

Stillwater Weed Management District
Special Meeting
Oct 14, 2015

Approved 11-12-15

Present: Al Nordahl
Harold Riensche
Eric Lowell
Carl Thompson
Bob Kirch
Will Patterson
Commissioner Shupak

Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 11:00am.

Minutes from Previous Meeting (8-12-2015) were reviewed. The minutes were approved; a motion was made by Harold, seconded by Bob, all in favor.

Will Introduced Rob Love, seasonal employee, to the Board. Rob gave a quick introduction and talk about his time working with the district.

MDT

- Will reported that he and Rob met with Rand Roth, MDT Section Chief, to discuss Stillwater County Weed District taking over the treatment of Noxious weeds on the State Highway Right of Way. Will stated that it was a good discussion and that it looks very favorable at the current time. The meeting was adjourned with the state asking for an official letter from the county and some cost estimates.

Northwestern Energy

- Will presented a letter from Northwestern Energy in reference to the new power line that is going from the substation north of Columbus to Reed Point in the year of 2016 then to Nye in 2017. The letter outlined the vegetation management plan for the project and was requesting the Board Chairman's signature as approved as stated. Harold made a motion to accept and sign the letter, Bob 2nd motion, motion was approved all in favor.

Grants

- 2015 \$7500 Special County Set-a-Side Grant, final status report submitted and approved, 2016 grant submitted, \$3750 going to wages for seasonal employee and \$3750 going for equipment
- 2014 Two rives Gant submitted for final approval and reimbursement, waiting to hear on.
- 2015 Two Rivers and Fishtail Grants, in the process of submitting, waiting on a few more documents to submit.

- A discussion for 2017 grant, Toad Flax in the north part of the county. Board directed Will to start working some landowners in the infested areas to get a grass roots meeting started.
- Continue Two Rivers Grant for 2016, Harold motioned, Bob 2nd , motion carried
- Continue Fishtail Gant for 2016, Bob motioned, Eric 2nd, motion carried. Work with producers and explain their responsibilities with the grant try to get more landowners.

Fall Meetings

- Will presented his report on the Northwest Association Meeting, Will is now the President – Elect of that association. Good meeting in BC, long drive and busy meeting. Fall managers meeting to be held in Lewistown Oct 20- 22. New Coordinators Meeting Nov 4-6 to be held in Helena.

MOU with the Town of Columbus

- Will presented that he had a meeting with Dennis Holten, Pubic Works Director Town of Columbus. Will presented a working draft, MOU, to him in reference the responsibilities of each department concerning the control of noxious weeds in the town of Columbus. Will reported that he thinks throughout the winter and a few more meetings that an agreement should be reached.

Updates

- Board was presented a letter the Commissioners received from the Sherriff in reference to an invoice from the Weed District for weed control at the Search and Rescue Shop.
- Will reported that he is working with the County Attorney's office re-writing the Non-Compliance letters and getting them approved by the state.
- The board inquired about getting a new helicopter contractor for next year's aerial application. Will reported that there are only two rotary wing applicators in the state, but he can look into locating more.

Next meeting will be November 11, 2015 at 200pm at the Weed District office.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20pm.