AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Letter of Support; Mesa Land Trust; Great Outdoors

Action Requested: Motion

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:

Please see the attached request.

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Submitted by: Katherine Haase **Submitter's Email Address:** khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ◉ Required ○ Not Required

Comments:
ok - gs

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\gstuhr Discharge Date: 9/13/2016 Certificate of Insurance Required Yes ○ No ◉

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 9/14/2016

○ Consent Agenda ◉ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: Correspondence

Agenda Date: 9/20/2016

Revised April 2015

Katherine Haase

Subject: FW: Letter of Support Request for Conservation Project in Gunnison County
Attachments: McLeod Gunnison County GOCO letter of support Fall 2016.doc; McLeod Fact Sheet.pdf

From: Ilana Moir [mailto:ilana@mesalandtrust.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2016 11:31 AM
To: Matthew Birnie
Subject: Letter of Support Request for Conservation Project in Gunnison County

Hi Matthew,

Mesa Land Trust and Black Canyon Regional Land Trust are working together to conserve a very unique 337-acre ranch located in Montrose and Gunnison Counties. The ranch is owned by the McLeod family under Black Mesa Lands, LLC. The ranch spans both sides of Hwy 92, and lies adjacent to Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park lands.

We are seeking a letter of support from the Gunnison County Commissioners for the conservation of this parcel, as part of a financial assistance application to Great Outdoors Colorado. I've attached an example letter of what we are looking for as well as a fact sheet about the property.

This is the same property and project that the Commissioners supplied a letter of support for back in May. Since we did not receive funding last round we have submitted an application for the fall round. As far as timing goes, I can let GOCO know when the Commission may vote or has their next meeting and that should work.

Please feel free to email or call with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Thank you,

Ilana

Ilana Moir

Director of Conservation
Mesa Land Trust
1006 Main Street
Grand Junction, CO 81501
970-263-5443

Lands for Tomorrow

1006 Main Street
Grand Junction, CO 81501
Phone: 970-263-5443
Fax: 970-243-4135
www.mesalandtrust.org

McLeod Ranch Conservation Agreement

About the Property:

377 acres

Located on Black Mesa along the north rim of the Black Canyon, northeast of Montrose

West Elk Scenic Byway bisects the property

Zoned General Agricultural "A"

Provides wildlife habitat for deer and elk

About the Conservation Agreement:

Voluntary, donated, permanent conservation easement

Landowner had completed other conservation easements

Allows for and encourages continued use as a ranching and hunting property

Does not prevent eminent Domain

GOCO Transaction Cost Grant Request:

Will help pay for transaction costs associated with conservation easement

Competitive grant cycle across the state of Colorado

Requires letter from the Montrose County Commissioners

September 6, 2016

State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund
303 E 17th Ave., Suite 1060
Denver, CO 80203

Dear State Board,

The County Commissioners of Gunnison County have long supported landowners' property rights under the United States and Colorado Constitutions. The Commissioners also support a landowner's right to choose to donate a conservation easement on their own property.

This letter of support is offered in support of a grant from Great Outdoors Colorado in support of conservation easement donation on a ranch on Black Mesa. This ranch, owned by the McLeod Family, is part of the agricultural and hunting economy that is so important to Gunnison County. This project also helps conserve the wildlife habitat, including habitat for elk, mule deer, bald eagle, bear and possibly lynx.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chair
Board of County Commissioners