

## MINUTES

April 8, 2021

### JOHNSON COUNTY WEED & PEST CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD

#### Members Present:

Scott Rogers, Chairman  
Tyler Benton  
Nathan Williams  
Randy Hepp

#### Others Present:

Rod Litzel, Supervisor  
Katie Hepp, District Clerk

Meeting was called to order at 5:10 pm by Chairman Rogers. Minutes for the March 4th meeting were approved with a motion by Nathan and a second by Tyler. Financial Statements for March were reviewed. Randy moved to approve the financial statements for the general and leafy spurge funds for March. Nathan 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 Nathan.

Under old business, Rod gave a report on accounts receivable, total outstanding to date is \$ 21,807.21. The majority of outstanding bills are for rodenticides, some 2020 grasshopper, one 2019 grasshopper payment and the remainder is State lands and WY DOT overage which will be paid.

Activity report: Rod gave an activity report. He spent 33.75 hours doing Prairie dog surveys, spent time in meetings regarding State Allocations Committee, Sagebrush Advisory Group, Weed Bounty Program. Katie reported that she worked on the annual report and cost share. Rod reported that he had applied for two SAC grants; \$ 32,000 for Salt Cedar cutting and Weed Bounty and \$ 60,000 for Leafy spurge. Rod presented the prairie dog treatments for rebates, as follows:

Kurtz- passed, but, they are not signed up

Woodbury- 13 acres did not pass, 2018 treated ineligible for rebate. 14 acres rebated.

AHT- two towns did not pass. 166.01 acres rebated.

Lawrence- four small towns did not pass. 114 acres rebated.

Hesse- looked good. 236.83 acres rebated.

Eklund- looked good. 422.26 acres rebated.

Talking Waters- passed. 43.5 acres rebated.

Irvine- some are moving in from the neighbors. 261.83 acres rebated.

Cross H- one town needed cleaned up. 243 acres rebated.

Long- subtract 10 acres because of neighboring prairie dogs moving in. 157.2 acres rebated

Springs Ranch- with landowner concurrence on one town, 711 acres rebated.

Hepp- one town was missed and the commercial applicator should go back. 101.55 acres rebated.

GGM- subtract 10 acres because of neighboring prairie dogs moving in. 325.4 acres rebated.

Bootjack- three acre town did not qualify, 35 acres needs cleanup. 45 acres rebated.

Belus- 2017 treatments ineligible for rebate. 848 acres new treatment rebated.

Roduner- 44 acres next to BLM did not pass, one town shared with neighbor did not pass. 171.6 acre rebated.

Schmidthorst- around 50 prairie dogs in 203 acres, part of which is State lands. Board did not approve due to amount of State land and number of prairie dogs.

Harriet- Rod has not had the opportunity to due inspection of the approximate 800 acres, rebate at his discretion after inspection .

Purdy- consultation needed to verify rebated acreages.

Rod lead discussion on the issues with M&M Services with regards to paperwork and applications on Roduner, Culliton and Purdy.

Board agreed that it is a "gut feeling" for Rod to know if the application was effective and that holding rebate payment to the landowner gives them leverage with the applicator for cleanup. Nathan moved to pay rebates as presented except for 3 landowners that Rod is working with regarding M&M Services and to preapprove Harriet's rebate for what passes. Motion passed after second from Randy.

At 5:30 pm Chairman Rogers recessed the business meeting and opened the public hearing for amending the current fiscal year budget. Rod reported that he had redone the current budget. Board discussed the budget and the amount of funds that will not be collected from the mil valuation. However, with being conservative on expenses and using Unanticipated Projects revenue there is no need to pull from Emergency Reserves. Budget hearing was adjourned at 6:00 pm and Chairman Rogers reopened the regular business meeting. Tyler moved to use Unanticipated Projects revenue to cover unbudgeted expenses, not move Reserve dollars at this point and to take a closer look in May before turning in an Amended Budget.

Under new business, Rod reported that the APHIS grasshopper meeting was for those areas that were not sprayed last year and it was well attended. There is the potential for a grasshopper program east on Bootjack Ranch and neighboring properties; as well as, south on Salt Creek. Nathan moved that landowners pay \$1.00 per treated acre since the program is a continuation of last year. Motion passed unanimously after a second from Randy. Rod told the Board that their flatbeds are still being stored at his place and asked the Board if they wished to sell them or find a place here to store them; one is for a dually and the other is one that Rod made. It was agreed by general consensus to get a price on both from Bolinger and advertise for sale on the website. Rod announced that the supply chain for Roundup has been interrupted and if it can be found it will be expensive. MTR is already having issues with finding a supply. Rod gave a presentation of the 2020 Annual Summary and Board members were given the Annual Report and Cost Share.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous ballot at 6:50 pm.

