

Stillwater Weed Management District
Regular Meeting
August 23, 2017
1:00 PM
Weed District Office

Approved Meeting Minutes

Present: Harold Riensche
Al Nordahl
Bob Kirch
Eric Lowell
Carl Thompson
Lee Schmelzer- Extension
Mark Crago- Commissioner
Maureen Davey- Commissioner
Dana Weatherford

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm.

Minutes from previous meeting: Dana read the minutes from the previous meeting. Minutes approved as read. Motion carried.

Preliminary Budget Discussion: Dana attended the all-departments budget hearing on August 8th at the courthouse. The county is in a preliminary budget phase and on September 12th is the final publication date of the budgets for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Dana presented the budget to board to see if changes needed to be made. Harold inquired about what line item does the \$40,000 that we requested to be taken out of the overall 2016-2017 budget appear under. The board is in the understanding there should be \$50,000 in our savings. Dana will inquire with Joe Morse about the line items and current amount in savings so we are in full understanding. Dana will report back to the board.

Weed Management Plan Updates: Commissioner Davey questioned the changes made from the 2015 WMP and the 2017 WMP. After reading the three differences in the two plans (See WMP plans for more information). The board voted unanimously to revert back to the 2015 WMP regarding those 3 differences. Dana will make the changes and will take the plan back to the commission for approval. The SCWD needs to have a current WMP filed with the Department of Ag in order to apply for grants. The process will start immediately.

Agency Update:

- **MDOT**
 - Renewed contract on July 1, 2017-July 1, 2018 for \$20,000.
 - \$13,877.20 spent for 2017-2018 fiscal year thus far.
 - All highways completed except Hwy 306.
- **MRL**
 - Current contract for \$5000.00.

- **FWP**
 - 11/12 fishing accesses completed
- **Solid Waste Sites**
 - All 7 sites completed.
 - Old landfill will need fall treatment.
- **Commercial Applicators**
 - **Area 1 (AEI)**
 - Completed at 93 hours.
 - **Area 2 (RRRS)**
 - Completed at 61 hours.
 - **Area 3 (Range Rider)**
 - Completed at 130.45 hours
 - **Area 4 (Bob)**
 - Completed at 118.5 hours
- **Road & Bridge**
 - All gravel pits completed.
- **Other**
 - DNRC- shooting range outside of town treated for noxious weeds.
 - Absorkee Sewer pond treated.

Temporary Assistant Discussion: Dana inquired about the hiring process for next spring for a seasonal assistant. The position needs to be opened to the public. Dana will start putting together job requirements for the seasonal position. The season assistant will be required to have their applicators license or willing to obtain their applicators license in order to spray in Stillwater County.

Update on Weed Department Facilities: Contact was made with Ron Olson who owns the Old Timber Weld Building for renting a space in the building. Dana and Al toured the building on August 8, 2017. Dana provided pictures for the board to see what the potential space would look like. There needs to be some renovating on the building if the Weed District would move to that location. A bathroom and a boundary fence inside the building would need to be added to the rental space for operation. A cost has not been set for renting the space. Mark Crago still needs to speak with Alice Nordahl. The weed board overall would like to see a new building built. The Road & Bridge submitted an estimate for \$7637.00 to replace the garage doors, add insulation and heat. No further action will be taken from the Weed Department. The garage will be getting new garage doors in mid-September those funds will be taken out of the Road Department budget.

Coordinator Report: The Two Rivers Grant has been completed. Dana showed the pictures that Nigel had sent in his report. An invoice has been mailed and enroute to the Weed District. The maximum budget was \$3000.00. Next year the SCWD will apply for another river grant. The Fishtail Grant may qualify for an extension due to fire restrictions. \$8998.69 still remains in the grant. The plan is to apply for a grant in the Beaver Creek and Shane Ridge Road area to focus on the high sulfur cinquefoil infestations. There is consideration for a grant in the northern part of the county. Dana will be attending the MWCA Annual Fall Conference on October 10-12 in Butte. The next weed board meeting is scheduled for September 27th at 1:00 PM at the SCWD office.

Harold motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bob seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:49 pm.