



**Special Meeting of the Board of the
Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges
Friday, April 30, 2021, 10:30 a.m. at Oyster Creek Park**

Board members attending: Oron Atkins, Ed Barrios, Marty Cornell, Phil Huxford, Ruby Lewis, Lisa Myers, Kim Richardson, Dick Schaffhausen

TPWD representative attending: Jennifer Sanchez

FOBWR contractor and member attending: Mike Lange

Board members not attending: Herb Myers, Mary Schwartz, Regina Tippet

FOBWR member attending: Heardy Myers

A special meeting of the board of directors of FOBWR was called by President Lisa Myers for the purpose of discussing grant applications proposed by Mike Lange, contractor, and Ernest Cook, also a contractor.

Mike Lange first reviewed and explained recent grant-related activities, as listed below. He indicated that not all hours listed as “grant” activities on his bills are for writing grants; he said that he will be more specific in the future.

- For the RCPP NRCP grant, Ernest has not charged any hours to FOBWR. He has been paid for some other work by the Cradle of Texas Conservancy. Regina’s spreadsheet indicates Mike charged 25 hours to FOBWR.
We recently received notice that we did not get the RCPP grant (the big one from Dept. of Agriculture), and Mike will find out why
- Upcoming: finding a match on the Nobloch grant for FWS (\$1.357M), which requires a match of \$750K, some of which will come from FWS
- Hershey Foundation grants (future)—Elizabeth Love, formerly of Houston Endowment, is now with Hershey and has expressed interest in working with us. A Hershey grant would yield reasonable administrative fees for FOBWR.
In developing this/these grants, FOBWR would like to know how many hours would be required and what the hourly rate to FOBWR would be. Mike indicated that he and Ernest could be paid out of Damuth funds (which will ultimately be \$35K and not \$25K when we get this grant); and Mike guessed that our billed cost would be about \$2K. It was suggested that we might want to have a direct contract with Ernest, and he will send us a draft. Mike said that his normal hourly rate is between \$100 and \$150, and he would likely work for the same rate as Mike (\$100/hour)
- NAWCA grant—Mike prepared this on behalf of Jennifer and FOBWR paid for it (90 hours charged to “NAWCA grant app” and 20 hours charged to “NRDA & NAWCA grants)

- Marty noted that, since we have completed and closed our Bobcat Woods Trail grant, we are now in a position to submit another grant application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department’s Recreational Trails Grant Program. He suggested that we might target the development of Cannan Bend public use facilities for this application, and asked Jennifer to consider this or other projects for the TPWD grant.

Mike then reviewed the proposed new grants, for which FOBWR would be the applicant, as follows:

- **Damuth**, ~\$25K (FOBWR has already approved \$25K for grant activity; need to expand to \$35K)
- **Hershey**, \$25-30K
- **Meadows Foundation**, up to \$500K for land (just got \$700K for the Spears Tract)

Jennifer reviewed a potential Big Boggy land expansion (about 20,000 acres for Mid-coast Refuge Complex and about 20,000 acres for Port Aransas) on behalf of whooping crane land protection plan. The emphasis of this expansion is on easement versus fee title. An LPP [what’s LLP?] needs to be written (National Wildlife Association). This acquisition is not part of the Colombia Bottomlands acquisition boundary.

Jennifer added that the Houston trade union [the specific organization?] has agreed to supply the labor for concrete paths at Hudson Woods. They are looking for funds for materials *or* FOBWR could pay for materials. There is no estimate yet.

The board members present approved the following motions:

Motions—

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded	Vote
FOBWR authorizes the extension of activity related to Damuth grant development from the previously-authorized \$25,000 to \$35,000; (monies to be charged against the Damuth grant)	Marty Cornell	Phil Huxford	Approved by unanimous voice vote of board members present
FOBWR authorizes the application for a \$200,000 from the Hershey Foundation ; (monies to be charged against the Damuth grant when received)	Marty Cornell	Dick Schaffhausen	Approved by unanimous voice vote of board members present
FOBWR authorizes the submission of a grant application for \$500,000 to the Meadows Foundation for land acquisition; (monies to be charged against the Damuth grant)	Marty Cornell	Phil Huxford	Approved by unanimous voice vote of board members present

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa L. Myers, President, FOBWR