

Madison County Weed Board

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

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

E-mail – Dale Grose – dgrose@madisoncountymt.gov

The regular meeting of the Madison County Weed Board of August 17, 2023 was brought to order, at 1:58 by Chair, Rick Sandru. Present were Coordinator Dale Grose, Board members, Kent Tilstra, and Todd Durham. Absent was Mark Boyd. Office Assistant, Janie Alt was present to take minutes.

Public comment of Items on Agenda: None

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- After review, Kent moved to approve the April 20, 2023 meeting minutes with corrections. Todd seconded. All voted aye, motion carried.

Office & Program:

- There were a total of 9 co-op days scheduled for the 2023 season. Timber Cr co-op was canceled. Due to lack of participation there will no longer be a Ruby Reservoir co-op.
- Spent 2 days in Big Sky. Sprayed a lot of Orange Hawkweed, Oxeye Daisy and Yellow Toadflax.
- S. Boulder turnout was the biggest to date.
- To date there has been \$6,502.05 out of \$10,000.00 reimbursed for the N. Meadow Cr. Grant & only \$147.00 out of \$28,000 for the Upper Ruby.
- To date, County Cost Share reimbursements have been \$40,464.90.
- On July 18 Dale participated in a WHIP Program meeting. Discussed were the possibility of bringing private lands into the program.
- Dale attended a Madison river mapping meeting. The plan is to map weeds along the river from Reynolds Pass fishing access to Ennis and then try and get a grant to do weed control along the river with a 100 ft. corridor.

Facilities/Equipment:

- Used the \$7,500 County/Reservation Grant funds and \$3,41295 from our 2140 account to purchase another Honda 520 sidexside. It will be equipted with a 30 gallon tank. Dale asked the Board if they had an idea of what they would like to spend the upcoming County/Reservation Grant funds on? Dale thought about maybe trading in the 1 ton 5 speed Ford dually in on another truck. Rick inquired about the trailers. Dale said we could probably use another trailer to haul both Hondas sidexsides.

Personnel:

- Had 2 crews and a Compliance Tech. plus Dale & Janie. The crews were finished by August 10th. Dale had asked HR about letting the Comp. Tech. work 40 hours for a couple weeks so we could finish doing clean up on a few roads.

OLD BUSINESS:

Other Old Business:

- Kent inquired about the replacement of windows in the office. Dale said he was going to wait until this fall when contractors might not be so busy.

NEW BUSINESS:

Weed Management Plans:

- Kent moved to approve the Right-of-Way Waivers for Stewart. Todd seconded. All voted aye, motion carried.
- Todd moved to approve Right-of-Way Waiver for Reinhardt. Kent seconded. All voted aye, motion carried.
- Angie Begin, Compliance Tech, reported that her season started off slower than last season due to the fact that she didn't have the help she had last year from the Shining Mtns HOA in helping identify properties with weed infestations. She stated that the person that was helping her last season complained that there wasn't any follow up on final notices that were sent out to property owners who received those letters. She stated that she and Dale met with County Attorney to go over the non-compliance laws to make sure he would be on board in sending out a court order of non-compliance if it came to doing an enforcement. Angie reported that she had sent 48 letters sent out to property owners in the county. Of those 48, she has stated that 17 are in-compliance, 8 she's waiting to hear back from and 10 of those she had just sent out. There were 1 final notice she gave to Board Chair Rick Sandru to sign.

Budget:

- The Board reviewed and discussed the regular budget.
- Cash on hand for the **2140** - \$331,378.35 and in the **2840** - \$ **9,199.39**

Other New Business:

Public Comment items not on Agenda: None

Adjourn:

- Todd made the motion to adjourn. Kent seconded. All voted aye and motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:58 P.M.

Next meeting TBA

Minutes respectively submitted by: Janie Alt, Office Assistant