

Madison County Weed Board

*PO Box 278*Virginia City, MT 59755*Physical Address: 2296 Hwy 287, Alder, MT 59710*

*Ph# Margie (406) 842-5595 * Janie (406) 842-5596 * Fax (406) 842-5596*

E-mail – Margie – madweed@3rivers.net Janie – amadweed@3rivers.net

The regular meeting of the Madison County Weed Board was brought to order February 15, 2018 by Board Chair John Armstrong at 1:35 P.M. Present were Coordinator; Margie Edsall, Board members; Rick Sandru, Charlie Gilman, and Todd Durham. Absent was Board member Julie Peterson. Office Assistant, Janie Alt was present to take minutes.

Rick moved to approve the December 7, 2017 meeting minutes. Charlie second. All voted aye and motion was carried.

Old Business:

Office & Program:

- All grants have been submitted
- Margie and Bonnie O'Neil, Human Resource have been working on hiring policies.
- Margie will be out of the office to attend the Trust Fund hearings the week of March 5.
- Commercial/Private applicator training that was held in Butte on February 6 had a great turnout.
- Requests for copies of Commercial Applicators license, insurance and proof of workmans comp. along with right of way waivers for spud producers have been sent out.
- Margie is working with Melissa Griffiths, MVRG in putting together a Private Applicator Training for this spring in Ennis.
- Margie informed the Board that Kerry Taylor is the new Madison/Jefferson Extension Agent.
- Margie is the new member at large for the MWCA.

Facilities/Equipment:

- New copier arrived.
- Margie discussed purchasing a Buddy reel for the new Ranger 900. The reel is a smaller version of the Intelli reels. This will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Personnel:

- Positions for weed crews have been advertised.
- Interviews will be held on March 29.

MWCA Conference Update:

- Margie reported that attendance was down.

Other Old Business:

NEW BUSINESS:

Weed Management Plans:

- Rick made a motion to approve the Lower Ulery's Lake Subdivision WMP as submitted. Todd seconded. All voted aye and motion passed
- Rick made a motion to approve the 3 Rivers utility weed management plan as submitted. Charlies seconded. All voted aye and motion carried.

Herbicide Bid Advertisement & Documents:

- Bid doc was reviewed by Board. Charlie made the motion to accept the bid doc as submitted. Rick seconded. All voted aye and motion carried. The bid doc was signed by Weed Board Chair, John Armstrong and will be sent up to Commissioners for approval.

AIS Grant Opportunity:

- Margie said she has an opportunity to be able to write a grant for aquatic invasive signs to put out on the fishing accesses in Madison county through the Aquatic Invasive Species Council. The Board reviewed a bid sheet for the signs. She is purposing putting up a large sign at Ruby Reservoir, Meadow Cr Campground, and Harrison Lake. After a lengthy discussion Charlie made the motion to proceed to apply for the grant. Todd seconded. All voted aye and motion carried.

WHIP Grant Opportunity:

- Margie discussed Bill 434, the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program with the Board. Margie stated that Dave Stout, Ruby Conservation is submitting a grant for the Upper Ruby.
- Margie said she had visited with Rick Northrup, FWP who is running the program to see about getting funding for the South Madison but because she is using federal funds for that grant she would be unable to use the funds for match.
- Margie also stated that she will not ask for cooperative federal funding for the Upper Ruby grant. This grant will be state funded whereas, state and private funds can be used as match for the WHIP grant.

Other New Business:

Budget

- The Board reviewed and discussed the budget.
- Margie proposed taking \$10,000 out of Chemical Fund and put it into the Contingency fund. Margie also proposed going with the 4 mills and adding an additional \$20,000 to the Contingency Fund. The Board approved Margie's proposal.
- Margie will submit a memo for resolution.
- Cash on hand was not available.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 P.M.

Next meeting will be in March 29

Minutes respectively submitted by: Janie Alt