

Grant County Weed Board Meeting

March 28th, 2023

President Leonard Gerhardt called meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Members Present: Dick Woodbury, Morris Haase, Walker Sabin, Leonard Gerhardt, and Merlin Leithold, weed officer.

Guests were Tessa Osterbauer, NDSU extension

Merlin stated that Drew has been reinstated to the weed board for another four year term. Walker Sabin has been appointed to the board to fill the seat vacated by Matt Niederman. Walker's term is also a 4 year term. Introductions were done. Congratulations to both.

Drew Gaugler joined the meeting at 7:20 pm.

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

Treasurer's Report: We have \$201,898.68 in the bank before bills. Bills presented tonight, WRT – Building phone - \$85.38 (already paid, Board vouchers

Morris moved to accept the report and pay the bills. Dick seconded the motion, **M/C**.

NDSU Extension Report: Tessa mentioned that the county Ag day committee will be meeting, if you have any ideas for topics or speakers let her or Merlin know. Possibly doing various workshops and coffee chats this summer, let her know if you have ideas on what you would like to hear. Tomorrow is the last day for pesticide training, and it is online only. Merlin assisted in three in person trainings this season.

Old Business:

Convention Update: Merlin gave a brief report. Good attendance, quite a number of vendors, excellent speakers and topics. Merlin thanked the board for the donation towards vendor breaks. Jesse Veeder was the banquet entertainment. Carson Houser, a young cowboy poet was the luncheon entertainment. Both are very good.

KFYR Ag Shows: Corteva sponsored the booth for KFYR Agri-International again. . Merlin watched the booth on Wednesday along with Cody Schnabel, Morton County Weed Officer. Good attendance this year. Not too many from Grant County.

New Truck Update: Merlin stopped at Puklich to check on the truck. Should be starting its journey on the assembly line in a few weeks. But, we probably won't get the truck until late summer. If that occurs, Merlin has no intention to stop spraying until the season ends, to transfer the bed.

New Business:

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

Leonard then asked for an appointment of the secretary. Morris moved to appoint Merlin, who has been our current secretary as secretary for 2023. Walker seconded the motion. **M/C**

Chemical Bids: Merlin stated Nutrien has the only bid. He asked and received the bid by email. Morris moved to accept the chemical bid from Nutrien. Dick seconded the motion. **M/C**

These prices are only valid until the next price increase. Grant County will be notified before an increase, so we can order under current price structure. Shortages may also be a problem this season.

	<u>Nutrien</u>
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Amine (Platoon)	\$21.50/gal
Tordon22K	\$50.10/gal – 1 or 2 ½ gal containers
Liberate	\$27.20/gal in 2 ½ & \$28.50/gal in 1 gal containers
MSO (w/Lecitech)	\$18.60/gal
Plateau	\$118.00/gal

DuraCor or HighNoon	\$92.00/gal
Milestone	\$70.00/quart
Facet L	\$135.00/gal
Method	\$343.04/gal – 2 ½ gal containers only
FreeLexx	\$30.00/gal – will take the place of Platoon
Recycle Jugs	Yes

Annual Report: Merlin went over the annual report for 2022. Morris moved to accept the report, Drew seconded the motion. **M/C**

Sprayers: Merlin has not heard from Randy Lyons. Merlin has been in contact with Cory Palm, Bismarck. He sprays with drones. Merlin is inviting him to the April board meeting. Dick was wondering about those with spots, and not large acreage. Merlin will contact Randy as well before the April meeting.

Cost Share & Chemical Prices for 2023: Merlin recommended the following cost share and prices.

Cost Share – Dick moved to set the cost share this year again at 70%, with the limits remaining the same. Drew seconded the motion. **M/C**

Discussion on continuing cost sharing to those who purchase their chemicals from dealers, and turn in receipts for reimbursements. Merlin said that we had one last season and one the year before. The person from the year before, now purchases from the weed board. Merlin also said that by the time everything is calculated, they only receive around 50 to 60% cost share from their original purchase, due to retail pricing, compared to ours.

Morris moved that we only provide cost share if purchased directly from the weed board or through contract sprayers.

Dick seconded the motion. **M/C**

Merlin will run an ad in the paper explaining the change, as well as in the newsletter.

Merlin will set the chemical prices for 2023 with the same basis as they were set in 2022.

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