

Weed Board
Secretary Report
March 11, 2015

The Grant County Weed Board met on March 11, 2015 at 10 a.m. at the Extension Office, Courthouse basement. The meeting was called to order by Roger McCulloch, secretary's report was reviewed. David Kruger move to approve minutes, seconded by Tom Wollschlager, motion passed.

Nathan Mueller, weed supervisor presented a copy of the budget to board members. Nathan noted they are in the midst of switching computer systems, so number may be inaccurate. Total weed budget is \$92,282; \$14,750 budgeted for weed control chemicals. He said there was \$18,404 in grants received and \$31,375 for 2014 spraying. Also, the South Dakota Weed & Pest Control Commission approved funding of \$6,100 to Grant County. Doug Stengel moved to approve the budget, seconded by Robert Mueller.

Old Business:

Nathan reported that he sprayed 9 townships last year, and currently is receiving request from townships for spraying for the current year. Also, he fogged mosquitos for Revillo, Marvin, Twin Brooks, Big Stone, Stockholm, Albee and Summit.

Nathan, along with Blain Gatz attended and gave an update from Weed and Pest Conference in Rapid City during February. From the conference, there was an update on Emerald Ash Borer in the Twin Cities with constant movement of wood. There has not been any sign of emerald ash borer in South Dakota. Nathan stated the District 1 meeting was held in Stratford again. It's centrally located for the district.

Nathan updated the weed board on Japanese beetles. Last year, he stated beetles were coming from Bailey's Nursery in Minnesota. They are known for chewing on vegetation. Therefore, Nathan has placed traps for Japanese beetles. He reported there has been none in Milbank.

New Business:

Nathan commented this year Alban, Madison, Melrose and Vernon townships have requested to be sprayed this year.

District 1 Meeting will be held in Watertown at the Codington County Extension Office in October and Weed & Pest Conference will be held in Aberdeen mid-February. Board members were encouraged to attend and notify Nathan if interested.

Nathan explained about the mosquito grant he received. He showed the board the trap and the process of reporting mosquitos at the state level.

Nathan reported he has received a new Kubota RTV-X1100C to assist with spraying. In the past, he used a 4-wheeler but noticed you get spray draft. This equipment will be enclosed to reduce chemical draft and easier to spray around the right ways, swamps and near fence lines. Nathan said they will be putting in new street and avenue signs. The RTV will be boomless. Board members made comments about getting tanks to be able to carry two chemicals and have an injection system. Steve Mullengraf, Codington County Weed Supervisor mention that about only five percent of the counties in the state use a boom, mainly for the signs.

Before adjourning, Nathan recognized the board for years of service to the Weed Board. Election of board chairman and vice chairman proceeded. Tom Wollschlager was elected chairman, David Kruger elected vice chairman.

Doug Stengel made a motion to adjourn meeting. Robert Muller seconded.