

MINUTES
April 4, 2019

JOHNSON COUNTY WEED & PEST CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Rod Litzel, Supervisor
Katie Hepp, District Clerk
Linda Greenough, County Commissioner

Meeting was called to order at 5:10 pm by Chairman Lutterman. Minutes for the March 7th meeting were approved with a motion by Scott R. and a second by Dick. Financial Statements for March were reviewed. Dick moved to approve the financial statements for the general and leafy spurge funds. Scott R. seconded the passing motion. Scott R. 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 reported that they had attempted one day remaining to completion on the Salt Cedar for the year. However, the area had flooded and the ice from the river had landed in that bend. He hopes to complete that day this month; but, it is still weather dependent. Rod gave his report on hours for March; he had used some vacation time and has spent time mapping for grasshoppers. Rod asked the Board to declare a bank to be used for the Weed Bounty Program. Scott R. moved to declare ANB Bank as the official depository for the Weed Bounty Program and to set up a checking account for the program. Motion passed unanimously after a second from Tyler. Rod reported that he had met with Dan from Cleary regarding building ideas and cost; ideas not bids. Rod presented two different building concepts and cost. The first being 60'x96' with the height of the entire building being the same to accommodate the size of overhead garage doors needed and the space above office area would be a loft area with several options of use. This is a shell only with doors, windows and no insulation or concrete for a cost of \$88,817. The second concept is the same; but, with a split elevation. The garage area would be higher than the office area; 60'x96' shell only with doors, windows and no insulation or concrete for a cost of \$99,579. The Board discussed the reasons behind a new building; safety issues with this building with crew parking, customer access to parking lot, ease of access with trailers, current shop and storage space. Rod reported that he was working on mapping and planning for Grasshopper program and will have an idea of cost for the next meeting. It appears that the best approach will be two programs, one with APHIS and one in house. The upcoming grasshopper season projections are nowhere near that of 2010 and there is a potential for 2020 to be major if nothing is done this year. Rod reported that he had completed that Prairie dog surveys for the ZP Oats rebates with the exception of one more town to survey. Scott R. moved to pay the ZP rebate to Woodbary upon the completion of that survey. Motion passed after a second from Tyler.

Under new business, Rod reported that he had just returned from Spring Workshop. It was educational and there was some good presentations regarding public records act and the Department of Audit. Katie reported that she had attended the Office Manager Workshop; the education on Microsoft was very enlightening. Rod lead discussion on selling the tracks for the Gator; the Board agreed by general consensus to wait till fall to do anything with them. Rod presented cost for the Gehl skid steer insurance based on deductible. Deductible of \$100 = \$600 per year, \$250=\$540, \$500=\$480 and \$1000=\$360. Scott R. moved to insure the Gehl with a \$1,000 deductible. Passing motion was seconded by Tyler. Rod reported that there is a 24c label on ZP Oats for spring applications and that he had been approached by a commercial applicator regarding the rebate program. M&M Services has three landowners that he plans to do ZP applications on. He wants them to be a part of the ZP Rebate Program where they can qualify for the rebate and get the ZP oats at no cost. Rod lead discussion on the use of ZP oats in the spring being a poor investment with no guarantee that it will work. It was agreed by general consensus that the landowner pays the entire bill for everything with the commercial applicator, same protocol will be used as in the fall for surveying and it will be at the discretion as to reimbursement for ZP oats and the payment of the rebate.

Under other business Commissioner Greenough announced that the County Commissioners will be holding Special District training on April 10th at 11:30 am and encouraged Board members to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous ballot at 6:20 pm for the Virtual Tour. The next regular business meeting will be May 2nd at 5:00 pm.

