

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA ANNUAL WEED & PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING 2**  
**Wednesday, February 21, 2024 – 1:30 pm MT**  
**Spearfish Holiday Inn – Convention Center, Spearfish, SD**

Chairman Darwin Kurtenbach called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm, February 21, 2024.

**Members Present:** Commissioners Dennis Feickert, Chuck Anderson, Deb Schultz, Bruce Helbig, Darwin Kurtenbach, Game Fish & Parks representative Ryan Wendinger, Association of SD County Commissioners Representative Lynn Deibert; Department of Transportation Representative Christina Bennett; School and Public Lands Commissioner Brock Greenfield; Non-Voting Member - SDSU Representative Eric Jones; SD Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources Representative Bill Smith; and Commission Secretary and Plant Industry Program Manager Brenda Sievers.

Dennis Feickert made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Brock Greenfield. Motion carried.

Chairman Kurtenbach asked for any changes to the minutes from the December 13, 2023, meeting. A motion was made by Brock Greenfield to approve the minutes. Seconded by Chuck Anderson. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

No old business presented.

**New Business**

Requests for Locally Declared Noxious Weeds & Pests . . . . .

(R) = Renewal / (N) = New request / **(NN) = New & not in Rules, would need rules hearing**

Bennett County – Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R), Puncturevine (R), Field Bindweed (N),  
Common Mullein (N), Common Burdock (N), Palmer Amaranth (N), **Water hemp (NN)**

Butte County – Poison Hemlock (R)

Charles Mix County – Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R)

Custer County – Musk & Plumeless Thistle (R)

Fall River County – Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R), Bull Thistle (R), Dalmation Toadflax (R),  
**Baby's Breath (NN)**

Hand County – Yellow Toadflax (R)

Lawrence County – Common Tansy (R), Dalmation Toadflax (R), St. John's Wort (R), Scotch Thistle (R),  
Bull Thistle (N)

Lyman County - Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R), Puncturevine (R), Bull Thistle (R)

Meade County – Dalmation Toadflax (R), Spotted Knapweed (R)

Sanborn County - Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R)

Discussion was held on the locally noxious weed requests. Brock Greenfield made a motion to approve those locally noxious requests that were renewals or already on the list for locally noxious weeds. Seconded by Ryan Wendinger. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the request for adding waterhemp as a locally noxious weed in Bennett County, which would require a rules hearing to make the addition. Brock Greenfield made a motion to deny listing waterhemp as a locally noxious weed. Seconded by Deb Schultz. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the request for adding baby's breath as a locally noxious weed in Fall River County, which would require a rules hearing to make the addition. Lynn Deibert made a motion to add baby's breath as a locally noxious weed. Seconded by Bruce Helbig. A roll call vote was held – Bennett – no; Anderson – no; Deibert – yes; Schultz – no; Feickert – no; Helbig – yes; Greenfield – no; Wendinger – no. Motion failed - 6 no and 2 yes.

Deb Schultz made a motion to deny Fall River's request to add baby's breath as a locally noxious weed in their county. Seconded by Chuck Anderson. Motion carried.

The Weed and Pest Coordinator Report was given by Brenda Sievers. Weed and Pest Staff set up and assisted at the Association of SD County Weed and Pest Board booths at Sioux Falls Farm Show, Black Hills Stock Show, and Watertown Farm Show. With the retirement of Dale Anderson, the Program Specialist position to coordinate the CAPS (Cooperative Agricultural Pest Surveys) program has been advertised, with interviews to be conducted soon. Sievers also gave an update on the survey work planned for 2025.

Jeremiah Phelps, Weed and Pest Program Specialist, gave a report on shows he assisted at, as well as gave a bio control update.

District reports were given by:

- District 1 Representative Dennis Feickert - attended District Weed Meeting in Brookings and feels counties are struggling financially,
- District 2 Representative Darwin Kurtenbach - had great crops in his area, but common mullein is starting to come in, hopes to attend annual weed meetings,
- District 3 Representative Bruce Helbig - has seen an increase in the red seed head weevil in sunflowers and the four-county annual weed meeting will be March 18<sup>th</sup> in Harold,
- District 4 Representative Chuck Anderson - been a cold winter but now in a dry spell, grasshoppers ate much of the leafy spurge and Canada thistle in 2023, and
- At Large Representative Deb Schultz reported this was her first meeting and looking forward to more.

Agency reports were given by:

- School and Public Lands Commissioner Brock Greenfield – grasshoppers were sprayed by lessees, as well as thanked counties for the work they do, as it is appreciated;
- Game, Fish and Parks Representative Ryan Wendinger – sprayed 12,000 acres in 2023 but many low areas dried up so will be interesting to see what weeds it brings, also appreciates the county's work;
- Department of Transportation Representative Christina Bennett – spent \$2.5 million on weed spraying in 2023 and the state bid amount has increased to \$50,000.
- SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Representative Bill Smith reported on the good neighbor authority as well as forest service assessments. They will have joint powers agreements with affected counties. Conservation Commission will meet on April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Association of SD County Commissioners Representative Lynn Deibert reported there was no late fall chemical spraying done in his area.
- USDA APHIS PPQ Representative Mike Stenson reported on spongy moth trapping as well as the grasshopper assistance program. They are having difficulties getting seasonal employees hired.
- SDSU Representative Eric Jones asked to give his report during the grant update.

Chairman Kurtenbach announced it was time for the public comment period.

SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Plant Industry Program Manager Brenda Sievers reported that the district weed meetings held each November would be discussed by the Association of SD County Weed and Pest Boards at their board meeting. The Association has hosted those meetings, but typically staff from SDSU and the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources put together the programming. It is the intention of the Association to not hold those meetings anymore and the Department supports that change.

Pennington County Weed Supervisor Scott Guffey received a prairie dog complaint on Bureau of Land Management property north of Wall for encroachment onto private property. According to SDCL 38-22-17.2, the county can request the SD Weed and Pest Control Commission to assist with the enforcement, should it be necessary if BLM doesn't do control.

Chairman Kurtenbach declared a break at 2:47 pm.

The meeting resumed at 3:15 pm.

Weed & Pest Competitive Grant Reports from FY2024 were given on the following:

GRANT #	COUNTY	ORGANZTN	FRSTNM	LASTNAME	PROJECT
WP-C24-3	Assn of SD	Co. W/P Bd	Gary	Pribyl	2023 Public Awareness & Outreach Project
WP-C24-4	Fall River	Co. W/P Bd	Nina	Steinmetz	The Fall River County "Insider" - Educational Booklet
WP-C24-5	Hughes	Co. W/P Bd	Bruce	Helbig	2nd Year of Wormwood Sage Control in Residential Area (no work done on the project)
WP-C24-7	Clay	Co. W/P Bd	Dennis	Ganschow	Scout/Map/Treat Common Mullein & Purple Loosestrife along the Lower Missouri River
WP-C24-8	Codington	Co. W/P Bd	Steve	Molengraaf	Field Scabious Control
WP-C24-9	SDSU Extension WEED Project		Eric	Jones	Noxious Weed Field Evaluation, Demonstration & Education Program
WP-C24-10	Brown	Co. W/P Bd	Chris	Hemen	Yellow Toadflax Biological Control
WP-C24-11	Harding	Co. W/P Bd	Misty	Koan	Custer National Forest Ash Tree Reservoir Ventanata Project
WP-C24-13	Assn of SD	Co. W/P Bd	Nathan	Jagim	Yellow Toadflax Bio-Control Project
WP-C24-14	Meade	Co. W/P Bd	Nathan	Jagim	Meade County Tamarix Project (no work done on project, but possibly in March)
WP-C24-15	Meade	Co. W/P Bd	Nathan	Jagim	Pleasant Valley Chicory Project (no work done on project)

**FY2025 Regular Weed & Pest Grant Applications - \$300,000 divided amongst qualifying applicants**

GRANT #	COUNTY	ORGANZTN	FRSTNM	LASTNAME	PROJECT
WP-25-1	Minnehaha	Co. W/P Bd	Jason	McCubbin	Chemical
WP-25-2	Pennington	Co. W/P Bd	Scott	Guffey	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-25-3	Brown	Co. W/P Bd	Chris	Hemen	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Bio Control Workshops, Radio Ads, Booth
WP-25-4	Beadle	Co. W/P Bd	Tanya	DeVries	Chemical
WP-25-5	Codington	Co. W/P Bd	Steve	Molengraaf	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Spray Equipment Updates
WP-25-6	Brookings	Co. W/P Bd	Misty	Moser	Chemical
WP-25-7	Yankton	Co. W/P Bd	Jim	Liebsch	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-25-8	Davison	Co. W/P Bd	Tyler	Page	Chemical
WP-25-9	Lawrence	Co. W/P Bd	David	Heck	Chemical
WP-25-10	Aurora	Co. W/P Bd	Skyler	Kehn	Chemical
WP-25-11	Bennett	Co. W/P Bd	Troy	Kuxhaus	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor
WP-25-12	Bon Homme	Co. W/P Bd	Walt	Rentsch	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor
WP-25-13	Brule	Co. W/P Bd	Mike	Schlaffman	Chemical
WP-25-14	Buffalo	Co. W/P Bd	Lee	Sinkie	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor, Newspaper and Radio Ads, Update Spray Equipment
WP-25-15	Butte	Co. W/P Bd	Dwayne	Heidrich	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor

GRANT #	COUNTY	ORGANZTN	FRSTNM	LASTNAME	PROJECT
WP-25-16	Campbell	Co. W/P Bd	Kyle	Rossow	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Equipment
WP-25-17	Charles Mix	Co. W/P Bd	Josh	Rouse	Chemical
WP-25-18	Clark	Co. W/P Bd	Brian	Jenkins	Chemical, Equipment Upgrades, County Wide Noxious Weed Brochure
WP-25-19	Clay	Co. W/P Bd	Dennis	Ganschow	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-25-20	Corson	Co. W/P Bd	Darren	Bauer	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor, Promotional/Educational Projects, Upgrade Mapping System on UTV & Pickup
WP-25-21	Custer	Co. W/P Bd	Mike	Baldwin	Chemical, Bio Control, Education
WP-25-22	Day	Co. W/P Bd	Ben	Braaten	Chemical, Contractual Labor
WP-25-23	Deuel	Co. W/P Bd	Keith	Goens	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Equipment Updates
WP-25-25	Douglas	Co. W/P Bd	Kim	Klein	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Equipment Updates, Advertising
WP-25-26	Edmunds	Co. W/P Bd	Mike	Jager	Chemical
WP-25-27	Fall River	Co. W/P Bd	Nina	Steinmetz	Chemical, Upgrade Equipment, Educational or Promotional Materials
WP-25-28	Faulk	Co. W/P Bd	Aimee	Law, Auditor	Chemical, Contractual Labor
WP-25-29	Grant	Co. W/P Bd	Nathan	Mueller	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Bio Control, Equipment
WP-25-30	Gregory	Co. W/P Bd	John	Jensen	Chemical, Newspaper Ads
WP-25-31	Haakon	Co. W/P Bd	Virgil	Smith	Chemical, Update Equipment
WP-25-32	Hamlin	Co. W/P Bd	John Cody	Michalski	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-25-33	Hand	Co. W/P Bd	Randy	Peck	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-25-34	Hanson **	Co. W/P Bd	Vince	Kayser	Chemical
WP-25-35	Harding	Co. W/P Bd	Misty	Koan	Chemical, Equipment & Repairs
WP-25-36	Hughes	Co. W/P Bd	Joe	Boxely	Contractual Labor
WP-25-37	Hutchinson	Co. W/P Bd	Clifford	Tjaden	Contractual Labor
WP-25-38	Hyde	Co. W/P Bd	Dave	Tatum	Chemical
WP-25-39	Jackson **	Co. W/P Bd	Vicki	Wilson	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor, Education/Promotional, Media, Public Seminars, Equipment, Repairs
WP-25-40	Jerauld	Co. W/P Bd	James	Reiner	Chemical, Spray Truck Upgrades
WP-25-42	Kingsbury	Co. W/P Bd	Tanya	Flegel	Chemical, Contractual Labor, Education, Training
WP-25-44	Lincoln	Co. W/P Bd	Terry	Fluit	Chemical
WP-25-46	McCook	Co. W/P Bd	Geralyn	Sherman	Chemical, Publish Notices
WP-25-47	McPherson	Co. W/P Bd	Michael	Schwingler	Chemical
WP-25-48	Marshall	Co. W/P Bd	Monte	Hoglund	Chemical
WP-25-49	Meade	Co. W/P Bd	Nathan	Jagim	Chemical
WP-25-51	Miner	Co. W/P Bd	Kent	Terwilliger	Chemical
WP-25-52	Moody	Co. W/P Bd	Tim	Ullom	Chemical

GRANT #	COUNTY	ORGANZTN	FRSTNM	LASTNAME	PROJECT
WP-25-53	Perkins	Co. W/P Bd	Loyson	Carda	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor, Promotional/Educational
WP-25-54	Potter	Co. W/P Bd	Brad	Saltsman	Chemical, Contractual Labor
WP-25-55	Roberts	Co. W/P Bd	Tammy	Johnson	Chemical, Contractual Labor
WP-25-56	Sanborn	Co. W/P Bd	Shari	Kogel	Chemical, Labor, Parts, Equipment
WP-25-57	Spink	Co. W/P Bd	Jeff	Haessig	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor
WP-25-58	Stanley	Co. W/P Bd	Lee	Smith	Chemical, Contractual Labor
WP-25-59	Sully	Co. W/P Bd	Paula	Barber	Chemical, Advertising
WP-25-60	Tripp	Co. W/P Bd	Duane	Wetzel	Chemical
WP-25-61	Turner	Co. W/P Bd	Brad	Georgeson	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor
WP-25-62	Union	Co. W/P Bd	Shawn	Tabke	Chemical, Labor

\*\* Does not qualify for grant – did not meet District Meeting attendance requirement

Discussion was held on the Committee recommendation for funding for the FY2025 grants.

A motion was made by Chuck Anderson to approve funding the FY2025 regular/contractual grants as presented. Seconded by Dennis Feickert. Motion carried.

Brock Green made a motion to accept the Committee recommendations for funding the FY2025 competitive grants. Seconded by Deb Schultz. Motion carried.

The Competitive Grants were funded as follows:

WP-C25-1 – Hyde County - \$8,500 – Houndstongue Control in Shelterbelts  
 WP-C25-2 – Fall River County – \$2,500 - Baby's Breath Control Assistance  
 WP-C25-3 – Fall River County – \$10,000 - Common Mullein Assistance Project  
 WP-C25-5 – Davison County - \$3,500 – Yellow Bluestem Control Project  
 WP-C25-6 – Clay County - \$26,500 – Scout/Map/Treat Purple Loosestrife & Other Noxious Weeds Along Missouri River  
 WP-C25-7 – Association of SD County Weed & Pest Boards - \$50,000 – 2024 Awareness Project  
 WP-C25-8 – Pennington County - \$5,000 – Cheyenne River Watershed Management Project  
 WP-C25-9 – Brown County - \$2,000 = Yellow Toadflax Biological Control  
 WP-C25-10 – SDSU Extension Service - \$50,000 – Implementation of Novel Herbicide Mixtures & Application Methods for Noxious Weed Control  
 WP-C25-11 – Meade County - \$5,000 – Meade County Tamarix Project

Discussion was held on dates for the next meeting. Sievers will work to schedule the meeting in early April.

Dennis Feickert made a motion to approve the bills for this meeting, Weed and Pest Conference and the review committee meeting. Seconded by Bruce Helbig. Motion carried.

Chairman Kurtenbach declared the meeting adjourned at 5 pm.

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Brenda Sievers  
Commission Secretary

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Darwin W. Kurtenbach, Commission Chairman  
(Approved Minutes)