

Johnson County Weed & Pest Control

MINUTES

January 4, 2023

Start time; 4:03pm Stop time; 5:37pm

Next meeting; Feb 8th at 4:00pm

Attendees: Scott Rogers, Board Chairman
Tyler Benton, Vice Chairman
Thane Zickefoose, District Supervisor
Allen Buff, Assistant Supervisor
Valerie Spanos, Spanos Administrative Services
Bob Perry, Johnson County Commissioner

Dick Gould
Nathan Williams

Absent Board Member: Randy Hepp

- Minutes of the last meeting – Tyler moved to approve the minutes of the December meeting, with a second by Dick. Motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of financial statements- Valerie gave an overview of the financial statements for the month for each company, as well as the budget to actual statement. Nathan moved to approve the statements with a second by Tyler. Motion carried.
- Payment vouchers – The board discussed the Salt Cedar/Russian Olive project. Dick moved to approve the vouchers as presented with a second by Nathan. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Accts receivable report was reviewed.
- Activity Report – Thane reported that with using private contractors, the SC projects went more quickly than in previous years. Weed Slayer is 66% of the total project budget. The work appears to be good, and Thane will report on efficiency. The Sahara Ditch project is also doing well and the budget has been met. 307 Spraying led this project. The internal crew was slower to start because the private contractors were renting the only available cutter. Once the contractors had completed their portion of the projects and the equipment was available for rent, the JCWP crew was able to make good progress. A discussion was held on employee recruitment challenges, and on ways to make the budget dollars stretch. Scott suggested a special meeting with subcontractors, both ground applicators and aerial applicators to answer questions and concerns after the changes implemented this season. There will also be changes implemented to improve inventory control. One question to be addressed was whether a subcontractor can use the equipment available to the public. The meeting will be held after the first of March.
- Salt Cedar - Wiley's Weed and Pest conducted the project near the High School with positive public comments.
- Prairie Dog Update/poison storage/Conex box estimate – Allen reported on the need to increase chemical storage space. He obtained an estimate for a Conex container and gave an overview on how it will be used and where it will be placed.

- Signers/Bonded – Tyler is planning on becoming bonded by the next meeting. All other checking account signers have completed the bonding process.
- Garage Door Replacement project – An estimate for door replacement was circulated and discussed. The board asked for another bid but agreed to take the best quality doors. An estimate to paint the office was also circulated. The board would like to wait to consider this until the door replacement project is settled.
- Closing Chase card/Opening Chase card – This item was tabled.

New Business:

- Spring Workshop Update - Thane announced the dates of Spring workshop as March 26th-28th. It will be held at the Hampton Inn in Buffalo, using their conference room. A social event will be held at Bonds Brewery, for which a sponsor has been found. Thane and Allen are trying to encourage other chemical vendors to co-sponsor other expenses. The State Weed and Pest Council does have a budget and will cover some of the costs as well. An ATV safety training, that could be opened to the public in light of recent local fatalities, is being considered.
- Discussion of fuel cards. A brief discussion was held on the Wex Fuel card which is no longer used. The board recommended cancellation of the account.
- Clerk Position Candidate – The applicant interviewed recently was discussed and it was decided to offer her a position at \$21 per hour for 40 hours per week, \$500 per month insurance stipend, with a six-month probationary period. An employment contract will begin on July 1st. Nathan moved to offer her this position with a second by Tyler. Motion carried. The position was advertised at \$18-24 per hour. She will be starting at \$21 due to her experience and knowledge of Quickbooks.
 - Bob suggested that the County's health insurance be explored. JCWP qualifies for inclusion, and it could be less expensive than the \$500/month stipend.
- F450 discussion - Allen indicated that the F450 is becoming expensive to repair. It is a gas engine. It is no longer needed by County Personnel. The board discussed the advertising requirements. Thane and Allen will come to the next meeting with more information on its current value.

Next Meeting:

February 8th, 2024 4:00PM