

Madison County Weed Board

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The regular meeting of the Madison County Weed Board was brought to order February 13, 2020, at 1:33 by Board Chair, John Armstrong. Present were Board members, Todd Durham, Rick Sandru, Aaron Paulson and Weed Coordinator, Margie N. Edsall. Minutes were taken by Office Manager, Janie Alt.

Public comment of Items on Agenda: None

Approval of Meeting Minutes: After review Aaron moved to approve the September 12, 2019 meeting minutes as submitted. Rick seconded. All voted aye and motion was carried.

Appoint Board Chair & Vice Chair: Rick made a motion to renew John Armstrong as Weed Board Chairman Aaron seconded. All voted aye and motion carried. Aaron made motion to appoint Todd Durham as Vice Chairman, Rick seconded. All voted aye and motion carried.

Julie has resigned her position on the Board. The Board will be looking for a Member at Large.

Weed Board Meeting Dates: The Board voted on bi-monthly meetings or otherwise as needed. Meetings will be the 2nd Thursday of that month.

Old Business:

Office & Program:

- Margie has been busy reviewing grants for the Trust Fund Hearings. She has submitted 3 grants for this year. They are for the Jack Cr. Upper Ruby and Bio-control.
- Margie will meet with the Commissioners next Tuesday to sign agreement for herbicide bid document to be advertised as well as advertisement for field crew personnel.
- Margie will be putting together request for both Butte and Bozeman DOT divisions for highway right-of-ways. She will also request for extra money from Bozeman division to possibly do aerial on the Norris and VC hills.
- Margie is working on putting together the agenda for Crew training that will be held in Whitehall the end of May. There will also be an initial Private Applicator Training in Ennis at the Fire Hall April 8th.
- Rick raised a question on some infested property in Virginia City. Margie stated that it is State property belonging to the Heritage Commission. Rick stated as a permittee of state land he gets inspected and is required by law to manage his leased land and was curious as to why the State isn't held to the same standard. Margie explained that they aren't permittees, and that the State owns the land, therefore it is out of her hands. She said she has notified the Heritage Commission asking them to sit down with her to discuss some options to take care of the problem, but has had no response.

Facilities/Equipment:

- Received the replacement truck for the Assistant Coordinator.
- Discussed the purchase of another side x side after the next fiscal.

Personnel:

- Assistant Coordinator, Dale Grose will start back March 1st. Compliance Tech, Herb Smith will start May 1st.
- Aaron and John will sit in on the field crew interview committee along with Dale for the morning of April 9th.
- Aaron motioned to approve John to signed the letter for 2020 herbicide bid advertisement. Todd seconded. All voted aye and motioned carried. Margie will meet on the 18th with the Commissioners for their signature before the letter is sent for advertisement in the Madisonian.

Other Old Business: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Weed Management Plans:

- After review Rick made a motion to approve the weed management plan for L Bar W Land as submitted. Todd seconded. All voted aye and motion carried.

Spring Aerial:

- Margie discussed setting up some aerial application in the spring and possibly also using a drone. John shared with the other Board members what he learned about drone spraying at the MWCA Annual Conference.

Budget

- The Board reviewed and discussed the budget.
- Cash on hand for the **2140** - \$303,063.86 and in the **2840** - \$ -4,425.82. Margie explained that this is the grant budget and come March she will receive \$7,500, that will bring her out of the red.

Other New Business: None

Public Comment items not on Agenda: None

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 P.M.

Next meeting TBA

Minutes respectively submitted by: Janie Alt