# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WILDLIFE PROTECTION BOARD OF EAGLE RANCH ASSOCIATION

A Meeting of the Wildlife Protection Board (the "Committee") of the Eagle Ranch Association (the "Association") was held on October 22, 2025, at the Eagle Ranch Office, 1143 Capitol Street, Eagle, CO 81631.

Committee members present:

Tom Gosiorowski Diane Mauriello Derek Rose Kate Sheldon

Jamie Harrison, Coordinator, also attended.

The Committee was called to order at 11 am. A quorum of Committee members was established.

The Committee unanimously approved the agenda.

The Committee unanimously approved the minutes from the September meeting with minor revisions from the draft.

Kate Sheldon went on record stating that she did not spend Wildlife Protection funds on the Red Canyon lunch which was at the meeting. All lunches were purchased by the Coordinator.

### **GROUND UP CONTRACT**

The Committee unanimously approved the contract with Ground Up for Phase 2 of the revegetation project. Phase 2 will begin in 2025 if the Town grants permission to use its property for the project.

### **BELLYACHE FENCE REMOVAL**

Layton Stutsman, CPW, presented a proposal to fund a fence removal project in the Bellyache area, adjacent to Diamond Star and Cordillera. This area is a significant wildlife corridor. The project is in the same area as the proposed lop and scatter project. The proposal is for a contractor to remove 1.8 miles of unnecessary woven and barbed wire fencing that is potentially injurious to wildlife. CPW has a bid for \$19,200 and will contribute \$7,000. The request is for the Wildlife Committee to fund the balance of \$12,200. The work would be done in 2026. There is no significant elk or deer calving in this area.

The Committee expressed support for the project but questioned how it would be contracted for. After discussion, the Committee concluded that the best way is likely for the Eagle Ranch Association to contract with the company removing the fence (RangeWise Fencing LLC). Jamie Harrison will speak with a representative of the contractor and prepare a draft contract for the Committee to consider. The draft contract will include, among other things, provisions that ensure the contractor has all necessary permits and approvals and will also contain reporting requirements to ensure that the contracted work is performed. Additionally, the contract will allow our local CPW agent, Courtney Harris, to supervise and inspect the work.

The Committee voted unanimously to ask Mr. Harrison to draft a contract for Committee review at a future meeting.

Mr. Stutsman was asked if additional fence removal should be a priority for the Committee. He said that other uses of funds are likely more beneficial to wildlife preservation, such as conservation easements and habitat restoration, but fence removal has significant benefits and is worth funding in the future.

### ABRAMS CREEK HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

Mr. Stutsman informed the committee that there has been excessive sedimentation in Abrams Creek as the result of one section of adjacent BLM Route 8383 that is accessible to vehicles and regularly wet. CPW would like to see this section of Route 838 hardened to prevent further sedimentation. Abrams Creek is home to a native strain of cutthroat trout that is not found in any other drainage. The Eagle River Coalition has expressed interest in leading this project and is seeking contributions to the cost. Mr. Stutsman will forward information about the project to Mr. Harrison so that the Committee can consider a contribution at a later meeting.

#### **DHM DESIGN -- HABITAT RESTORATION**

Jeremy Allinson from DHM Design attended the meeting to discuss its 2022 proposal for habitat restoration in the vicinity of the Community Garden and to discuss more generally habitat restoration within and around Eagle Ranch. He described the history of the 2022 proposal and provided details about that potential project. The Committee discussed the proposal generally and then inquired about whether DHM could provide an assessment of habitat restoration opportunities in other areas in and around Eagle Ranch. The Committee expressed an interest in using Wildlife Funds to address the most significant restoration needs in the area and not to focus only on the section of Brush Creek that was the subject of the 2022 study.

After discussion the Committee decided to ask DHM for a preliminary proposal for an assessment of habitat restoration opportunities both within Eagle Ranch and within a five-mile radius. Mr. Allinson said that he would review the Town's Open Space Master Plan and the conditions on the ground in and around Eagle Ranch and prepare a brief proposal to assess the highest priority areas for restoration and specific habitat

enhancement opportunities. The Committee will use this preliminary proposal to discuss which areas would most benefit from restoration work and thus where to direct future activity. Mr. Allinson said that he could get a preliminary proposal to the Committee within the next few weeks.

# **VARIABLE SIGN MESSAGING**

The Committee discussed the placement of, and messaging on, the variable sign, purchase of which the Committee funded in 2024. The Committee asked the Chair, Derek Rose, to discuss this with Nick Richards, Association Administrator, with the goal of providing accurate and timely messages to residents to reduce conflict between humans and wildlife and to provide timely alerts, as needed.

# **MOVIE THEATER CONTRACT**

The Committee unanimously approved the proposed contract with Cascade Village Theaters Inc., owners of the Capitol Theater in Eagle, to show four slides before each movie at a cost of \$2400 per year. The Committee reviewed the proposed slides and asked for 2 changes. First, the QR codes will be removed. Second, on the slide with the title "Here Come The Elk" the phrase "Please stop for elk" will be added.

# 2026 Budget

The Committee approved the following budget for 2026

Revenues				
	Transfer Fee		TBD	
	Interest		TBD	
Expenses				
	Accounting			\$ (700.00)
	Management			\$ (1,200.00)
	Coordinator Fee			\$ (12,000.00)
	Coordinator Reimbursement			\$ (900.00)
	Project Management			\$ (1,000.00)
	Wildlife Projects			
		Theater ads		\$ (2,400.00)
		East Eagle Lop and Scatter		\$ (101,720.00)
		The Ground Up		\$ (10,605.00)

	Brush Cr Ranch fence removal	\$ (50,000.00)
	Bellyache Fence Removal	\$ (12,200.00)
	Other projects	\$ (50,000.00)
	TOTAL	\$ (226,925.00)

The Committee adjourned at 1 pm.