

## MINUTES

June 3, 2021

### JOHNSON COUNTY WEED & PEST CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD

#### Members Present:

Scott Rogers, Chairman  
Dick Gould  
Tyler Benton  
Randy Hepp

#### Others Present:

Rod Litzel, Supervisor  
Katie Hepp, District Clerk

Meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by Chairman Rogers. Minutes for the May 6th meeting were approved with a motion by Tyler and a second by Randy. Financial Statements for May were reviewed. Tyler moved to approve the financial statements for the general and leafy spurge funds for May. Randy 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 a report on accounts receivable, total outstanding to date is \$ 4,722.08. The outstanding bills are for current rodenticides, some 2020 grasshopper, one 2019 grasshopper payment and a couple of customer orders. Rod gave an activity report. Rod gave a training at Kaycee for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders which was interesting. Commercial and ATV crews started on May 18<sup>th</sup> on Powder River spraying mainly Whitetop. The Backpack crew started on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> started South on Crazy Woman. One member is really good, one with potential, one struggling and one started today. The crew lead will start on Tuesday, he has experience with managing a crew; but, doesn't have any spray experience. The road crew started yesterday on hwy 16 with two people and hopefully a third one will start shortly. Frontier Helicopters started today with Mark, Jim is not here yet. Rod told Frontier that he didn't have anything at this time for the second helicopter. Reno Air should start on Monday. Helicopter work may have to be deferred to fall because of the weather. Rod reported that there is a delay with getting the Eco Paks; the Distributor had CoVid and there were some compatibility issues with the mix that Rod wanted to use. Rod should know something by the end of the week and MTR is willing to give the District a break on the cost. Rod reported that he had looked into prices on the flatbeds that the District owns. Rod suggested they keep the one that fits a dually in case they traded the dually pickup they could keep the box off it which works great for chemical transportation. Rod checked with Bolinger, Inc regarding the value of the other flatbed. They currently have two similar ones priced at \$500 each that they are having trouble selling. The Board decided not to make a decision at this time. Rod reported that he had turned the budget into the Department of Audit and the County Commissioners. The Department of Audit had no issues with the budget and Rod has a meeting with the County Commissioners on June 8<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Chairman Rogers will attend with Rod. Crook County Weed & Pest Supervisor, Andrew, offered to do a drone tour of the Salt Cedar project for that the Board in the field. The Board agreed by general consensus to do this before the Budget hearing on July 8<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm and to hold the budget hearing at Kaycee at 7 pm. Rod reported on the commercial crews. Sage Vegetation Management, Paul, comes over on weekends from Lander; 307 Spraying, Sam; Wylee's Weed and Pest Control; and Weston Weed Control. Rod reported that he has not seen any new hatches of grasshoppers just some over wintering ones. APHIS has done some surveys and found a couple 1 counts of 1<sup>st</sup> Instar. Grasshoppers are just starting to hatch over in the basin so next week things could happen in the county. APHIS spots on the radar should be the only problem areas.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous ballot at 5:50 pm.

