

# PENNINGTON COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD

## Pennington County Weed & Pest Office

3607 Cambell Street, Rapid City, SD

Wednesday, June 29, 2016 12:30 pm

### Members Present:

Dennie Mann, Chairman  
Bert Jocks, Vice Chairman  
Paul Paulson  
Lyndell Petersen, County Commissioner  
Brain Barber

### Others Present:

Scott Guffey, Director  
LouAnn Blain, Administrative Assistant

Dennie Mann called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m.

### Additional Items / Approve Agenda

Paul Paulson made a motion to approve the agenda with no additional items for today's Board Meeting, seconded by Brian Barber, motion carried. Motion to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2016 meeting made by Bert Jocks and seconded by Paulson, motion carried.

### Budget Report

Payroll withdrawal has transitioned from MPB to Weed & Pest in May. Scott Guffey will be requesting a supplement for the 2 additional seasonals which will be offset by increased revenue. The plan is to ask for \$25,000 supplement. Additionally Guffey is waiting to hear on 2 grants that have deadlines in the near future.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Mountain Pine Beetle Update / Shaded Fuel Break Update

Guffey has the draft form of RFP. Originally he was told NO but after further discussion he found out different. He is using a template from SD Wildland fire. The County States Attorney has it now for review. The plan is to sit down with Forest Service and the Hwy Dept. and make a working plan. FS is administrating the Timber Sale so contractor needs to follow their rules. Hoping to have bids submitted in July and contractors in place by August with the work being completed December 2017. Weeds are being sprayed on it today; the 3 crews will finish it today.

Current MPB epidemic, John Ball and Curt Allen are saying it is a fast decline. The State is winding down its funding and programs.

#### 2016 Weed Spraying Agreements

First Pass is done on the County Roads, Railbed from RC to Interior, DOT, and Road Districts (8-9). Work with City and Forest Service will be start soon along with the 2<sup>nd</sup> pass. Weeds really slowed with lack of rain and hot weather. Up in the hills weed development is slow – Cool nights. Milestone/2 4D and 4 wheelers are used on the Railbed area (state DOT approval).

#### Pennington County Chemical Cost-Share Program

The program seems to have got off to a slow start with 7 participants and requests for about \$500 to this point. The W2 is probably a deferent.

#### 2017 Budgets

First rounds were done last week in front of the County Commissioners. W & P went through fine. Bumping up \$60,000 but \$30,000 for vehicle. Revenue has been increased by \$40,000.

#### Black Hills Invasive Weed Working Group – (BHIPP) BH Invasive Plant Partnership

Discussion of 3 things....work plans specific to the Black Hills area, creation of a priority list (Guffey suggested an example of Category A, Category B, Cat C listing of the weeds), weed data compilation/clearing house. Guffey talked to the computer program manager for the EddMaps shared data program. He did a trial with Ox Eye Daisy compilation from last year. Guffey showed what the program can do if people use it. Forest Service did the Categories and the plan is to look at their list for project ideas/implementation.

#### Invasive Weed Management Training (Rapid City May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Outdoor Campus)

Good turnout with about 50 people attending. Jocks brought people and people from SD DOT came. One speaker did not show. Jocks was pleased with the training. The Pierre session had good attendance also. Next year they may add a 3<sup>rd</sup> one further east across the state.

#### SD Professional's Range Camp (Sturgis June 8-10).

Class was cancelled due to a lack of participants.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Resource Committee Advisory Project Proposals.**

Title II dollars that pass through the county part of the Secured Schools Act: I-schools and highway, III-directly to county for search and rescue and established firewise community. Monies are hard to get at and use with these restrictions. II-Each county is to form a RAC to request money. Highway and recreational improvements, resource management are defined as its use. Custer, Pennington, and Lawrence counties have about \$270,000 total. Pennington's portion is \$90,000. Guffey applied for \$10,000 for noxious weed control and \$40,000 for shaded fuel break. Not required to show a match for these grants. Guffey feels that more submissions have been sent in than monies available.

### **Rushmore Trail Connector Trail Comments.**

Passed out a letter and reviewed together. Concerns from law enforcement about not using ATVs to do their job. The length is about 15 miles, only 10<sup>th</sup> of the trail is private (Palmer Gulch). Guffey asked for comments and additions to the letter. Mann suggested adding something about hunting access/firearm. Logging Trucks? The trail will cross the monument property and go down into a wilderness area.

### **Crew Update**

Going well, no accidents. All returning seasonals, our new one is catching on quickly. Right on schedule if not ahead. No major breakdowns, just small repairs.

Dennis Saxer has sent out 63 letters for leafy spurge, 36 for Canada Thistle so far. There is a development east of New Underwood called Sunset Ranch which is the worst for thistle. They did a housing development over cropland and it is a weedy mess. More spurge is showing up in town which the crew just goes and sprays. Petersen asked about the status of spurge in the Perkins County. Guffey was not sure. Shadehill area was reported on by Mann that it has changed much for the better.

### **Additional Items - None**

### **AGENCY REPORTS - None**

### **ADJOURN**

Barber made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 p.m., seconded by Jocks.

Next meeting will be August 17, 2016.

Submitted by LouAnn Blain