

**PENNINGTON COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD**  
**Pennington County Weed & Pest Office**  
**3607 Cambell Street, Rapid City, SD**  
**Wednesday, July 10, 2019 12:30 pm Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Dennie Mann  
Dell Petersen, Vice Chairman  
Paul Paulsen, Chairman  
Mark DiSanto, County Commissioner

**Members Absent:**

Bert Jocks

**Others Present:**

Scott Guffey, Director  
Mike Stenson, SD Dept of Ag  
John Bergland, City of Rapid City  
Leon Paugh, City of Rapid City

Chairman Paulson called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Additional Items / Approve Agenda**

Motion made by Mann to approve the agenda, seconded by DiSanto, motion carried. Motion made by Petersen to approve meeting minutes for the May 15, 2019 meeting, seconded by Mann, motion carried.

**Budget Report**

Scott Guffey presented Budget Report for Weed & Pest (615) and Natural Resources (616) budgets. Weed & Pest (615) has 46% left for the remainder of the year. Natural Resource budget (616) is at 57%.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Shaded Fuel Break Update**

About on load of POL logs remain to be removed off the Edelweiss Mt Road project to finish up the timber sale, Baker Timber is supposed to be hauling them off. Once removed the landing will have to be seeded and then we can close the timber sale portion of the project. County crew will finish of the fuels work this fall/winter.

**2019 Weed Spraying Agreements**

Guffey has been working on getting a BLM agreement secured, it's been a painful process. Has received a pre-award letter, that will allow us to begin work on the project. The agreement is \$30,000 for three years (\$10,000/year). The project is to survey and treat noxious weeds on BLM properties in Pennington County, this first year will be surveying and treating weeds on their property between Creston and Wasta in the Cheyenne River Drainage. Guffey will contact the landowner lease holder before starting.

**2020 Budget**

The county provisional budget was \$950,000 over budget and the county commissioners have asked the departments to go back voluntarily cut their budgets where they can. Guffey cut \$5,000 out of the vehicle line item, essential an ATV. Additional cuts maybe needed.

**SD Mosquito Grant**

The SD Dept of Health has awarded Pennington County their grant application in the amount of \$11,000. Guffey will use that funding to purchase an ATV, drone, and larvicide for mosquito control in the county.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Enforcements**

A total of 82 (9 Canada Thistle / 71 Leafy Spurge) volunteer compliance letters have been sent out thus far. For the most part, landowners have been good about controlling their weed problems. There were 10 landowners that have received a follow-up letter. They are being re-inspected this week, a few may have to go under enforcement. They have received volunteer compliance letters in the past and continue to ignore the problem.

**Crew Update**

Crew is at full staff with all the seasonal crew now on board and are working hard to stay on top of the weeds. Cool wet spring and summer has delayed the weeds. Currently working on the DOT roads and railbed, just started working on the BBNF sale areas and RMEF leafy spurge project north of Hill City. Will start on the oxeye daisy on the western end of the county next week and the BLM project. Equipment for the most part has been holding up, except for some minor issues with a couple of the ATVs. New Kabota UTV is working great, had to put some heavier ply tires on it last week.

**Agency Report**

Stenson – SD Dept of Ag, is working on moving flea beetle bio control agents for leafy spurge, will be collecting from a site near Gregory, SD to move into the Hill City area.

Bergland – City of Rapid City, asked about poison hemlock in the park areas if the county wanted to spray or if the city should go ahead and do it. Guffey said it would be best if the city had time that they do it, Guffey and Stenson pointed out that there had been bio-control releases of a defoliating moth for poison hemlock put out at the fairgrounds and the animal shelter along Rapid Creek.

**ADJOURN**

Motion made by Mann to adjourn the meeting at 1:20 pm, seconded by Petersen, motion carried.

Next meeting will be August 14th, 2019.

Submitted by Scott Guffey