

## Grant County Weed Board Meeting

Carson Courthouse

June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

President Leonard called meeting to order at 8:12 p.m. Members Present: Leonard Gerhardt, Morris Haase, Drew Gaugler, Marty Meyer, and Tessa Osterbauer, NDSU Extension, and Merlin Leithold, weed officer. Dick Woodbury arrived at 8:40, during spraying update.

**Secretary's Report:** Morris moved to approve the minutes as presented. Drew seconded the motion, **M/C**.

**Treasurer's Report:** We have \$105,192.41 in account before tonight's bills. Total bills \$1,048.65, Receipts: \$18,277.90

Bills presented – Cenex Fleet Card – gas - \$193.83, Visa – credit card – stamps - \$116.00, WRT – phone- \$84.74, Pump Systems -lid - \$35.70 & Repairs - \$220.00, Merlin Leithold – mileage - \$398.38

Morris moved to accept the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Drew seconded the motion, **M/C**

### **Old Business:**

**Spraying Update:** Merlin stated that he started spraying highways beginning of June, then parked for over a week due to wind and rain. Behind schedule now, but hopes to catch up. Spoke with Randy Lyons. They should be here around the week after July 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Chemical Inventory:** Ordered over \$98,000 worth of chemical because price increases since the bids, and supplies. They had Tordon on inventory so figured to get it in while so figured to get it in while you can. As of tonight, Tordon would be impossible to get.

**Palmer Amaranth:** Will be checking sites that were sprayed last year. Had one new report, but that was near one of last year's sites?

**Other? None**

### **New Business:**

**Extension Report:** Tessa is back from maternity leave. She said that sending samples to the lab in Fargo may take a while as they are backed up. Tess said she plans on coming to bug day. Merlin will let her know the date.

**Budget for 2023:** The board worked on the budget for next year. Board salary: Drew moved to raise salaries for the board from \$50/meeting plus mileage, to \$75/meeting plus mileage. Dick seconded the motion. **M/C**

Some line items of note in the budget include Merlin's salary will be increased to \$30,000, adding \$3,500 additional funds in repair line item to cover switching the flatbed and sprayer from existing truck to a new truck, also added \$47,000 on equipment line for new truck. Added a separate line under income to sell the old truck to the county. Merlin will get a value on it then put it in the budget. Discussion on truck. We will receive a \$5,000 grant from the NDDA. Looking at all the numbers, a new truck would cost us around \$12,000 net. It was decided to put this in the budget, then vote on the budget. If budget passes, we proceed with the truck in the budget, taking it to the commissioners, as they recommended we do last year.

The budget, total income: \$187,037.54, total expenses: \$217,187.50. Merlin will work with Sara and put in the final numbers in columns that need tweaking, including the sale value of the truck. Drew moved to approve the budget, Marty seconded the motion, **M/C**

**26<sup>th</sup> Annual Bug Day: (No date set as of tonight).** Morton County will pay 50% of advertising in the Eido and lunch. Quite a bit of interest again. Could have a large crowd. Morris moved to pay Lorele \$500 for catering the lunch, because of the added expenses, and pay additional help for sweeping, etc., \$14/hr. Dick seconded the motion. **M/C**

Marty said that he may be able to have his kids sweep. Merlin will stay in touch with him.

**Washburn Symposium:** Merlin stated that the weed association is having a 3 day symposium in Washburn, August 23-25. As executive secretary he is required to be there. He also has to pay the \$250 to attend. Morris moved to allow Merlin to attend, and cover his mileage to attend. Marty seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Other? None**

**Next meeting:** July 19<sup>th</sup>, in Carson at 8:00 pm

Being no further business, Dick moved to adjourn the meeting, Denis seconded the motion. **M/C**

Meeting adjourned at 9:46 pm.