

Johnson County Weed & Pest Control

Minutes June 4th, 2026

Start time 5:00 PM Stop time 7:00 PM

Attendees: Scott Rogers, Board Chairman
Tyler Benton, Vice Chairman
Allen Buff, District Supervisor
Commissioner Jeff Shelly

Dick Gould
Randy Hepp

Also Present: Kristan Yalowizer, Brogan Byram, Crystal Ninas
Absent: Nathan Williams

Minutes:

- Minutes of the last meeting – May 7th, 2026 minutes were reviewed. Randy motioned to approve as written with a second by Dick. Motion passed unanimously.
- Approve financial statements – The financial statements from April were reviewed and Allen suggested that the financials be tabled until next meeting.
- Payment vouchers – No concerns over the payment vouchers were expressed. Tyler motioned to approve payment of the bills as written, Randy seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- Tom Departure: Allen informed the board that Tom had put in his two week's notice and his last day was on April 30th 2026. Allen informed the board that the job has been listed with the Weed and Pest Council and Johnson County website.
- Potential Applicants: Allen said that there has been some interest in the position but there has been no applications submitted yet. Allen suggested that when he receives 2-3 applications that the board should hold interviews as soon as possible.
- Update on Crews: Allen informed the board that the 2026 backpack crew is coming together. Last year the district had 2-3 kids all year. The 2026 season should shape up and have 5-6 crew members. The crew lead from last year will be returning.

- Office Help Hire First day: Allen reported to the board about the new hire Kristin Yalowizer, she has worked 2 days at the office now and Allen is very pleased. She will be a great summer addition. Allen feels that she will be able to fill in very well in the absence of Tom.
- Brogan Internship: Allen reported to the board that they would have an intern starting in May. Brogan Byram is studying range at the University of Wyoming. Brogan has also been working for the district for the last 4 years. He has been on the backpack crew and been the crew boss.

New Business:

- Brogan Report: Brogan Byram is the Johnson County Weed and Pest intern for the 2026 summer spray season. He reported that he had gotten NAISMA certified to help with certifying hayfields this summer. Brogan also reported that he had helped with grasshopper survey and has been helping train the new crew for the season.
- KJ Blackburn (Ventenata): Allen reported that he wanted to hire KJ Blackburn from Lovell who can survey the pine ridge in Linch from horseback. He has discussed some of the options of air and ground survey with the NRCS and Powder River Conservation District. All parties have agreed that being able to survey on the ground from horseback would be the most accurate way to survey.
- Grasshoppers: Allen reported that there is a high probability that there will be a grasshopper spray in that Northeastern part of the county. Brogan has been conducting survey along with USDA APHIS and there has been a lot of "Hot Spots" that have been found. Allen will report in the next meeting.
- Budget: Allen Reported that the budget has been submitted and that the Commissioners have reviewed the budget. The budget was accepted by the board and the County Budget Hearing is to be held on July 7th at 2:00PM.
- Decision on Office Position: The board discussed the salary at \$50,000 a year with a potential raise at 6 months to \$55,000. Dick motioned to hire Kristan Kenyon at a salary of \$50,000 with a potential \$5000 raise at 6 months, Randy second, motion carried.
- Tom Proposal:

Next Meeting:

July 9th, 2026, 5:00 pm

- There being no further discussion, Randy motioned to adjourn the meeting and Tyler second. Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted by Allen Buff, District Supervisor

Allen Buff
Tyler Bente
Randy Hoff
Nat RWM