MINUTES OF THE SD WEED & PEST CONTROL COMMISSION
April 9, 2014 – 1:00 pm CDT
Governor's Inn, 700 West Sioux Ave., Pierre, SD

Lynn Deibert called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM, April 9, 2014.

Members Present: Chairman Deibert, Commissioners Ron Thyen, Floyd Muntefering, Winfred Bauer, Dale Patterson, Association of County Commissioners representative Ronald Boone and Commission Secretary Brenda Sievers.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Dept. of Ag representative Kevin Fridley and SDSU representative Darrell Deneke.

Also present were those listed on Exhibit #1.

Ron Boone made a motion to approve the agenda (Exhibit #2). Seconded by Winfred Bauer. Motion carried.

Chairman Deibert asked for any changes to the minutes of the February 19 meeting. A motion was made by Dale Patterson to approve the minutes. Seconded by Floyd Muntefering. Motion carried.

Activity Reports

Department of Agriculture
Darwin Kurtenbach felt we had a good Weed & Pest Conference. Other staff will do reports.

Ron Moehring reported that two weed supervisors have retired since the February meeting – Tom Sterkel in Bennett County and Roger Walker in Walworth County. There are currently 38 full time weed supervisors. 15 of those are strictly for weeds. 23 supervisors have other duties. 18 are part time. 7 counties have no supervisor and 3 counties have other arrangements. He also reported on a monitoring survey that is being planning for bio-control.

Dale Anderson reported on the pest surveys that they are planning to do this year that will include Karnel Bunt, alfalfa weevil, Pine Shoot beetle, Japanese beetle, a weed survey and a survey on sunflowers and sorghum in the central part of the state.

APHIS
Ron Moehring reported for Bruce Helbig who was unable to attend the meeting. Bruce is assigned both Nebraska and South Dakota. They have a new person hired for the Emerald Ash Borer position in Brookings. Also, the Mountain Pine Beetle was discussed.

District Reports
Winfred Bauer – At Large – Winfred reported the blizzard last fall has affected many, but the winter wasn't as severe. They have good moisture and the dams are full.

Floyd Muntefering – District 2 – Floyd reported that he has a lot of CRP acres in his area. The grass got ahead of the thistles, making it difficult to notice the thistles early. They had a lot of thistles get away because of this.

Dale Patterson – District 4 – Dale reported that the Mountain Pine Beetles are still a big concern and even with the cold winter, the larvae have survived. One good thing is the moisture that they've had which even 7 feet down, there is still moisture. They are currently 15-20 heat unit days behind, which is causing concern. Right now the crops and spring planting will be the first thing on the list to do and weeds will be last, so that could be a problem.

Lynn Deibert – District 3 – Lynn reported that the snow is gone, but they have an increase in Yellow Toadflax along roads probably with hay movement. Next week there might be some in his area trying to farm.

Ron Thyen – District 1 – Ron reported that things are going good. Rural water is asking people to turn the water on and let it run to prevent freezing lines, but there is frost 6 foot down. Last fall was dry so pastures didn't get sprayed for Wormwood, but this spring they should get sprayed.

Association of County Commissioners
Ron Boone reported that lack of dollars is the biggest issue. He wonders how we convince people that a weed program is important. There have been some problems with counties funding their programs.

Department of Agriculture
Kevin Fridley explained about the lack of a hearing for Russian Olive. Secretary Lucas Lentsch preferred that we manage control rather than listing it as a noxious weed. Waterways could be controlled in other ways, such as working with people in those areas. He would like to see control management plans. Kevin explained the rules process and since the Secretary of Agriculture didn't advance the rules, then they couldn't proceed.

SDSU
Darrell Deneke reported that process for finding a Weed Specialist has changed. They did away with the PHD requirement. They have made the position an Associate Position, Agronomy Weeds. Paul Johnson has been hired for a 3 year contract. Darrell will maintain the noxious weed work and will still be helping on the Commission. They have hired a student to help with the Weed Book and will be getting started on that project. Darrell showed a copy of a new book from Montana, Weed Seedling ID Guide and was looking for comments from the Commission on things they liked or disliked about it. Darrell said they are planning to maintain field plots like they have done in the past.

SDARL – Lynn Deibert gave a short report on his trip to Chili, which is why he was unable to attend the February meeting.

Old Business – None.

New Business

Long Range Objectives
Darwin Kurtenbach presented the Long Range Objectives. A motion was made by Dale Patterson to accept the Long Range Objectives. Seconded by Ron Thyen. Motion carried.

Annual Work Plan
Darwin Kurtenbach discussed the Annual Work Plan. He talked about the calendar and meeting dates. A motion was made by Floyd Muntefering to accept the Annual Work Plan. Seconded by Dale Patterson. Motion carried.

2014 Conference Update
Gary Pribyl gave a report on the conference that was held in Aberdeen. There were 160 pre-registered, with 175 attending the conference. The Commission thanked Gary for his hard work.

Elections
Chairman Deibert turned the meeting over to Gary Pribyl for elections. A motion was made by Ron Thyen and seconded by Dale Patterson to nominate Lynn Deibert for Chairman. A motion was made by Winfred Bauer that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. Seconded by Floyd Muntefering. Motion carried, the Chairman will be Lynn Deibert.

Gary Pribyl turned the meeting back over to Chairman Deibert for the Vice-Chairman election. Dale Patterson stated that he wouldn't be able to serve again, since his term will be up on the Commission. A motion was made by Dale Patterson to nominate Floyd Muntefering. A motion was made by Ron Thyen that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. Seconded by Ron Boone. Motion carried, the Vice-Chairman will be Floyd Muntefering.

SISMA Letter
Lynn Deibert read a letter received from Scott Guffey of SISMA, which expressed concern regarding two of their grants that weren't funded and was looking for the Commission to establish a rubric system so each grant could be considered fairly and on its merits. Dale Patterson stated he felt we got value for the dollars spent with the grants. If we go to a points system, then you could plug it into a computer and you would take the Commission out of it. The dollars weren't wasted, since they still went to the counties. The Commission felt that the current way of having a Committee looking at the grants was working well. Also, most other grants don't give an explanation when they aren't funded – they are either funded or they aren't. A letter will be drafted and sent to SISMA.

Approval of Bills
A motion was made by Ron Thyen and seconded by Winfred Bauer to pay the meeting expenses, salary and per diem for this meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Floyd Muntefering, seconded by Dale Patterson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Brenda Sievers
Commission Secretary

Lynn Deibert, Commission Chairman
(Approved Minutes)