

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EAGLE RANCH WILDLIFE COMMITTEE

A Meeting of the Eagle Ranch Wildlife Protection Committee (ERWPC) was held on July 8 2026, at the Eagle Ranch Office, 1143 Capitol Street, Eagle, CO 81631.

Committee members present:

Courtney Harris, CPW
Devin Duval, CPW
Steve Hoffman, Co-Chair
Kate Sheldon, Chairperson
Geoff Grimmer, Town of Eagle

Absent: Kim Hubble

Also present: Jennifer Jones, Contractor

The order of business was as follows:

1. Call to Order. Sheldon called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm MST. A quorum was established.
2. Conflict of Interest Disclosure: no conflicts cited.
3. Minutes Approval. Upon a motion by Hoffman, seconded by Grimmer, the Committee approved the minutes unanimously as amended to reflect the amendment to 8a. Scott Jones Projects via Committee email approval.
4. Adoption of Agenda: Upon a motion made by Hoffman, seconded by Harris, the Committee unanimously approved the Agenda with the addition of a discussion item regarding the Eagle Ranch Executive Board's May meeting to 8b.
5. Financial Report: Presented; fund balance \$1,111,707.03 as of April 30, 2026.
 - The amount that is encumbered was discussed; leaving approx \$600K-\$700K funds for projects.
 - Hoffman reported an average of \$100,000 per year income to EWRPC from the real estate transfer fee.
6. Town of Eagle Representative Report
 - Grimmer gave an update on ToE's experience with the previous day's electrical outage.
 - Hoffman met with Alex Smiley the previous week regarding Scott Jones approved fencing projects.
 - Jones gave an update and noted there is still a large chunk of barbed wire in our jurisdiction, and that HPP grants could help but have been put on hold for potential wildfire mitigation this year.
 - Harris said that habitat restoration is higher priority than fencing projects; for long term benefit to wildlife.
 - Duval noted that often the low hanging fruit doesn't always need a NEPA which helps avoid time consuming fed analysis and that more Lop and Scatter projects, fertilizers and water development are needed. Projects more than \$50,000 trigger a bid process which also slows things down.
 - Grimmer requested that a staff member be hired to follow up on potential projects
 - Hoffman said the Committee shouldn't do investigative work unless a project comes to us.
7. Unfinished Business
 - a. Update on Fishing is Fun Pond
 - Hoffman met with Alex Smiley who is working with Tom Gosiorowski, the ToE Public Works director. Alex is going to try to get bids on maintaining the pond.
 - b. Approval of educational signage for habitat enhancement projects

- Upon a motion by Hoffman, seconded by Sheldon, the Committee unanimously approved the sign with these changes: the color of the word *starve* be changed to white, and the following text added: *Examples of desirable natural food sources*: above the plant photos.

- c. Discussion and approval of movie theater PSAs
 - It was decided to have the designer change the following: On the Dog slide: remove the dog and the young girl so it's just a person with a leashed dog on a trail, with the leash clearly showing. On the Wildflowers: remove the words and replace with: *Take a Pic (don't pick)*. On the CPW slide swap to a different friendly looking CPW person. On the Water slide: replace the image with a sprinkler over-running a lawn, backlit by sunlight... and wildlife in the background.

- d. Approval of noxious weed education effort in HOA e-news
 - Upon a motion made by Hoffman, seconded by Grimmer, the Committee unanimously approved the Cheatgrass and Thistle EE, with the amendment to replace the existing photo with the photo provided by Duval.

- e. Update on Pollinator habitat enhancement effort
 - Harris suggested more elaborate options for the bee hotels.
 - Locations need to be controlled so they are not affected by pesticides, rodenticides overheating, etc; as there have been raptors blinded by chemicals from golf courses.
 - Establishing an annual maintenance schedule was brought up.
 - Grimmer will convey the project info to Alex Smiley to see if Alex already has mapped current bluebird boxes
 - Upon a motion made by Grimmer, seconded by Hoffman the Committee unanimously approved a phased approach of inventorying current bluebird houses for maintenance or replacement, asking Cub Scouts to clean/maintain current ones in early September, CPW determining locations of where additional pollinator boxes could be, and coordinating volunteers to install new pollinator boxes later this autumn.

- f. Update to vacant lots within Eagle Ranch preservation idea
 - Hoffman spoke with Eagle County and determined there would not be support.
 - Duval said if homeowners wanted to independently pursue a CE there are still tax credits available.
 - Hoffman reported it would be incredibly complicated for ERWPC to be involved and it would have to be put back on the homeowner.

- g. Update on Brush Creek Stables
 - Hoffman said there's a conservation buyer interested who might put a CE on the property, and he didn't believe EWRPC would be involved.

8. New Business

- a. Discussion and possible action for recent RFP submissions:
 - Upon a motion made by Hoffman, and seconded by Grimmer the Committee unanimously approved funding BLM's proposed remaining two solar wells for \$60,000, and drone-based vegetation treatments for \$31,900.
 - Upon a motion made by Grimmer, seconded by Hoffman the Committee unanimously approved Scott Jones Salt Creek 16,600 ft fencing replacement with wildlife-friendly wire, contingent upon Eagle County covering

the fence removal portion which is an approx additional \$99,600 (\$6/ft). Potentially there could be funds available as well from Cordillera's Wildlife Mitigation Plan and/or Frost Creek's Wildlife fund.

- The Committee agreed future awarded projects should require funding multipliers, a diversified funding pool and for benefitting land owners to have skin in the game whether it's volunteers, cash or in-kind contributions.

- b. Discussion about public comments at the May HOA Executive Board meeting.
 - Some owners at the meeting said the Mitigation Plan is from 1999 and things have changed so it is time for an amendment; with regard to dissatisfaction with wildlife protection signs and movie theater PSAs.
 - Hoffman doesn't see an amendment as a likely scenario.
 - Duval said there are precedent cases in the Vail valley where original founding documents withstood teams of Vail Resorts attorneys; which confirms the sanctity of the founding documents.

9. **Future Business**

- a. Potential ERC PALS partnership with ToE
 - A phased approach involves this year with volunteers at no cost to ERWPC, then a financial ask would be for 2027. ERC is waiting for engineering to provide an estimate and plan.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 2:57pm MST.

Next meeting: September 9, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Sheldon, Chairperson
August 31, 2026