

MINUTES

Aug 29, 2019

JOHNSON COUNTY WEED & PEST CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD

Members Present:

Scott Lutterman, Chairman  
Scott Rogers, Vice Chairman  
Dick Gould  
Tyler Benton  
Nathan Williams

Others Present:

Rod Litzel, Supervisor  
Katie Hepp, District Clerk  
Steve Reimann, ANB Branch Manager

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Chairman Lutterman. Rod introduced Steve Reimann, ANB Branch Manager to the Board. Mr. Reimann explained that he would like clarification on the Board's decision regarding not accepting the CD bid from ANB. The Board explained that they had discussed the amounts of the CD's, the liquidity need within the next year, the difference in total interest earned between the banks, current interest rates on the money market accounts for funds that will remain in those and the transferring of funds between banks. The leading factor was leaving the money in FNB where the money markets are earning 1% interest; when ANB is only paying .2%, therefore making sense to leave where it is at.

Minutes for the Aug 1st meeting were approved with a motion by Tyler and a second by Nathan. Financial Statements for August were reviewed. Nathan moved to approve the financial statements for the general and leafy spurge funds. Tyler seconded the passing motion. Tyler moved to pay the vouchers and to allow the clerk to write utility, salary, salary related assessments and staff benefit checks as needed. Motion passed after a second from Dick.

Under old business, Rod gave an activity report. Grasshopper hatches and spraying turned out to be a mystery. There were places that appeared to not work it is a mystery for the reasoning behind this; did they move in, late hatch or severe weather event. The block south of Buffalo on Crazy Woman had lots of rain and hail shortly after spraying. There has been lots of calls some not happy with the results while others were happy. Rod proposed the idea that the Board have a designated employee next season for the Grasshopper program to deal with reports, surveying and mapping. The last of the District employees finished last Friday, there were two commercial applicators that were going to work a couple more weeks; however, one was injured. Rod has a guy that will spray on a few weekends in September. Most of the Ventenata was resprayed. Two new infestations have been found and treated. Luke Sanders, Sheridan County Weed and Pest Supervisor, did some aerial surveys for Ventenata and identified several points that maybe infestations. Rod is currently checking those areas; but, has not found any Ventenata. Currently doing aerial treatments for BLM on Leafy Spurge and Cheatgrass. Rod reported that he had Nate Behrend make some modifications to the building floor plans. Rod visited with the manager of the fairgrounds and they looked at a different spot for the building. He had spoken to one Fair Board member about their concerns. Rod reported that he had spoken with Scott Perhinger, Johnson County Road and Bridge manager about a location on the south side of French Creek that would be more out of the way of potential future Fairgrounds development. The Road and Bridge is currently using it as a storage site; but, it has better accessibility, water and sewer. Commissioner Perry said they had no objection. Rod lead discussion on the various options for the building construction. He was told that most contractors may not bid a job that is both post & pole with the other part being monolithic and stick built. It would have to be engineered in order to build it that way. The Board agreed by general consensus to get bids for the next meeting. Rod and Scott Lutterman attended the meeting with Governor Gordon on August 15<sup>th</sup> in Cheyenne it went well and was casual. Governor Gordon has a definite vision for overall management of Invasive Species. Rod reported that he had attended the Area 2 meeting in Gillette. They have nominated Richard Lake for the Harold Alley award and Mark Gordon for the Guy Haggard award. Area 2 has submitted a resolution to have a better list and use of the EDRR. Rod lead discussion on the EDRR and Board proposed the idea that the first year should be at the District Board discretion to treat, a do something now and then follow up with EDRR, a probationary period before it goes to EDRR.

Under new business, Rod announced the next regular meeting would fall on October 3 which does not work for several of the Board members due to hunting season. It was agreed by general consensus to hold the next meeting on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous ballot at 6:45 pm. The next regular business meeting will be September 26th at 5 pm.

