

Grant County Weed Board Meeting

March 19th, 2024

President Leonard Gerhardt called meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Members Present: Dick Woodbury, Walker Sabin, Leonard Gerhardt, Denis Tibor, Drew Gaugler, Justin Vetter and Merlin Leithold, weed officer.

Guests were Tessa Osterbauer, NDSU extension

Merlin stated Justin Vetter has been appointed to the board to fill the seat vacated by Morris Haase. Justin's term is a 4 year term. Introductions were done. Welcome Justin.

Secretary's Report: Dick moved to approve the secretary's report, as presented, Walker second the motion, **M/C**.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$159,717.17 in the bank before bills. Merlin turned in a revenue voucher from TAG Grant for the truck and LAP reimbursement money from the state, totaling \$27,440.55. Also, the County has not paid us for the truck and bed yet. That totals \$32,750.00. Bills presented tonight, WRT – Building phone - \$85.77, Pump Systems - \$3,466.61, Cenex Fleet Card - \$62.12, Merlin Leithold - \$728.91, Marty Meyer - \$40.20, Leonard Gerhardt - \$117.88, Dick Woodbury - \$80.36, Drew Gaugler - \$127.26, Denis Tibor - \$142.00, and Justin Vetter - \$107.16. Total bills \$5,074.81
Marty moved to accept the report and pay the bills. Dick seconded the motion, **M/C**.

NDSU Extension Report: Tessa gave the extension report. March 26th is the last day for pesticide training, and it is online only. Merlin assisted in three in person trainings this season. Had very good attendance. She has been kept busy between pesticide training and 4-h activities. Quiet Riot is coming up. Also, horticulture workshops.

Old Business:

Convention Update: Merlin gave a brief report. Good attendance, a few less vendors, excellent speakers and topics. Merlin thanked the board for the donation towards sponsoring the Blue Stems for the noon entertainment. Cass County were the other sponsors. Great reaction from the crowd. Banquet entertainment were the Looney Lutherans. They kept the crowd rolling for 90 minutes. Tessa helped Rick Schmidt with part of the breakout sessions. They did a pesticide formulation activity. We also has live plant ID along with other topics.

KFYR Ag Shows: Corteva sponsored the booth for KFYR Agri-International again. Merlin and Cody from Morton County set up and watched the booth both days. Attendance was up this year. A fair number from Grant County.

New Truck Update: Truck is in Elgin in the weed building. It has the sprayer mounted as well. Next is to put the signage in the windows and get the new data logger installed. That is scheduled the latter part of April or the beginning of May.

New Business:

Reorganization of the board: Leonard turned the meeting over to Merlin who then asked for nominations for President. Marty nominated Leonard. Being no other nominations, Walker moved that nominations cease, and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Leonard. Dick seconded the motion. **M/C** Congratulations Leonard. Merlin then turned the meeting back to Leonard who called for nominations for Vice president. Drew nominated Dick. Being no other nominations, Walker moved that nominations cease and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Dick. Marty seconded the motion. **M/C** Congratulations Dick.

Leonard then asked for an appointment of the secretary. Dick moved to appoint Merlin, who has been our current secretary as secretary for 2024. Walker seconded the motion. **M/C**

Chemical Bids: Merlin stated there are 2 bids this year. One from Novus Ag. and the other from Nutrien. Novus Ag's came by e mail while Nutrien's came by mail. Merlin opened the one from Nutrien. After comparing the two bids, the Novus Ag. bid consisted mainly of generic chemicals. The bid sheet that everyone has clearly states, no generics. Triumph herbicide is a generic Tordon. It requires that the user wear goggles. That itself could be a problems for the local landowners using it. Asked if Merlin has had any problems with Nutrien in the past, he stated no. they have excellent service. Marty moved to accept the chemical bid from Nutrien. Dick seconded the motion. **M/C**

	<u>Nutrien</u>
Amine (Platoon)	\$13.25/gal
Tordon22K	\$50.90/gal – 1 or 2 ½ gal containers
Liberate	\$27.60/gal in 2 ½ & \$28.90/gal in 1 gal containers
MSO (w/Lecitech)	\$18.90/gal
Plateau	\$118.00/gal

DuraCor or HighNoon	\$94.00/gal
Milestone	\$72.25/quart
Facet L	\$124.00/gal – 2 ½ gal containers only
Method	\$357.12/gal – 2 ½ gal containers only
FreeLexx	\$32.75/gal – will take the place of Platoon
Escort	\$2.60/ounce
Recycle Jugs	Yes

Cost Share & Chemical Prices for 2024: Merlin recommended the following cost share and prices.

Cost Share – Cost share this year again at 70%, with the limits remaining the same. Merlin will set the chemical prices for 2024 with the same basis as they were set in 2023. Walker moved to allow Merlin to set the prices. Justin seconded the motion. **M/C**

Sprayers: Merlin has not heard from Randy Lyons, but all indications last fall were that he plans on coming back this year. Also, Steven Zenker indicated that he plans on doing so as well. Discussion on why Corey Palm never showed up with his drones. Disappointing that he didn't return calls from potential customers. Merlin confronted him at the ag show this winter, and he claimed differently. But he didn't return Merlin's

4 wheeler: Merlin will take it to open road Honda for carb work

Ad for ditches: Merlin will run an ad in the paper when we get closer to spraying, letting landowners know, to where if they have concerns, they can contact Merlin. Merlin does this annually. It also goes in the newsletter.

Next Meeting – April 18th, 8:00 pm, MDT, at the courthouse in Carson.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Merlin Leithold, Secretary

Leonard Gerhardt, President