



BROWN COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 11:30 AM

25 Market St. Suite 2, Aberdeen, SD 57401

Weed & Pest Shop – 10 S. Congress St., Aberdeen, SD

605-626-7145 ~ 605-216-1133

Present: Duane Jark, Drew Dennert, Dennis Feickert, Tyler Bierman

Absent: Troy Knecht

Duane Jark called the meeting to order.

Drew Dennert motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Tyler Bierman, motion carried.

Dennis Feickert motioned to approve the September minutes, seconded by Tyler Bierman, motion carried.

Drew Dennert motioned to approve the bills, seconded by Dennis Feickert, motion carried

Old Business:

none

New Business:

Weed & Pest Department Monthly Update:

Toadflax Update – we continue to find small patches of toadflax throughout the county and are spraying them as they pop up to prevent further spreading. For the last 2 years, we've used grant money to purchase mecinus janthinus weevils for biological control, but that's only been in one spot. Chris Hemen is considering changing the grant request for 2025 to include the cost of chemical, equipment, and labor on spraying toadflax since several of these areas are on state and township roads.

Chemical Inventory and Budget

We did our fall order for chemical to get us through the first part of 2025, however, we are going through our inventory a lot faster than usual because there seems to be a lot more thistle in the ditches. We still have about 1/3 of our county ROW to spray this fall, plus a couple townships if the recent frost hasn't killed everything. We also need to order new uniforms before we spray next year. The price of apparel has gone up significantly so we may have to put that on 2025's expenses. Hemen is hoping he can finish the year out without having to supplement his budget. We also discussed the possible need to replace one of the spray trucks in the next couple of years. The rigs are well maintained and still work fine, but the maintenance costs keep going up and the fleet keeps aging.

Fall Spraying

We have sprayed for 6 townships this fall and will try to get 2 more done before the season is up. We also have a couple privates we need to do, and a couple jobs for the city. Looking at November 1st or November 15th for our last day in the shop.

Other Matters

none

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19th, at 11:30AM at the Weed & Pest conference room in the basement of the courthouse.

Dennis Feickert motioned to adjourn, seconded by Tyler Bierman, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CHemen".

Chris Hemen

Brown County Weed & Pest Supervisor