

PENNINGTON COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD
Pennington County Weed & Pest Office
3607 Cambell Street, Rapid City, SD
Wednesday, December 6, 2017 12:30 pm Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Bert Jocks, Chairman
Dennie Mann
Brian Barber

Members Absent:

Paul Paulsen
George Ferebee, County Commissioner

Others Present:

Scott Guffey, Director
Max Bailey, Staff Assistant

Bert Jocks called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Additional Items / Approve Agenda

Motion made by Bert Jocks to approve the agenda, seconded by Dennie Mann, motion carried. Motion made by Jocks to approve minutes for the October 18, 2017 meeting minutes, seconded by Brian Barber, motion carried.

Budget Report

Scott Guffey presented Budget Report for Weed & Pest (615) and Natural Resources (616) budgets. Guffey projected to end the year with a \$15,000 surplus in the Weed & Pest (615) budget. Waiting on DOT to pay, will be very soon. Guffey projected the Natural Resources (616) budget to have \$21,000 left over, even after the purchase of the new Bobcat and trailer.

OLD BUSINESS

Mountain Pine Beetle/ Shaded Fuel Break Update

Crew has cut 400 trees so far. They are finishing up on West Rochford Road and will be moving on soon. Finished up Black Fox Road last month, were pushed out by snow last winter. There are wood botany fences along the road where hazardous trees are leaning so the crew has had to take down and put up fences when needed. Waiting for the ground to freeze on Edelweiss Mountain Road to finish shaded fuel break work. Crew will follow the bigger logging equipment up there when they start. S. Rochford Road project should will be making headway soon.

Equipment Purchase

A 2018 Bobcat T770 skid steer was purchased at a price of \$66,336 as well as a new trailer for \$4,495. The cost of the skid steer will be split with the Highway Department, and shared during the summer. It has made clearing the roads of tree chunks a lot easier. Guffey is looking at trading in the 2013 Yamaha Rhino for a more capable UTV. Possibility of buying a new ATV this year as well, as one of the older ATVs is wearing out. Guffey got a couple of quotes for a 2018 Yamaha 450 ATV with power steering. Bauerkemper's price came in at \$6,780 but a cheaper quote came from Black Hills Powersports at \$6,495. Guffey asked permission to buy new ATV. Motion made by Mann to allow Guffey to purchase ATV, seconded by Barber, motioned carried.

SD Weed & Pest District Meetings, Nov 1st, Rapid City, SD

Guffey and Jocks attended the SD Weed & Pest District Meeting, went well. The herbicide Method, previously Perspective, was talked about at the district meetings. The herbicide now has a supplemental label allowing applicators to spray individual sites around grazing areas, which is an improvement.

SD Weed & Pest Commission Grants

Guffey emailed out Common Tansy Headwater Project grant asking for \$15,000.. A \$5,000 county grant was applied for too.

NEW BUSINESS

SD Weed & Pest Conference, Feb. 14-16, Rapid City, SD

The SD Weed & Pest Conference will be November 14-16 in Rapid City. Interesting speakers will attend, covering a wide basis of information, including invasive grasses and other related items. South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks is looking to introduce a paperless record-keeping system, which will be mentioned at the conference. Federal, State, County land manager roundtables will take place for open discussion.

2018 Weed & Pest Board Meeting Schedule

Guffey handed out the Weed & Pest Board Meeting Schedule. All looks good to Weed Board and will be set in place.

Enforcement Update

There are two prairie dog complaints. One on Anderson Road that is on about 40 acres of land and one on CC Steen land around Heart Table and Scenic. South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks poisoned the town on the CC Steen land but there was a second town with cows occupying the space. SDGF&P had to come back again to poison the second town.

Crew Update

Crew has been cutting for 6-7 weeks. Finished Black Fox Road and will be moving onto other roads after West Rochford Road. Guffey pulled the Japanese Beetle Traps, went from 58 beetles last year to 73 beetles this year, a slight increase and they seem to be moving south. 33 traps total, one trap had 8 beetles in it near Red Rocks. A couple of beetles were caught in Sturgis as well.

Additional Items

Board members Jocks and Barber's terms are up. Barber has cautiously decided not to run for a second term as Area 2 representative and will be greatly missed. Jocks is willing to serve again as the Area 1 representative on the board.

Agency Report

None

ADJOURN

Motion made by Barber to adjourn the meeting at 1:33 p.m., seconded by Mann, motion carried.

Next meeting will be March 14th, 2018.

Submitted by Max Bailey