

MINUTES OF THE SD WEED & PEST CONTROL COMMISSION
September 15, 2020 – 1 pm CT
Codington County Extension Complex, Kitchen Room, Entrance B
1910 W Kemp Ave., Watertown, SD

Lynn Deibert called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM, September 15, 2020.

Members Present: Chairman Lynn Deibert, Commissioners Dennis Feickert, Floyd Muntefering, and Duane Buckmeier; Department of Transportation representative Tony Ondricek; Game Fish & Parks Representative Paul Coughlin (on phone) and School & Public Lands Representative Ryan Brunner (on phone).

Ex-Officio/Non-Voting Members Present: Dept. of Ag representative Tom Gere (on phone), SDSU representative Paul Johnson, and Commission Secretary/Plant Industry Program Manager Brenda Sievers.

Also present were those listed on Exhibit #1.

A motion was made by Floyd Muntefering, seconded by Duane Buckmeier, to approve the agenda. Roll call vote: Brunner – yes; Buckmeier – yes; Coughlin – yes; Deibert – yes; Feickert – yes; Muntefering – yes; Ondricek – yes. Motion carried 7 yes and 0 no. Motion carried.

Chairman Deibert asked for any changes to the minutes from the April meeting. Hearing no changes, the Chairman declared the minutes approved as presented.

Activity Reports

Department of Agriculture

Brenda Sievers gave an update on programs and introduced Chad Kiel as the new program specialist hired to work with export, bio control and the weed and pest programs.

Jeremiah Phelps gave an update on programs, as well as four new weed supervisors have come on since the last meeting. Japanese knotweed was found near Henry.

District Reports

District reports were given by Floyd Muntefering, District 2 – last year so much moisture, but spraying has increased on county and township roads; Dennis Feickert, District 1 – there was an 11 inch rain that cause Elm River to rise, which increased the flush of Leafy Spurge, Palmer Amaranth was found in Brown County; Duane Buckmeier, District 4 – reported on prairie dogs and spraying is almost complete, they had increase of Wormwood; and Lynn Deibert, District 3 – they have noticed more Canada Thistle, though they have had a hard freeze, they are still able to fall spray.

Department of Transportation

Tony Ondricek reported on weed spraying. They are mowing now since October 1st is the official start of the winter season for them.

SDSU

Paul Johnson was still able to get most things done this year, though they couldn't stay overnight, which made it difficult. They made it to the Hills after the Covid restrictions relaxed. Palmer was verified as found in three counties so far. Yankton County originated as a result of a combine or manure from last year, Hand County has a small spot due to a custom combiner and Potter County had a spot though he was unsure of the origin. With dicamba pulled early in the season, post emergence product recommendations changed.

USDA APHIS-PPQ

Amy Mesman reported that grasshoppers were up in the rangeland areas, with some crop feeding species. She also talked on emerald ash borer and the bio agent recovery, which none have been recovered. The unsolicited seeds that constituents received in the mail was considered a brushing scam.

Craig Magedanz, District Member At Large, joined the meeting.

Game Fish & Parks

Paul Coughlin reported crews are out and active. They have caught up on management practices and are continuing to do fall work.

School & Public Lands

Ryan Brunner reported they are working with lessees on fall work and prairie dog poisoning will increase this fall.

Department of Agriculture

Tom Gere reported that the Department of Agriculture will merge with Department of Environment and Natural Resources, but he didn't know how that would look in the future. He also reported they are working on the industrial hemp plan which isn't approved yet and trying to resolve transportation issues. There were around 17 dicamba cases this season, though not all have been resolved. There were about 200,000 containers collected for the recycling program. Tom also reported on the increase approved by legislature for the product registration fee. Those increases went to the recycling and regulatory programs.

District At Large Report

Craig Magedanz, District Member At Large, reported they have had rain, so things don't look too bad in the area he lives.

CAPS

Jeremiah gave the bio control report. Just recently they received Canada Thistle rust fungus bio control from Colorado that he and Chad are in the process of releasing. Brenda gave the CAPS report for Dale Anderson since he was unable to attend. The surveys are being completed and we still have a few traps to pick up. All kernal bunt samples have been negative to this point. Khapra beetle is still being worked on. Gypsy moth traps are still being picked up but so far all are negative. Some samples will go to SDSU.

Public Comment Period

Chairman Deibert opened the meeting for public comments. Darren Bauer talked about grasshoppers and Steve Molengraaf talked about the increase of Canada Thistle in the ditches.

Chairman Deibert declared a break at 2:25 pm. Business resumed at 2:40 pm.

Old Business

State Fair Update

Paul Johnson and Brenda Sievers gave updates. Since the booth was unmanned, Brenda kept the booth stocked with brochures and answered questions while doing that. Paul did receive some weed questions that he answered by phone.

State and Locally Noxious Weed Rules Update

Brenda gave an update on the rules that were approved by the Commission at their last meeting. She presented the rules to the Interim Rules Review Committee at their meeting in June with no questions after the testimony. Those rules were then unanimously approved by the Committee. They became effective on July 27, but since it was mid-season which could present some questions on intent to inspect, there hasn't been much press on that change yet. The intention is to do more notifications this fall and winter to let people, supervisors and board members know of the change.

New Business

Grant Criteria for FY2022

The grant criteria for the FY2022 fiscal year was discussed. The Commission has \$450,000 for spending authority. Discussion was held on the grant attendance requirements with current Covid concerns. A motion was made by Craig Magedanz, seconded by Dennis Feickert, to leave the grant criteria the same as last year (In the event that a county or counties don't qualify for funding, the remaining funds will be divided equally to the nearest \$100, amongst those remaining counties that have met the requirements, without exceeding spending authority), with \$230,000 available in regular/contractual county grants and \$220,000 available for competitive grants, for a total of \$450,000 available to be granted out. Roll call vote: Brunner – yes; Buckmeier – yes; Coughlin – yes; Deibert – yes; Feickert – yes; Magedanz – yes; Muntefering – yes; Ondricek – yes. Motion carried 8 yes and 0 no. Motion carried.

Chairman Lynn Deibert appointed the following to the grant committee to go over the grants and make a recommendation to the Commission at the February meeting: Tony Ondricek, Dennis Feickert, Paul Johnson, Paul Coughlin, Lynn Deibert, and a Department of Ag Representative.

Weed & Pest Conference/District Meetings

Gary Pribyl with the Association of SD County Weed & Pest Boards went over the meeting dates.

The District Weed Meetings are –

District 4, October 27 in Rapid City

District 3, October 28 in Pierre

District 1, November 4 in Redfield

District 2, November 5 in Mitchell

The 2021 Weed and Pest Conference will be held at the Spearfish Holiday Inn at Spearfish on February 17, 18 & 19. The Association is asking for any suggestions for speakers.

Approval of Bills

A motion was made by Duane Buckmeier, seconded by Craig Magedanz, to pay the meeting expenses, salary and per diem for meetings attended. Roll call vote: Brunner – yes; Buckmeier – yes; Coughlin – yes; Deibert – yes; Feickert – yes; Magedanz – yes; Muntefering – yes; Ondricek – yes. Motion carried 8 yes and 0 no. Motion carried.

Since this was the last scheduled official meeting for Floyd Munterfering, the Commission wanted to acknowledge and thank him for his years of service. Floyd has been term limited by statute and won't be eligible to serve the next term for District 2.

Chairman Deibert declared the meeting adjourned at 3:36 pm.

Brenda Sievers
Commission Secretary

Lynn Deibert, Commission Chairman
(Approved Minutes)

DRAFT