

Weed Board  
Secretary Report  
April 25, 2013

The Grant County Weed Board met on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at the Extension Office, Courthouse basement. The meeting was called to order by Roger McCulloch, there was no secretary's report. Nathan Mueller, weed supervisor presented a copy of the budget to board members. Nathan noted that there was \$14,500 budgeted for weed control chemicals. Also, the South Dakota Weed & Pest Control Commission approved funding of \$6,300 to Grant County.

**Old Business:**

There was much discussion about type of chemicals to use this year. Nathan reported Tridon cost \$15/gallon and GrazeOn is \$27/gallon. Board members suggested utilizing GrazeOn for spring spraying and spot spraying where thistle patches are. Also another suggestion was using 24D during the spring and follow up with GrazeOn as a fall application. With the cost of the chemicals, discussion was about having the chemical cost billed to the township boards. Tom Wollschlager made a motion to bill the townships for chemical opposed to running chemical finances through the county budget. Second by David Kruger. Motion passed.

Nathan reported that he sprayed 11 townships last year, and currently four townships have requested spraying for the current year.

Robert Mueller and Nathan attended and gave an update from Weed and Pest Conference in Huron during February. Nathan mentioned they discussed the Eastern Heath Snail, which is currently in found in Montana. The snails can be found in alfalfa and other grassy areas. They are attaching themselves to hard surfaces such as rail cars. The snails are pests as they potential reduce crop yield and quality, contaminate fruits and vegetables. Robert commented that there was going to be a 24D shortage.

Nathan handed out an information sheet on Spotted Knapweed and informed board members of the weed. They can be found east of town along the railroad track. The weed is now on the local noxious weed list.

**New Business:**

Nathan introduced Sara Koepke, 4-H Youth Program Advisor who will serve as board secretary.

District 1 Meeting will be held in Stratford November 4 and Weed & Pest Conference in mid-February in Aberdeen.

There was discussion that township councils will have to commit for spraying prior to budget review. Also, comments were made about possible assistance. Nathan noted the county is working on developing a website. He hopes to have rates, agenda, minutes, and forms for people to access.

David Kruger made a motion to adjourn meeting. Robert Mueller seconded.