

MINUTES

January 4, 2018

JOHNSON COUNTY WEED & PEST CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD

Members Present:

Scott Lutterman
Larry Smith
Tyler Benton
Dick Gould

Others Present:

Rod Litzel, Supervisor
Katie Hepp, District Clerk

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairman Lutterman. Minutes for the December 7th meeting were approved with a motion by Larry and a second by Dick. Financial Statements for December were reviewed. Tyler moved to approve the financial statements for the general and leafy spurge funds. Dick seconded the passing motion. Payment vouchers for January were reviewed. Dick 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 Tyler.

Old Business:

Rod introduced Pake Nimick to the Board and Chairman Lutterman presented him with the "Outstanding Seasonal Employee" certificate from the council contest. Rod reported that he had research purchasing an air compressor and had found an electric one that would be a better fit for needs and was cheaper at around \$500. It was agreed by general consensus to purchase the electric air compressor. Rod reported that he had met with the City Mayor and Les Hook regarding the Mosquito program. They had a "deer in the headlights" look when they realized the magnitude of the program. They are looking into providing the labor for the program and the District keeping the paperwork and supervision of the program. Rod told them the District had the equipment available for their use. Rod lead discussion on what the District might do if the City does not take over the program. Ideas included: hire a full time "job foreman", scale back the program, use grant money for larvacide and provide to landowners, be completely done with a Mosquito program. It was agreed by general consensus to hold a landowner training on using larvacide and providing it to them, plus aerielly treat the large areas if the City does not take the Mosquito program. Rod lead discussion on seasonal employee's: the new worker protections standards have made it so that within the next 6 years the District will not be able to hire 16 and 17 year olds; there are changes being made to the certification and training required for seasonal employees; Washakie County is looking into finding someone who will be a crew lead for the Tall Larkspur program for both counties; continue providing crew shirts for the spray crews and provide them with water bottles with logo. It was agreed by general consensus to provide shirts and water bottles to crew members and withhold the cost of them until returned if they do not finish the season. Rod reported that the Council planning was moving forward with their Strategic planning and the first meeting will be held the week of January 15th. It was agreed by general consensus for Rod to be the voting delegate. Rod reported that he had received permission from Kennedy to mulch/cut Salt Cedar and Russian Olive in two bends on the Powder River and from Streeter to continue across the river from where they had done last year. Rod had bids from Titan Equipment and Rocky Mountain Equipment for equipment to accomplish the work ahead. Titan mini excavator is \$3200 per month; grapple bucket \$1680 and a skid steer \$3000. Rocky Mountain Equipment \$4000 per month for track machine with mulcher, which means they could start next week. Larry moved to use Rocky Mountain Equipment for the Salt Cedar/Russian Olive equipment. Motion passed unanimously after a second from Tyler. Rod has three guys that can work next week and will see if JB Construction's operator can run equipment for the projects. Rod reported that he had updated the Prairie Dog ZP Rebate form in order to clarify the program. It was agreed by general consensus to use the new form. Rod announced that the District needed to update their Reserve Policy and will have it written up for approval at the next meeting.

New Business:

Rod told the Board that it was time to renew/change his vehicle lease. After discussion, Larry moved to renew Rod's vehicle lease as is. Motion passed after a second from Dick. Rod reported that due to all the problems with the highway contract last year the Board should consider not renewing it and rewrite the contract to include a time frame for completing the first rotation, an incentive for completion rather than a bond or penalty for lack of completion. It was agreed by general consensus to rewrite the highway contract and bid the job. Rod reviewed the new rules signed by the Governor for the Leafy Spurge Special Management Program. Dick moved to accept the resolution and the landowner cooperater agreement as written for all Leafy Spurge cooperaters and to have this implemented within 2 years. Motion passed unanimously after a second from Tyler. Rod announced that the District needs a "release of liability" disclosure on the invoices for RUP sales. It was agreed by general consensus to accept the disclosure as written. Chairman Lutterman dismissed the Board to Executive Session at 6:10. Chairman Lutterman called the business meeting to order at 6:20 after the Executive session. Tyler moved to raise Rod's salary \$1,800 and Katie's \$2,000. Larry seconded the passing motion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous ballet at 6:45 pm. The next regular business meeting will be February 1st at 4 pm.

