramona Flaig- Bradeen (Custer County)
- Forest Service members present: Ruth Esperance DFO, Kelly Warnke RAC Coordinator, Rhonda O’Byrne
- Others present: Gary Woodford (project proponent), David Hazel (Custer County Commissioner), Scott Guffy (project proponent), Dale Kirshted for Mike Verchio

Introduction and verify quorum, identify chairperson – Deb Black

Charter and Ethics – Ruth Esperance

- Appreciate patience; Started in October got Secure RS reauthorization.
- We had challenges with the charter and RACs were merged.
- Merger can respect each county but can improve admin efficiency by managing as one.
- For next year we will be able to start earlier and we can look at projects more closely
- New charter was authorized
- Refer to page 6 in the charter which refers to Ethics
- Formal ethics training will occur before next RAC meeting next spring

How we arrived as the Black Hills RAC – Ruth Esperance

- Two page letter was sent to all county commissioners explaining the merger of the RAC committees

Concerns

- Keeping allocations within county

Perks

- Funding can go back and forth between counties

- All money from last year's RAC was spent
- Next meeting will include status of past RAC projects
 - Projects approved last year will be reviewed at next meeting. Meeting date is dependent on RAC member approval process

Steps beyond Today's meeting - resigning members- Deb Black

- Who would like to continue their RAC membership?
 - Patty Brown – Resigning
 - Bill Cobern – Unknown
 - Ramona Flaig-Bradeen - Unknown

Today's Meeting Objective – Deb

- 17 Projects to review and recommend funding amounts
- Funds must be obligated by September 14, 2014
- Projects will be reviewed by County

Review of submitted proposals

We will respect the allocation of funding by each county. Funds can be transferred to other counties if there is "leftover." However, the main objective is to keep allocation funds within the respective county.

- **Multi County Projects -**
 - If the group approves a multi county project, the cost of the project will be divided by three with each county paying an equal part.
 - P12- \$835 from each county.

- **Custer County**

- P11- Flynn Creek Road- There is severe damage to county roads around Custer due to logging operations and damage from fire suppression. There was an increase in logging operations due to mountain pine beetle which occurred all winter. This road is schedule A, it is on the Forest System but is maintained by the county.
 - Only two projects proposed for Custer County. If the multi-funded project was funded by all three counties that would leave more money for the Flynn Creek Road project.
- P12 – Centennial Trail – New Maps and Signage at trail head kiosks
Signage is done by the FS as part of the program of work but only so many signs can be replaced each year. The signs would be replaced by the Forest Service eventually but the timeline is unknown. The project proponent would like to have these particular signs updated sooner. The cost would be \$835 from each county.

Motion 1: Rex Harris (Custer), Don Hausle (Pennington) seconds - Finish discussing Custer County projects and make recommendations. Allocation of funds will stay within each county.

Rex withdraws motion, Don withdraws second

New motion 1: Bruce Outka (Lawrence), Lori Litzen (Pennington) seconds: Funds will be allocated to each county as directed by SRS act.

- Discussion: Why not say that funds will be prioritized in each county. If there is extra then they would go to other counties.
- Skip Tillisch- Proposes a pre work meeting where each county meets and presents project recommendations to their group.
- **Motion approved.**

Motion 2: Bruce Outka (Lawrence), Ervin Berg (Pennington) seconds: With regards to the three county proposal as described under P12. The motion is to divide the project request by three and each county will fund \$835 - - Each county contributes \$835 to fund the project.

- **Motion approved.**

Motion 3. Bruce Outka (LC), Don Hausle (PC) seconds – The remaining funds for Custer county would be used to fund P11, minus the \$835 to be contributed toward fully funding P12.

- Discussion: Patty Brown - Note that the spreadsheet for Pennington county is now inaccurate because P12 is not listed on Pennington Counties list.
- **Motion approved.**

- **Lawrence County**

- **P3** – \$35,758.41, RAC has funded in past. Weed control is a priority and this year has been a bad year for weeds. Submitted by Lawrence County weed and pest.

- Don would like to see Oxeye daisy as part of the proposal but there may not be oxeye daisy in the proposed project area.
- **P10:** Fund \$1,500 of the \$3,500, specifically earmarked for improvements to the land and not for tools.
- **P16:** Propose funding fully at \$300
- **P15:** Propose funding of \$1,142 from Lawrence County
- **P2:** Do not propose funding = \$0
 - Lawrence County rationale for not funding - Project proponents were given money for trailer and tools with other groups with the understanding that those tools would be shared. The tools were not shared and free tools have been offered to the group.
 - Other counties – No disagreement
- **P17:** Do not propose funding = \$0
 - Lawrence County rationale for not funding – The mile markers are above and beyond Forest standard. Forest Service would be required to maintain the signs. No FS funding available to maintain the signs if they were put in.
 - Other Counties – No disagreement

Motion 4: Bruce Outka (Lawrence), Skip Tillisch (Pennington) seconds: Motion to approve Lawrence County projects as submitted in the following amounts:

P3: \$35,783
 P10: \$1,500
 P16: \$300
 P15: \$1,142 from Lawrence.
 P2: \$0
 P17: \$0

- **Motion approved.**

- **Pennington County**

- **P1:** \$30,000 dollar request, the actual cost based upon recent engineering estimate would be closer to \$47,500. The project may not be able to happen if only \$30,000 was funded.
 - **No one in favor of funding P1**
- **P4:** \$10,000_Ken Edel is proponent for an ADA accessible ramp to access a fishing dock, which was a RAC project last year, at Mitchel Lake. Fishing pier needs an access ramp to be ADA compliant. If the project does not cost \$10,000 the funds could be used to fund other projects
- **P5:** \$0_Unable to do this one because we don't have the approval at this time. Not an approved structure or existing structure.
 - **Taken off the table by the Forest Service. Current Recreation Facility Analysis does not approve toilet and related maintenance in that location**

- **P6:** \$0 Agreements already in place between Pennington County and Forest Service. Can be done internally between Penn Co and FS, and Pennington County still has material from last treatment that can be used and are willing to do the work.
 - **Taken off the table by Pennington County who has the material and time they are willing to commit to do the work.**
- **P7:** \$0 This project has been pulled. Can be done internally within Pennington County weeds.
 - **Taken off the table by Pennington County who will work to coordinate with road department.**
- **P8:** \$10,000. Shoreline is being eroded. Propose reinforcing the bank with additional rip rap.
- **P9:** \$0. The pond is stagnant at the Hill City Visitor Center. The fountain would be installed to circulate water. The pond is on City property, not on Forest Service property.
 - This one is not beneficial to the Forest and could not be completed within our timeline. Projects must benefit national forest
 - **No one in favor of funding P9**
- P13:** - \$20,000. Stewardship agreement with Forest Service would donate timber value for their part of the agreement. Fuel break- 150 foot from center line to 40 – 50 basal area. Priorities would be determined by a committee.
- P14:** \$3, 478.88 Oxeye daisy is on western edge of Pennington County. Project would reduce oxeye daisy before it gets out of control. Cost is for chemical, work would be done by Pennington County.
- P15:** \$1, 142. Fund the other 50% of the Centennial Trail and gate maintenance. Lawrence County funded ½ of the requested funding.
- P12:** \$835. Agreed to fund \$835 per an earlier motion.
- P17:** \$0. Previous decision by Lawrence County to not fund the mile markers. See earlier rationale stated under Lawrence County.
 - **No one in favor of funding P17**
- P2:** \$0. Previous decision by Lawrence County to not fund the purchase of tools. See earlier rationale stated under Lawrence County.
 - **No one in favor of funding P2**

Motion 5: Lori Litzen (Pennington), Skip Tillisch (Pennington) seconds: Motion to recognize that funding P12 was supported under an earlier motion for \$835 and then to approve funding for: P4 at \$10,000; P8 at \$10,000; P14 at \$3,479; P15 at \$1,142, and the remainder to P13.

- **Motion approved.**

Motion Rex Harris (Custer), Don Hausle (Pennington) seconds - If there is excess money in Pennington County the funds would go to Pennington county fuel break and if there is excess money in Lawrence County that money would go to the county weed proposal.

- **Motion approved.**