

**MINUTES OF THE SD WEED & PEST CONTROL COMMISSION**  
**Wednesday, September 11, 2013**  
**SDSU Regional Extension Center Library**  
**Sioux Falls, SD**

Chairman Lynn Deibert called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM, September 11, 2013. Present were Chairman Deibert and Commissioners Ron Thyen, Floyd Muntefering, Vice-Chairman Dale Patterson, SD Department of Agriculture representative Kevin Fridley; Game Fish & Parks representative Paul Coughlin; SD Department of Transportation representative Jason Humphrey; SDSU representative Darrell Deneke, Association of County Commissioners representative Ronald Boone; and Commission Secretary Brenda Sievers. (Exhibit #1)

Ron Thyen made a motion, seconded by Jason Humphrey, to approve the agenda (Exhibit #2) as presented. Motion carried.

The minutes of the April 11, 2013, meeting was presented. Floyd Muntefering made a motion, seconded by Ron Boone to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2013, meeting. Motion carried.

**ACTIVITY REPORTS**

**Weed & Pest Coordinator – Darwin W. Kurtenbach**

Darwin introduced Jim Konechne. He has taken the position of Ag Inspector in Rapid City and will be assisting with weed projects there. Jim replaces Dan Dvorak, who left in April.

**Weed & Pest Supervisor – Ron Moehring**

Ron reported that the poisonous Viper's Bugloss, also known as Devil Weed, has been reported in the state. This is the second report in South Dakota of the former ornamental that is located in an area of about 5 acres in a pasture. The Department has had a lot of complaints on Musk and Canada Thistle this year, with many complaints going to the Governor's Office. There are more counties looking at contracting their ROW spraying out, but those that have are now telling him that they miss the ability to spray the small spots. There is a lot of hay moving again this year. There aren't as many gall flies this year in western South Dakota, but Ron Thyen commented there are still some in the NE part of the state. Ron reported on the Oberea bio-control tent program for Leafy Spurge. Tents were put out to see if the Oberea survived the winter and in one tent they did. But we are finding them in other areas as well. Ron discussed the seed head weevil and that it only can be moved within the state, but cannot cross the state line.

**District 1 – Ron Thyen**

Ron reported that they started off the year with a bad calving season. There was a lot a Wormwood Sage that didn't get taken care of this year. They had a bad wind storm on June 17, but not much rain since. It appears that waterhemp is becoming Round Up resistant in his area. But overall, conditions are really dry.

**District 3 – Lynn Deibert**

Lynn reported that they had a wet spring, but now they are really dry, with the exception of 3 inches of rain a week ago. Canada Thistle has exploded. They have seen kochia and waterhemp escapes in soybeans. Most people have cut their silage already.

**District 4 – Dale Patterson**

Dale reported that the Mountain Pine Beetle is a large concern in his area mainly because of tourism and the fire danger that comes because of the Beetle. There was very little control done last year with Canada Thistle. There are a lot of different weeds showing up in the ROW such as sandburs. These came from a local gravel pit and were then spread along the gravel roads.

### **District 2 – Floyd Muntefering**

Floyd reported that conditions last year in his area were very dry. This year they had a lot of rain and dugouts are now filled. Things are looking good and the CRP is getting sprayed.

### **SD Association of County Commissioners – Ronald Boone**

Ron stated the weed complaints are not coming through the Association of County Commissioners. He questions the motive behind contract spraying because costs can be higher to the counties and blanket spraying would need to be done.

### **SD Department of Transportation – Jason Humphrey**

This last fiscal year, DOT spent \$517,000 spraying noxious weeds in their own ROW's by their personnel. They spent \$588,000 on Contract Spraying for the ROW's. Contracts are about normal this year. They are still trying to figure out the labeling issues with Milestone. Jason answered questions about timing for cutting ROW's. July 10<sup>th</sup> is the date East River and West River can cut anytime, for the most part. They can give tickets if the ROW's are cut too early. The State does the top cut for safety purposes. Ron Boone recommended that they put out a notice regarding why the DOW requires a permit for mowing on the Interstate.

### **SD Game Fish & Parks – Paul Coughlin**

Paul talked about noxious weeds going crazy this year. GF&P isn't getting direct calls on complaints. Most seem to be going to the Governor's Office. One third to one half of GF&P lands are contracted out for control. Response time isn't always the best with the contractors and it is low bid gets the contract. They have crews located in Sioux Falls, Aberdeen and Watertown. Discussion was held on the difference between US Fish & Wildlife property and GF&P lands.

### **Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) Update – Dale Anderson**

Dale reported on surveys in progress. Karnel bunt sampling was later due to a later wheat harvest. They are working on the small grain (wheat) survey, Japanese beetle, cereal leaf beetle, kapra beetle, and Gypsy moth. The gypsy moth survey has taken some large budget cuts. The Japanese beetle is more widely spread than originally thought. Bruce Helbig stated that he thinks it is disturbing that there are so many Japanese beetles found. They are an ornamental pest, but can be tough on row crops by feeding on soybeans and corn silks. There have been quite a few found west river, which leads them to believe they are hitchhiking on vehicles.

### **SDSU – Darrell Deneke**

Darrell stated that glyphosate isn't working as well this year, in particular with kochia and waterhemp. There is a resistance issue with common ragweed. Wider crop rotation would help with this problem. They are planning to interview soon for the weed specialist position. The new SD Noxious Weed Pocket Guide is done. The South Dakota Weed Book is on hold until a new person is hired, but they do have a tech person to help with the writing and drawings.

### **Alfalfa Weevil Survey –Mike Stenson**

Mike talked about the work that has been done with the Alfalfa Weevil Survey. They have collected larva and brought them back to the office for analysis. In some cases they are finding large numbers of the parasitoid when there are large numbers of weevils. In some situations they do work. He is planning a full presentation at the Weed and Pest Conference.

### **APHIS – Bruce Helbig**

Bruce gave a grasshopper update. The 2012 drought may have brought on a grasshopper decline. 2013 has been a light year for the grasshoppers and they don't expect any wide scale outbreaks for 2014.

## **SD Department of Agriculture – Kevin Fridley**

Kevin reported that Secretary Lucas Lentsch has appointed a Deputy Secretary of Ag, Trudy Wastweet.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Dakotafest Update**

Ron Moehring reported that it was quite hot for the show. There were many good questions, but he felt that the attendance in the tents wasn't that great just because of the heat.

#### **Brown County Fair Update**

Mike Stenson reported there was a lot more interest in Milestone and Perspective this year for noxious weed control.

#### **State Fair Update**

Darrell Deneke reported that there were good comments on the weeds in the pots. The hard copy publications were popular. Plant pathology had an insect display within the booth this year that went well. Gary Pribyl talked about the attendance at all the shows and discussion was held about keeping a presence at them.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CAPS 2014 Project Proposals**

Dale reported that they are at one quarter funding on the gypsy moth program. They plan to trap along I-90. For next year, he is planning a sunflower and grain sorghum survey. For bio-control, Mike is planning the alfalfa weevil survey for organic growers. The alfalfa weevil bio-control survey will be a long term monitoring project.

#### **Hyde County Weed Board – Mikka Pechacek**

Mikka updated the Commission on their current competitive grant. They are currently offering up to \$500 for a cost share for control of wormwood sage. They are having a hard time getting landowners to sign up for the program. They would like to change the amount reimbursable for each landowner up to \$1000. Motion was made by Paul Coughlin, seconded by Dale Patterson, to accept Hyde County's proposal to go to \$1000 per landowner. A lengthy discussion was held. Ron Thyen called the question, seconded by Jason Humphrey. A vote was held. All members voted yes to allow amending the grant. Motion carried.

#### **Pennington County – Request to Remove Mountain Pine Beetle from County List**

Pennington County sent a request to the Weed & Pest Commission requesting the removal of Mountain Pine Beetle from Pennington County's list of locally noxious weeds. It was set to expire on December 31, 2014. Since the Mountain Pine Beetle had been declared a nuisance in Pennington County, the decision on the Weed Board was that it is duplication for control. A motion was made by Dale Patterson, seconded by Floyd Muntefering, to allow Pennington County to remove Mountain Pine Beetle from their county's locally noxious listing effective immediately. Motion carried.

#### **2013 Weed & Pest District Meetings & 2014 Weed & Pest Conference**

Gary Pribyl shared the dates and locations of the 2013 District Meetings.

District 1 - Nov. 4 – Stratford

District 4 - Nov. 6 – Rapid City – Outdoor Learning Center

District 3 - Nov. 7 – Pierre

District 2 - Nov. 8 – Mitchell

The Weed & Pest Conference will be held in Aberdeen on February 19, 20 & 21, 2014. Darwin talked about a change that he is looking to make. He is thinking of having the Commission Meeting in the morning on Wednesday, February 19, and having Supervisor's Training in the afternoon on February 19.

### **Weed & Pest Grant Criteria / Proposals**

Kevin Fridley gave an overview of the fund balances, explaining that we have product registrations coming in and grants going out. Spending authority for this year will be \$650,000.

Ron Thyen made a motion, seconded by Floyd Muntefering, to have Competitive grants at \$320,000 and to have contractual grants available at \$5000 per county x 66 counties = \$330,000. This includes keeping the requirements as is, including the full contractual grant amount being awarded to counties that meet all requirements with 2 attendees at the Conference; and one half of the full amount of the contractual grant will be awarded if the county meets all the requirements but only has 1 attendee at the Conference. In the event that a certain county or counties doesn't receive/qualify for funding, the remaining funds from the Contractual and Competitive grants will be divided amongst the remaining counties that have met the requirements and to divide that funding equally to the nearest \$100, without exceeding spending authority. Motion carried.

The following committee was formed to review the competitive grants and give a recommendation to the Commission at the February meeting: 2 commission representatives – Dale Patterson and Ron Boone, 1 agency representative – Paul Coughlin, 1 Department of Agriculture representative, and 1 SDSU representative.

Grant deadline will be November 22, 2013.

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Paul Coughlin, seconded by Ron Boone, to pay for the meeting expenses, salary and per diem for this meeting. Motion carried.

Chairman Deibert declared the meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

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Brenda Sievers  
Commission Secretary

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Lynn Deibert, Commission Chairman  
(Approved Minutes)