

MINUTES

January 7, 2021

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

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairman Lutterman. Minutes for the December 3rd meeting were approved with a motion by Scott R. and a second by Tyler. Financial Statements for December were reviewed. Scott R. moved to approve the financial statements for the general and leafy spurge funds for December. Dick seconded the passing motion. 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.

Under old business, Rod gave an activity update. Rod reported that he has 2 operators and 3 sprayers doing Salt Cedar. They started on Streeters, are now on BLM and he met with Jean Urruty to make a plan to for mulching there next. Hope to finish Streeter and Urruty then start on Kinchen next year. The machine that they are currently using is a "beast" and leaves things clean making it easier to spray. Most of the Russian Olive is going into a slash pile because of size; but, some is being mulched. Maybe 2 to 3 weeks more with the machinery. Rod reported that he had testified before the Joint Appropriations Session. State lands was appropriated \$ 500,000 this year but when the Covid crisis hit the Weed & Pest appropriation took a major hit reducing it to \$ 350,000. Weed & Pest funding was cut while others remained the same instead of spreading the cuts out. Sentor Kinsky is fighting for the Weed & Pest funding and the hope is to have a plan at the beginning of the year of what funding they have. Rod will apply for Pesticide Registration Fee Grant. Rod reported that the accounts receivable are being paid in Dec \$369,494.18 was outstanding they are down to \$90,132.54. Rod talked to Natrona County Weed & Pest regarding the outstanding balance due back from them on grasshoppers. Supervisor Brian Connelly was embarrassed that it had not be refunded and he will pay this week. Rod talked to Cole Lambert with State Lands and he thinks that the outstanding balances for 2019 and 2020 season will be paid. Rod lead discussion on advertising the Pioneer or looking at other ways of selling it. It was agreed to see if Ultimate Outdoors would sell it and what their fee would be.

Under new business Rod lead discussion on his vehicle lease. Scott R. moved to renew Rod's vehicle lease "as is". Motion passed after a second from Tyler. Rod reminded the Board of previous discussion to bid the CD's this winter. Katie reported that she had talked with Rick Myers of FNB and he said that CD's are less than 1%. The money market accounts are at 1% and liquid at FNB. It was agreed by general consensus to leave funds where they are at. Rod read an email requesting a voting delegate for the Rules & Regulations By Law changes when they meet to approve. Dick moved to appoint Rod as voting delegate. Motion passed unanimously after a second from Scott R. Rod reported that State Lands may come up at this meeting and asked the Board for a list of priorities for State Lands funding. The Board agreed on the list of priorities: #1 LS, #2 Other SMP's, #3 Chemical, #4 EDRR.

Under other business Rod reported that he received a newsletter from the Wyoming Assoc of Special Districts and discussed the "online" training they are offering. It is free to for nonmembers and covers Principal Acts, election process, general law, contracting and personnel management. There is a quiz at the end of the training and participates receive a certificate.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous ballot at 5:20 pm.

