

**PENNINGTON COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD**  
**Pennington County Weed & Pest Office**  
**3607 Cambell Street, Rapid City, SD**  
**Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 12:30 pm Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Bert Jocks, Chairman  
Brian Barber, Vice Chairman  
Dennie Mann  
Paul Paulsen

**Members Absent:**

George Ferebee, County Commissioner

**Others Present:**

Scott Guffey, Director  
Max Bailey, Staff Assistant  
Deb Hadcock, County Commissioner Chair  
John Burglund, City of Rapid City

Bert Jocks called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Additional Items / Approve Agenda**

Motion made by Dennie Mann to approve the agenda, seconded by Brian Barber, motion carried. Motion made by Barber to approve minutes for the May 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 meeting minutes, seconded by Paul Paulsen, motion carried.

**Budget Report**

Budget Report for Weed & Pest (615) budget was presented, sitting at 50% remaining and are right on track. Natural Resources (616) budget is looking good as well, not much activity seen due to weed spraying season being in full swing. Share minutes from the cell phone plan were reduced savings coming in at around \$30 a month.

**OLD BUSINESS**

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

A fuels work is going on up on Edelweiss Mountain Road, contractor is using a skidsteer with steel tracks on it and a Fecon masticating head. The steel tracks seem to work better for the mitigation work and may be looked into more concerning the purchase of the Diamond Head mower skid-steer. Edelweiss Mountain Road is opening up well and the project is coming along at a nice pace.

**2018 Budgets**

The 2018 budget hearing were held, Guffey presented the weed & pest budgets to the county commissioners. It went well, appreciated the cut in budgets and seemed supportive of the skidsteer purchase.

**SD Professionals Range Camp, June 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, Sturgis**

Scott Guffey attended the SD Professionals Range Camp in Sturgis. Good attendance with about 40 people. Last year's class was cancelled due to not enough sign-ups.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**SD Department of Agriculture Meeting**

Guffey attended scheduled meeting with SD Dept of Ag, Deputy Secretary Kyle Holt and the SD Assoc of Weed & Pest Board members. The meeting went well and was very productive, new members were introduced and the Russian Olive issue was brought up. The Russian Olive Tree is a hearty, non-native tree that is becoming invasive problem in some riparian areas in South Dakota. Wyoming and Montana have put Russian Olive on their noxious weed lists.

**Medusahead & Ventenata Field Tour, June 14<sup>th</sup>, Sheridan, WY**

Guffey attended the Medusahead & Ventenata Field Tour in Sheridan, WY. Both grasses are invasive and are on the radar now for South Dakota and Wyoming, as it is heading east. Medusahead is mainly found in the western states of the US. It crowds out native species and reduces forage for livestock. Ventenata is an African Wiregrass and has a very fine seed.

### **Nebraska Leafy Spurge Task Force Tour and Conference, July 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, Chadron, NE**

The Nebraska Leafy Spurge Task Force Tour and Conference is coming up on July 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Kristy Paul called and asked Guffey to attend and speak about invasive weed program in Pennington County and the Black Hills area. There will also be a drone mapping presentation. Motion made by Paulsen for Guffey to attend, seconded by Mann. Motion carried.

### **Enforcement Update**

There have been 227 enforcement letters sent out so far, 125 of them regarding Leafy Spurge. A few prairie dog complaints have come in but more are likely to appear with the dry weather.

### **Crew Update**

The crew is doing well, some minor break downs have happened with the 4-wheelers but nothing major. Got a 4-wheeler back that was in the shop since April, hard to find a fast repair service in and around town. Crew has started spraying on 570 acres of Forest Service. The land is broken up into timber sales of various sizes. Near Pactola and Black Fox Campground are some of the areas that include the timber sales. The Oxeye Daisy is mostly of a problem around the western part of the Pennington County. Arrowleaf Birdfoot is a sensitive plant that is in the area and must be looked out for because it resembles Burdock. One seasonal short this year, got a new teacher for a seasonal which is perfect for the summer work. New truck has arrived, 2017 Dodge Ram 1 ton. The Skyline trails were sprayed for the City of Rapid City, was fairly clean up there and not too much thistle.

### **Additional Items**

### **Agency Report**

### **ADJOURN**

Barber made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:36 p.m., seconded by Paulsen, motion carried.

Next meeting will be August 23rd, 2017.

Submitted by Max Bailey