

# **Madison County Weed Board**

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The regular meeting of the Madison County Weed Board was brought to order April 11, 2019 at 1:32 by Board Chair, John Armstrong. Present were Board members Julie Peterson, Todd Durham, Rick Sandru and Aaron Paulson. Weed Coordinator, Margie N. Edsall, and Assistant Coordinator Dale Grose. Office Assistant, Janie Alt was present to take minutes.

## **Public comment of Items on Agenda:** None

After review Aaron moved to approve the February 14, 2019 meeting minutes as submitted. Todd seconded. All voted aye and motion was carried.

## **Recommendation to Hire Field Crew & Compliance/Mapping Tech:**

Based on the hiring committee's recommendation, Todd moved to approve hiring on Herb Smith as the Seasonal Compliance/Mapping Tech. and the five (5) returning field crew members, Ed Burke, Chuck Selby, Cassandra Williams, RaeAnne Bendon & Nikole Stockett. Julie seconded. All voted aye and motion carried. Also based on the hiring committee's recommendation, Julie moved to approve hiring Brandon Wojcik, Josh Bodda, Madison Flemming and Ronald Lane as an alternate if needed as crew personnel. Todd seconded, all voted aye and motion carried.

Margie will take the recommendations to the Commissioners for approval.

## **Old Business:**

### **Office & Program:**

- Request forms for Spud producers and Right of Way Waiver have been sent out.
- Margie attended the Professional Development Training held in Bozeman.
- Grants for the Upper Ruby, South Madison, Jack Creek and Bio Control were submitted to the Trust Fund Council. Margie was happy to report that all 4 were fully funded. She also reported that the Department of Transportation donated an additional \$1,150 to the Madison Valley Ranchland Weed Committee's Bio Program.
- Margie also reported that a petition to Aphis has submitted for the Mongoles Crucifer a bio control agent for houndstongue to be released in Montana.

### **Facilities/Equipment:** Reports from Assistant Coordinator, Dale Grose

- Safety violations that were reported back in November have been addressed.
- Working on getting all equipment up and running for the 2019 spray season
- Spring aerial is being lined up.
- Dale mentioned to the Board that he was looking into a space heater for the shop and had a quote for \$2,500. There was a short discussion and this topic will be revisited again in the fall.

### **Personnel:**

- Margie reported to the Board that crew training will be held on May 28 – 30 at the Alder Community Hall. She asked the Boards approval to help the SW Area Council pay for a room for Carter County Weed Coordinator, Jesse Scott who will come from Ekalaka, MT. to do the 1<sup>st</sup> aid training. The Board approved.

### **Other Old Business:** None

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Weed Management Plans:**

- After review Rick made a motion to approve the subdivision weed management plans for the Montana Club Phase II as submitted. Aaron seconded. All voted aye and motion carried.
- After review Rick made motion to approve Right of Way Waivers for Rinehart and Brush as submitted. Julie seconded. All voted aye and motion carried.

**Herbicide Bid Opening:**

- Margie opened up and read the bids that were submitted from Helena Chemical & Nutrien Ag Solutions. After reviewing the bids Rick made the motion to accept the bid submitted from Nutrien Ag Solutions.

**Montana Rail Link Property Lease:**

- Dale will submit the application for lease to MRL. Once he receives word on cost's, Margie will approach the Commissioners for approval about leasing the property.

**Initial Plan of Work:**

- Dale reported to the Board that there is \$11,000 that needs to be expended on Bozeman DOT. Margie & Dale stated their concerns about being able to do this before the end of the fiscal with just ground crew so, their plan is to spend about \$7,000 in aerial on the Virginia City & Norris Hills.

**Budget**

- The Board reviewed and discussed the budget.
- Margie stated that she is supposed to receive an agreement from BLM for \$40,000 for the 2019 season.
- Cash on hand for the **2140** - \$253,211.26 and in the **2840** - \$17, 821.72. Margie stated she didn't think the \$17, 821.72 reflected the \$7500 that was used from the Special County Reservations grant help purchase the new side x side.

**Other New Business:**

- Rick mentioned that the SW Montana RAC (Resource Advisory Committee) is in desperate need of volunteers to sit on the committee.

**Public Comment items not on Agenda:** None

**Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Next meeting will be in May 9, 2019

Minutes respectively submitted by: Janie Alt