

Weed Board
Secretary Report
March 20, 2019

The Grant County Weed Board met on March 20, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. at the Grant County Commissioners Room. The meeting was called to order by David Kruger. Present were David Kruger, Joel O'Brien, Sara Koepke, Paul Johnson, Brenda Sievers, Steve Molengraaf, Robert Feldhus, Misty Moser, Bill Street, Doug Stengel, Bill Toastenson, Lance Heuer, and Kevin Owen. Secretary's report was reviewed. Motion to approve by O'Brien, seconded by Street, motion passed. Nathan Mueller, Grant County Weed Supervisor presented a copy of the 2018 financial summary to board members. Total weed budget is \$115,846.00, which included the purchase of a used pickup; \$22,639.05 budgeted for weed control chemicals. He said there was \$11,114 in grants received, which is from South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Health for mosquito abatement. In addition, \$30,601.25 for 2018 spraying for township and state right-a-ways. O'Brien moved to accept budget information, seconded by Street.

Old Business:

Mueller reported that he sprayed 7 townships last year, including Adams, Alban, Big Stone, Madison, Stockholm, Twin Brooks, and Vernon, and state right-a-ways. He covered 3,556.5 miles, spraying 2-4D and Tordon. The township spraying rate increased from \$55 to \$66, plus chemical.

Mueller, along with Dave Schulte and Bill Street attended and gave an update from Weed and Pest Conference in Huron February 19-22. Mueller explained for grant purposes need to send at least two people from each county. Mueller said there are great presentations given and a wealth of information received. Mueller stated the District 1 meeting was held in Stratford where Paul Dummann was in attendance with Mueller.

New Business:

Sievers gave a presentation on enforcement guidelines that is required by the South Dakota Department of Agriculture. Mueller stated he received two written complaints and when he looked at the concern, the landowners had dealt with the issue. He did mention he has taken the correct steps of an enforcement. In addition, he mentioned the noxious weed declaration has been published.

District 1 Meeting will be held in Brookings in November at the Brookings Outdoor Adventure Center and Weed & Pest Conference will be held in Brookings in November at the Brookings Outdoor Adventure Center. The Weed and Pest Conference will be held in Aberdeen Feb. 18-21. Board members were encouraged to attend and notify Mueller if interested.

Mueller has received commitment forms from Adams, Madison and Big Stone Townships for 2019 spraying. He anticipates more counties turning in their commitment forms soon.

Johnson gave a presentation on Palmer Amaranth and Sievers presented on Emerald Ash Borer.

Before adjourning, changes in board chairman and vice chairman proceeded. David Kruger will serve a two-year term as chairman of the Grant County Weed Board. Joel O'Brien will serve as vice chairman.

O'Brien made a motion to adjourn meeting. Kruger seconded.