

## MINUTES

December 3, 2020

### JOHNSON COUNTY WEED & PEST CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD

#### Members Present:

Scott Lutterman, 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 November 5th meeting were approved with a motion by Dick and a second by Tyler. Financial Statements for November were reviewed. Tyler moved to approve the financial statements for the general and leafy spurge funds for November. Nathan 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 Nathan.

Under old business, Rod gave an activity update. Rod has used some of his vacation time, planning Salt Cedar and working on mapping. Katie reported that she spent a lot of time on scanning documents for the auditor. Rod reported that he has a crew lined up for next week to start Salt Cedar. Rod presented the two estimates for equipment for Salt Cedar. Rocky Mountain Equipment: \$ 7,500 per month for Takeuchi TL 12 high flow track loader, turbo saw attachment, forestry mower mulch attachment and extension arm attachment, optional second track loader for \$ 2,750 per month and fuel tank for \$ 200 per month. All equipment available Dec 7<sup>th</sup>. Timberline: Bobcat E85 Midi Excavator w/mulching attachment \$ 6,000 per month. If estimate is accepted equipment will be available in 15 days. Rod lead discussion on the terms and conditions of each estimate. Nathan moved to except the estimate for Rocky Mountain Equipment and to rent the fuel tank. Motion passed after a second from Dick. Rod reported that he has a \$30,000 grant with a \$43,000 match. Crews will start on Streeter who has a budget amount and then there is BLM, Urruty and Kinchen. There is some State land; however, there is not funding for it. Rod reported that he had sent the Board letter to Airtime Aerial regarding the overpayment. When he contacted Kevin Hefly he said that he had not received a letter, Rod emailed the letter, spent hours on the phone discussing the matter with him. They believe they are owed for chemical and Rod went over the inventory in question. Rod asked that Airtime email a response to the Board before the meeting and he read the email to the Board. Rod reported that the final program cost for grasshoppers was \$ 1,365,194.98 the landowners share was \$ 530,695.58. It is worth noting that the how the landowners stepped up to be a part of the program. APHIS will have a grasshopper meeting this winter because there was a corridor not treated that showed high numbers.

Under new business Katie reported that her insurance rate had changed. It was agreed by general consensus to pay the new rate and allow Katie to put the balance into her deferred comp. Rod lead discussion on the DOT contract. The allocation will not be going up. This year the cost was \$30,368.67 which should get covered; but, may not. Rod presented the idea of keeping it "in house" instead of rebidding it to commercial contractors. It has been an on going challenge to get a satisfactory job from the contractors, Spotted Knapweed is spreading due to the lack of being able to ID it and Rod spends a lot of time managing the crew for the contractor. The biggest issue with keeping it "in house" would be safety; however, it would work very well to incorporate it into the county road program and manage the same way. The canyon would be the biggest issue and would have to be done differently. The Board agreed by general consensus to designating the County Road Crew as the ROW Crew and the 3 person crew would do county roads and highways. Rod asked the Board if they would offer an additional benefit of \$ 500 toward insurance to the ROW Crew Boss, Rick. Nathan moved to give an additional benefit of \$500 monthly toward insurance to Rick starting January 1<sup>st</sup>. Motion passed unanimously after a second from Tyler.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous ballot at 5:30 pm.

