

## Grant County Weed Board Meeting

Carson Courthouse

September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

President Leonard called meeting to order at 8:09 p.m. Members Present: Leonard Gerhardt, Walker Sabin, Denis Tibor, Morris Haase, Dick Woodbury and Merlin Leithold, weed officer.

Absent: Drew Gaugler and Marty Meyer Guests: Tessa Osterbauer, NDSU Extension Agent

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

**Treasurer's Report:** We have \$137,420.55 in account before tonight's bills. Total bills \$1,128.91

Bills presented – Cenex Fleet Card – gas - \$487.88, Fisher Repair – battery - \$148.95, WRT – phone- \$85.25,

Walker Sabin – board -\$115.61, Dick Woodbury - \$80.24, Denis Tibor - \$140.50, Leonard Gerhardt -\$116.92, Morris Haase - \$102.51

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

**Extension Report:** Tessa stated that on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a Western Beef Summit, possibly at the Fair building. On Tuesday, September 26 there will be a fall grazing meeting at Elgin at 6:00 at the café. Ag day is scheduled for November 8<sup>th</sup> in New Leipzig at 6 pm. Anthrax will be one of the topics presented.

### Old Business:

**Spraying Update:** Merlin stated that it has been going pretty good lately. Only has a few days left and all roads will have been sprayed. Has already gone over some main roads the second time. Some areas look a lot better than last year, some areas don't. Less Canada thistle in ditches this year. More Dalmatian toadflax, especially single plants. Randy Lyons and crew came and is spraying. Dick Woodbury is still spraying. A number of landowners are getting sprayed this year.

**New Truck Update:** Truck just came in. Can pick it up after a check is drawn.

**Old bed vs. new bed:** Diamond truck equipment in Dickinson went up on switching beds. A new bed is \$5,300 at Glen's Welding in Bismarck. Pump Systems in Dickinson would charge around \$2,500 to \$3,000 to move sprayer to a new bed, and hook everything up. The county commissioners would buy out bed for \$2,750. After some discussion, Walker moved to purchase a new bed and sell the existing one to the commissioners for \$2,750. Denis second the motion. **M/C**

**Budget:** Merlin attended the public meeting concerning budgets. No one from the public attended. The commissioners gave all employees an 8% pay increase for 2024. The way our budget is set up, the weed board has to make the final adjustment on the budget. After a lot of discussion, Walker moved to go along with the commissioners with the 8% raise. Dick seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Other? None**

### New Business:

**Northern Plains Connector Project Noxious Weed Plan:** Merlin presented the plan they have proposed for Grant County. It is a general plan they are submitting to all counties along the route. It is very similar to the one for the gas pipeline that comes across the northern edge of the county. Dick moved to accept the plan. Denis seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Other? Burleigh County Weed Board:** Discussion was held on what some knew on why the entire board and their weed officer resigned. It strengthens the fact that boards need to try and have a good working relationship with the county commissioners and vice versa as well.

**Next meeting:** October 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm in Carson (Final meeting for 2023)

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 pm.

Merlin Leithold, Secretary

Leonard Gerhardt, President