

Weed Board
Secretary Report
March 12, 2014

The Grant County Weed Board met on March 12, 2014 at 10 a.m. at the Extension Office, Courthouse basement. The meeting was called to order by Roger McCulloch, secretary's report was reviewed.

Nathan Mueller, weed supervisor presented a copy of the budget to board members. Nathan noted that there was \$14,750 budgeted for weed control chemicals. He said he will request for more funding next year as the price of chemical will increase. Also, the South Dakota Weed & Pest Control Commission approved funding of \$5,900 to Grant County. Tom Wollschlager moved to approve the budget, seconded by David Kruger.

Old Business:

Nathan introduced Sara Koepke, 4-H Youth Program Advisor again to the board members.

Nathan reported that he sprayed 8 townships last year, and currently is receiving request from townships for spraying for the current year.

Nathan, along with Blain Gatz and Doug Stengel attended and gave an update from Weed and Pest Conference in Aberdeen during February. Robert Mueller couldn't be in attendance; therefore, Blain from the Grant County Bridge crew joined Nathan. Nathan stated the District 1 meeting will be held in Stratford again. It's centrally located for the district.

Nathan handed out an informational sheet on Japanese beetles and informed board members of the bug. There are many found in Grant County. He said that they are mainly coming from Bailey's Nursery in Minnesota. They are known for chewing on vegetation.

At last year's meeting, it was discussed to charge each township for chemicals directly. After the meeting, there was a conflict with doing that process through the Auditor's office. Nathan informed board members that in order to be able to do that, we would need to receive more grant money.

New Business:

Nathan commented this year he will be doing a blanket cover spring spraying. Then mid-summer will spray Tridon. Tom Wollschlager agreed that was a good idea as the summer progresses there are still weeds in the ditches.

District 1 Meeting will be held in Stratford this fall and Weed & Pest Conference will be held in Rapid City mid-February.

Tom Wollschlager asked Nathan if there would be a chance for him to get any summer help with spraying. There was a question if Nathan had received any complaints about spraying. He noted he had not received any. He did receive on about worm wood sage after the spraying season and Nathan said it will be taken care of in the spring. Robert Mueller advised Nathan to look at the tall grass near Rodney Pinkert's driveway.

Nathan mentioned that he is working on grants to work with the Grant County 4-H office on putting together weed display boxes for the community.

Tom Wollschlager asked Nathan about the cost of chemicals. Nathan has been working on getting bids together.

Before adjourning, Nathan informed the board members that Grant County has an active website. They can find minutes, agendas, township contracts and notices.

David Kruger made a motion to adjourn meeting. Tom Wollschlager seconded.