

Grant County Weed Board Meeting

Carson Courthouse

September 15th, 2020

President Eddy called meeting to order at 8:03 p.m. Members Present: Eddy Ulrich, Matt Neiderman, Drew Gaugler, Denis Tibor, Morris Haase and Merlin Leithold, weed officer.

Guests included Tessa Osterbauer, NDSU Extension Agent, and Myles Stoller, Grant County Commissioner.

Eddy turned the meeting to Myles for comments, etc. Myles stated that he was the bearer for a group of farmers who were complaining about how we run our cost share program that we were not cost sharing the correct chemicals. They feel that if they bring the ND Weed Control Guide in to the weed building and show that they want to use chemical X for their noxious weeds, we are obligated to provide the cost share for chemical X. Merlin stated that there is no county in the state doing this, that he is aware of. Definitely not in the area. After some discussion, the board did not take any actions on the proposal, but will take it into consideration.

Myles also feels that Tordon is a dangerous chemical, and that the weed board, in our roadside spraying program, should use Banvil in place of Tordon. Merlin stated that the NDDA strongly discourages weed boards to use Dicamba products until late fall, due to the volatility of Dicamba (Banvil). Myles felt that if we use more surfactant in the mix that should help with the volatility problem. After some discussion, the board will continue with what chemical mixes work best with the area.

The board thanked Myles for coming in, and stated that if these farmers had a problem with our cost share, they are more than welcome to come to a board meeting.

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

Treasurer's Report: We had no treasurer's report from the office. Total bills tonight \$7,423.15.

Bills presented – Cenex Fleet Card – gas - \$207.40, First Int. Bank – credit card – cleaning supplies - \$61.20, Nutrien – chemical - \$6,439.70, WRT – phone- \$75.00, National Ag Geno Typing center – Sample - \$75.00, David Willman – cost share - \$57.20, Mike Schatz – cost share - \$46.15, Clifford Johnson – cost share - \$461.50

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

Old Business:

Spraying Update: Merlin stated that he is gaining on the roads. Couple of weeks and he should have them covered.

Randy Lyons and crew are done for the season. Did not get everyone sprayed, but sprayed for around 17 landowners.

Palmer Amaranth Site of 2019: Brian Jenks from NDSU Minot Research Center was down, and Richard Weisz from the ND Dept. of Ag, came out. Tessa and Merlin along with Kelly Moldenhauer toured the sites from last year. Also where they put the manure from feeding the millet hay. Did find a few plants in the barnyard site, otherwise clean. Have to keep an eye on it.

New Business:

Palmer Found in Barnes, Stutsman and Barnes Counties: Merlin stated that in these three counties, Palmer was found. In Barnes County, it has infested over several thousand acres. It came in by Sunflower screenings, fed to cattle in a feedlot setting. Manure then spread over numerous acres. Palmer plants are very numerous in these acres. Some are wondering if Palmer will remain a noxious weed on the state list. Merlin said that we could put in on our county list if that would happen.

NDSU Extension Report: Tessa said that there will again be a Grant County Ag Day, November 9th in Carson, at the fair building. There will be a youth program in the morning followed by speakers. Hal Weiser will speak on soil ph, Janna Block will speak on feed rations/testing hay, will have someone speak on honey production. On October 23rd there will be a beef quality assurance training in Carson at the fair building. Let her know to sign up.

October Meeting Date Changed: Merlin will be at the area meetings that week, so the meeting will have to be changed to the 27th of October. Merlin will get it changed on the county web site.

Cost Share Ad: The cost share ad will be run in the official paper for 2 weeks with the October 15 deadline.

Other? None

Next meeting: October 27th, in Carson at 7:00 pm

Being no further business, Eddy adjourned the meeting at 8:51 pm.

Merlin Leithold, Secretary

Eddy Ulrich, President