

Madison County Weed Board

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The regular meeting of the Madison County Weed Board was brought to order August 30, 2018 at 1:34 by Board Chair, John Armstrong. Present were Board members Julie Peterson, Charlie Gilman, Rick Sandru, Weed Coordinator, Margie N. Edsall, Assistant Coordinator, Dale Grose, Compliance Tech, Herb Smith, Commissioner, Dan Allhands and Office Assistant, Janie Alt was present to take minutes.

Public comment of Items on Agenda: None

Charlie moved to approve the May 10, 2018 meeting minutes as submitted. Julie second. All voted aye and motion was carried.

Old Business: None

Coordinator Evaluation:

- Board Chair, John Armstrong presented Margie with the Boards evaluations. Margie reviewed and signed off on the evaluation and gave a copy to John.

Office & Program: Reports from Margie

- Met with the towns of Twin Bridges, Sheridan, Virginia City and Ennis back in May to go over weed agreements for the 2018 season.
- Reported on Crew Training in Whitehall and felt the 1st aide portion needs to be improved. Would like to host it with Beaverhead County next season and have it at the Alder Fire Hall.
- Margie reported that she had toured the South Madison grant area with State Weed Coordinator (interim), Jasmine Reimer and also toured Jack Cr. grant area with MVRG, Melissa Griffiths.
- Herbicide sales are very good.
- Crews participated in a 2 day coop in Big Sky. Looking to possibly doing 4 days next season. Crew also spent 4 days down in the South Madison working on the highways.
- Will be participating in the Ruby River Resource Day at the Ruby Habitat on September 13.

Facilities/Equipment: Reports from Dale

- Has had better seasons, a lot of maintenance on equipment.

Personnel:

- The season is coming to an end. 1 crew will remain on for approximately 2 more weeks along with Assistant Coordinator, Dale Grose and Office Assistant, Janie Alt helping out to do clean up.
- Margie reported that this season has been extremely difficult with not having a complete crew all season. She stated with not having a BLM crew this season has really made it difficult to fulfill past obligations.
- Margie stated that the new Compliance Tech, Herb Smith is doing a great job and says he is definitely an asset to the program.

Other Old Business: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Weed Management Plans:

- Rick made a motion to approve the subdivision WMP for Spanish Peaks Resort Overall Development Plan Julie seconded. All voted aye and motion passed.
- Charlie made the motion to accept the 3 Right of Way Waivers as submitted. Julie seconded. All voted aye and motion passed

- Will be sending out a final notice of non-compliance on 31st.

2019 Coop Days:

- Margie handed out a list of coop days for the 2019 weed season. She explained to the Board, due to lack of landowner and agent participation she has decided to drop several coop days

Fall Weed Tour/Board Dinner: Tabled

Budget

- The Board reviewed and discussed the budget.
- Cash on hand for the **2140** - \$163,307.76 and in the **2840** - \$8,609.55
- Mills requested have been dropped from 3.5 to 3.25.
- Margie has applied for an Assistant Agreement with the BLM for \$40,000.
- Will be using the special county reservation grant monies to purchase a new side by side.

Other New Business:

- Margie commented on the fact that the Fall Coordinator Training is being held in Glasgow and if changes in the agenda weren't made she probably wouldn't be attending.
- Margie informed the Board that Bob Sitz had called and was wondering if she had any recourse with the FS. Rick stated he would like to see her write a letter addressing the weed issues on Forest Service lands. Commissioner Allhands encouraged her to do so and send a copy to the commissioners and they would press the issue.

Public Comment items not on Agenda: None

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Next meeting will be in October 11, 2018

Minutes respectively submitted by: Janie Alt