

**MINUTES OF THE SD WEED & PEST CONTROL COMMISSION**  
**Wednesday, September 14, 2016**  
**Codington County Extension Building**  
**Watertown, SD**

Chairman Lynn Deibert called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM, September 14, 2016. Present were Chairman Deibert, and Commissioners Ron Thyen, Craig Magedanz, Duane Buckmeier, Floyd Muntefering, and Association of County Commissioners representative Neil VonEschen; School and Public Lands Commissioner Ryan Brunner; Game, Fish & Parks Representative Paul Coughlin; Non-Voting Members - SD Department of Agriculture representative Brandon Beshears; and SDSU representative Paul Johnson; and Commission Secretary Brenda Sievers. (Exhibit #1)

Ryan Brunner made a motion, seconded by Paul Coughlin, to approve the agenda (Exhibit #2) after adding in new business a discussion on signed and unsigned weed complaints. Motion carried.

The minutes of the April 4, 2016, meeting was presented. Floyd Muntefering made a motion, seconded by Ron Thyen to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2016, meeting. (Exhibit #3) Motion carried.

**ACTIVITY REPORTS**

**SD Department of Agriculture – Weed & Pest Coordinator – Brenda Sievers**

Brenda talked about the new Attorney General's opinion which upholds the old opinion done in 1976. It explains that the township is responsible for the control of noxious weeds in their rights-of-ways. She also talked about the increase of Weed Free Forage acres that were inspected this year because of the pipeline construction. Department staff assisted APHIS with a Xanthomonas bacterial survey in corn to determine its presence in South Dakota.

**Weed & Pest Supervisor – Ron Moehring**

Ron has been receiving complaints on noxious weeds but most complaints are after fuzzing. He also reported on the increase in common mullein and the turnover that we have seen in Weed & Pest Supervisors. Currently Campbell, Douglas and Hughes Counties are looking for new supervisors.

**District 4 – Duane Buckmeier**

Duane reported that he attended a meeting for the Belle Fourche project. He stated there was good attendance at the meeting and there had been a lot of spraying done.

**SD Association of County Commissioners – Neil VonEschen**

Neil said there would be a lot of fall spraying done this year. One thing he has noticed is the increase in grasshoppers.

**District 2 – Floyd Muntefering**

Floyd talked about the wet spring and not much spraying was done then. He stated that CRP has been bad because nothing was sprayed in those areas. Others commented on how FSA had allowed mowing followed by a fall spray.

**Ryan Brunner – SD School and Public Lands**

Ryan stated it had been an average year with spraying, but has been working on prairie dogs. He is currently working with grasslands and a MOU with federal partners on noxious weeds.

### **Paul Coughlin – SD Game, Fish & Parks**

Paul talked about the wet spring setting them back. But it has also given them the opportunity to do more control. GF&P has been working on their lands.

### **District 3 – Lynn Deibert**

Lynn reported that he feels there is a lot more Canada thistle than before. In his area, they have had some issues with organic acres. McPherson County seems to be worse for yellow toadflax this year. Another issue is DOT had area wide contracts and since most counties don't spray beyond their borders, he thinks the counties could do a better job spraying those ROW's, including more often as needed.

### **SD Department of Agriculture – Brandon Beshears**

Brandon informed the group that Mike Jaspers has been named the Secretary of Agriculture. He also mentioned being in the process of doing a rules hearing to clean up language in some Ag Services rules. Legislation is due at the end of the month. There is a possibility of opening the pesticide registration fee, mainly to increase monies for the recycling and pesticide regulatory programs. This would be done by the legislature. Spills and complaints are up this year. Round-up ready Extend beans have had some complaints because of the illegal use of dicamba on them. Brandon attended the National Plant Board meeting and discussion was held on industrial hemp.

### **SDSU – Paul Johnson**

Paul talked about the weed project having a busy summer. The Commission will get to view SDSU plots on the tour. He will start re-working the pest guides and also working with oil seed crops. The weed book hasn't proceeded since he had no additional staff this year, so has no significant progress to report.

### **District At Large – Craig Magedanz**

Craig talked about a problem in his county with Canada thistle on federal lands. The drier June allowed the weeds to come in.

### **District 1 – Ron Thyen**

Ron reported seeing toadflax along the ditches. He felt that Canada thistle was much worse this year.

### **Bio-Control Survey Updates –Mike Stenson**

Mike updated the Commission on work being conducted with Bio-Control on Leafy Spurge, Poison Hemlock and Spotted Knapweed. There are smaller acres with leafy spurge than used to be, so we don't have the large collections like have been done in the past. Knapweed bugs were collected in Todd County and most were moved to the Black Hills region. There are poison hemlock bugs both in east and west river. Mike also reported that APHIS said there were no big numbers of grasshoppers. He agrees that the cropland species have increased, but the concern has been with the rangeland grasshopper species.

### **Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) Update – Dale Anderson**

Dale reported on surveys that were done in 2016. The small grain survey only has a few traps remaining and they are presumed negative. For karnal bunt, the elevator survey is complete. Gypsy moth was delayed because of the late arrival of lures. One gypsy moth was found in Sioux Falls, so we will expand trapping there next year. But odds are that it was a hitchhiker. We found an increase in Japanese beetles in Aberdeen, Sioux Falls and Vermillion.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Dakotafest Update**

Ron Moehring said there was good attendance. There were 242 registrations in the box.

### **Brown County Fair Update**

Mike Stenson reported numbers were a little lower than last year at the Fair. Wormwood and toadflax were the top two weeds inquired about

### **State Fair Update**

Paul Johnson talked about the good crowds at State Fair. Entomology was also in the booth this year answering questions. There was a lot of talk about palmer amaranth and how to id it. He estimated 100 contacts per day at DakotaFest but felt there were over 1000 per day at the State Fair.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **CAPS 2017 Project Proposals**

Dale reported that proposals have been submitted for 2017 pest detection surveys. He is planning for gypsy moth, khapra beetle, karnal bunt, corn, soybean and bio-control surveys.

### **Weed Supervisors – Discussion on Data Loggers – Dave Tatum**

Dave Tatum, Weed Supervisor from Hyde County, talked about the benefits of data loggers, which can be added to spray systems to GPS locations sprayed in the county and also for projects worked on. It would record the date, temperature, and location sprayed so counties could use the information to show what has been accomplished in the county.

### **Karissa Floerchinger – DOW Range & Pasture/VM Specialist**

Karissa was introduced to the Commission as the new DOW representative, taking over for Mike Shalla, who took a new position in Wisconsin. She gave a short talk on the various herbicides that her company has to offer.

### **2016 Weed & Pest District Meetings & 2017 Weed & Pest Conference**

Gary Pribyl shared the dates and locations of the 2016 District Meetings. District meetings begin with registration at 8:30 am, local time.

District 1 - Nov. 4 – Watertown – Codington County Extension Office

District 4 - Nov. 2 – Rapid City – Outdoor Campus

District 3 - Nov. 3 – Pierre – Isaak Walton

District 2 – Oct. 31 – Mitchell – Mitchell Technical Institute

The Weed & Pest Conference will be held in Huron on February 22, 23 & 24, 2017. Topics are currently being worked on for the Conference.

### **Chris Petersen – South Dakota Department of Agriculture – Fiscal Office**

Chris discussed with the Commission new requirements coming from this last legislative session which will include new language in the grant agreements. Chris is part of the new Board of Internal Controls, which has been working on new rules for grants. Conflict of interest is one of the items that they have been looking into.

Chris talked about the new law and what it will mean for future grant agreements that the counties have with the Commission to complete work.

### **Weed & Pest Grant Criteria / Proposals**

Brenda Sievers gave an overview of prior grant criteria and that the Commission has spending authority of \$650,000 for this year. She made suggestions to the criteria to have consistency on both grants. Since the Commission has previously granted money out to assist with weeds that currently aren't on the local or state noxious listing, suggested changing the wording on that. Discussion was held on the grant criteria. A motion was made by Paul Coughlin, seconded by Ron Thyen, to accept the changes that Brenda has suggested on the grant criteria. Motion carried.

Chairman Lynn Deibert appointed committee members to review the grants and present a recommendation to the Commission in February. Grant deadline will be November 18, 2016. Committee members are: Neil VonEschen, Ryan Brunner, Lynn Deibert, Tom Hedrick, Mike Jaspers or Kyle Holt from the Department of Agriculture, and Craig Magedanz.

### **Discussion on Signed and Unsigned Complaints – Ron Thyen**

There was discussion if the Commission should encourage signed complaints. For some areas of law, a signed complaint is required. That isn't the case for noxious weeds.

### **Weed Book**

A short discussion was held on getting the Weed Book done. Paul Johnson talked about some of the challenges he has had with the book. At the next meeting, the Weed Book will be put on the agenda to discuss it further.

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Craig Magedanz, seconded by Ron Thyen, to pay for the meeting expenses, salary and per diem for this meeting. Motion carried.

Chairman Deibert declared the meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.

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Brenda Sievers  
Commission Secretary

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Lynn Deibert, Commission Chairman  
(Approved Minutes)