

MINUTES
June 6, 2019

JOHNSON COUNTY WEED & PEST CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD

Members Present:

Scott Rogers, Vice Chairman
Dick Gould
Nathan Williams

Others Present:

Rod Litzel, Supervisor
Katie Hepp, District Clerk

Meeting was called to order at 5:10 pm by Vice Chairman Rogers. Minutes for the May 2nd meeting were approved with a motion by Dick and a second by Nathan. Financial Statements for May were reviewed. Nathan moved to approve the financial statements for the general and leafy spurge funds. Dick seconded the passing motion. Nathan 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 Dick.

Under old business, Rod reported that the crews had started the week after Memorial weekend, was hard to get around and now everyone is scrambling. He has hired a 3 girl crew that will be on county roads and will pull them to do other jobs. The backpack crew of 4 guys with Tanner as the crew lead and 2 guy ATV crew for this year. The helicopter started on Leafy Spurge on Saturday. Weston Weed Control started this week with a 3 guy ATV crew. Have an aerial project on the Bar C that will just take a couple of hours; plan is to do that asap. Rod reported on his time for May. Rod told the Board that the weed pull day for the Weed Bounty Program will be on Saturday, June 8th and that one church had already pulled part of a trail one day. Rod reported that the grasshoppers are now hatching and counts of 15 to 30+ were found on the Hat Ranch by APHIS, some 15 to 20 counts have been reported on the River. Looks like there will be some areas that are going to have to be sprayed and he is working closely with APHIS. Rod reported that he had looked at a building site with Commissioner Perry at the fairgrounds and it is a very nice area. The Commissioners are fine with either the airport or the fairgrounds. Board discussed the concern with views of the public and by general consensus decided to hold an open house after the budget hearing. At 5:45 pm Vice Chairman recessed the business meeting and opened the public hearing for amending the current fiscal year budget. Rod lead discussion on the current budget shortages it first appeared that the general budget will be \$320,000 short and now it will be \$400,000; the leafy spurge budget will be \$200,000. Board discussed the budget and the amount of funds that will not be collected from the mil valuation. Budget hearing was adjourned at 6:15 pm and Vice Chairman Rogers reopened the regular business meeting. Dick moved to amend the budget for fiscal year 2018/2019 the general budget transfer \$400,000 from reserves and the Leafy Spurge budget transfer \$200,000 from reserves. Motion passed unanimously after a second from Nathan. The Board discussed the proposed budget for fiscal year 2019/2020. Rod budgeted \$300,000 for "unanticipated programs" and \$60,000 from reserves to balance the general budget. Leafy Spurge budget will balance without the use of reserves by requesting a full mil. Rod is scheduled to meet with the County Commissioners on June 11th at 11 am regarding the proposed budget. Rod asked the Board to set the budget hearing. It was agreed by general consensus to schedule the budget hearing on July 11th at 5 pm and hold the open house from 5:30 to 6:30.

Under new business, Rod reported that he has been invited to attend a meeting on Monday, June 10th with the Joint Ag at Sheridan. The meeting will be primarily regarding invasive grasses but also all invasive species.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous ballot at 6:45 pm. The next regular business meeting will be the Fiscal Year End meeting June 28th at 10:30 am.

