MINUTES OF THE SD WEED & PEST CONTROL COMMISSION
April 11, 2013 – 12:30 pm CDT
Matthew Training Center, Foss Building, 523 East Capitol, Pierre, SD

Lynn Deibert called the meeting to order at 12:35 PM, April 11, 2013.

Members Present in Pierre: Chairman Deibert, and Commissioners Vice-Chairman Dale Patterson, Game Fish & Parks representative Paul Coughlin, School & Public Lands Deputy Commissioner Ryan Brunner, Department of Transportation representative Jason Humphrey and Commission Secretary Brenda Sievers.

Members Present via Telephone: Commissioners Ron Thyen, Floyd Muntefering and Association of County Commissioners Representative Ron Boone.

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

Also present in Pierre & on Telephone were those listed on Exhibit #1.

Chairman Deibert turned the meeting over to Hearing Officer Ryan Darling from the Hearing Examiners Office to conduct a public rules hearing to add White Horehound to the locally noxious weeds or declared pest list. The Weed & Pest Commission voted at the February 20, 2013, Commission Meeting, to add White Horehound to the locally noxious weed listing pending the rules hearing, so no new action was needed at this meeting.

Introductions were made by all present.

Dale Patterson made a motion to approve the agenda (Exhibit #2). Seconded by Ryan Brunner. Motion carried.

Chairman Deibert asked for any changes to the minutes of the February 20 meeting. A motion was made by Ryan Brunner to approve the minutes. Seconded by Dale Patterson. Motion carried.

Activity Reports

Department of Agriculture

Darwin Kurtenbach reported that there will be a change in personnel in western South Dakota. Dan Dvorak submitted his resignation effective April 23. Darwin is hoping to have that position filled by July.

Ron Moehring reported that there are a couple new supervisors since the February meeting. He also reported that Shannon County still doesn't have a weed supervisor as the person Ron talked to isn't authorized to be the Weed Supervisor. Stanley County is in the process of hiring a weed supervisor.

Dale Anderson reported on the bio-control surveys that they are planning to do this year that will include Yellow Toadflax, St. John's Wort, Canada Thistle and alfalfa weevil. Small grain surveys and a survey for Kapra beetle for export certification will also be done. Non-caps surveys that are planned this year are the pine shoot beetle, Japanese beetle and oriental beetle.

District Reports

Ron Thyen – District 1 – Ron reported that they have lots of snow right now, with a slow melt, there isn't any run off.

Floyd Muntefering – District 2 – Floyd reported that it is dry, but since they received 5 inches of snow, they are sitting pretty good. There wasn't any fall spraying of weeds done. Spraying could continue as normal if they get precipitation.

Lynn Deibert – District 3 – Lynn reported that there isn't any snow and things are dry, but there has been no field work yet. The River is way down, so there may be work done on the Corp ground this year.

Dale Patterson – District 4 – Dale reported that the biggest concern right now in his area is the Mountain Pine Beetle. They have had 2 feet of snow so they have good moisture.

Win Bauer – District at Large – Not present.

Association of County Commissioners
Ron Boone reported that the Milestone label is causing some concern for weed supervisors. He has received calls about it.

Department of Agriculture
Kevin Fridley reported that May will be Noxious Weed Awareness Month. On April 28, Lucas Lentsch will take over as the South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture.

Department of Game Fish & Parks
Paul Coughlin reported that they are using GIS inventory and mapping to identify problem areas. They have found Salt Cedar, but will continue to control and monitor it.

Department of Transportation
Jason Humphrey reported that they have sent out their weed spraying contracts for the year. They are doing more GPS mapping, in particular around the Sioux Falls area. After the winter, it was looking like they would have extra money left over, but they have spent a good amount of that on the last blizzard.

School & Public Lands
Deputy Commissioner Ryan Brunner reported that they conducted 22 lease auctions in March. People are still showing up and bidding on land. Commissioner Jarrod Johnson will be leaving in August and will return home to spend more time with his family.

SDSU
Darrell Deneke reported that since Mike Moechnig left, they have the position open for the Weed Specialist position. Darrell as well as Gary Pribyl is on the search committee. The job description has been finished and approved so they should be able to advertise for the position in the next week or two. Milestone has a supplemental label that now includes a special emphasis on notifying adjoining landowners regarding the carryover issues in hay, sale of hay and feeding hay on crop ground. The precautions are no different than what they have been. This is very similar to Tordon and 2,4-D label restrictions. The adjoining land owner to the ROW still needs to know if the applicator is applying a product that has precautions or restrictions. All parties involved should communicate with the end users of the hay and manure. Several Commissioners talked about what this could mean for Weed Supervisors spraying rights-of-ways. Jason Humphrey talked about the problem this could cause for his agency. Darrell has sent questions to Brad Berven, South Dakota Department of Agriculture. He is currently waiting to hear back from Brad on what would need to be done for applicator requirements.

New Business

Neil VonEschen – South Dakota/Nebraska Purple Loosestrife Project
The group is trying to re-start the nursery. When the water was high two years ago, they are thinking the broodstock got washed away with the high water. They watched last year but there was hardly any indication that the bugs have been working. They need to purchase netting and other materials to get the program up and running again. Neil thought that they would not have to worry about it again, but the high water seems to have washed away the bugs. The group is looking for funding to get the project running like it was before the flood. The Niobrara School has done a lot with the project as well. Kevin Fridley spoke about how successful this project has been, but cautioned about setting precedence with granting money now without a special grant. After discussion, Neil will plan to put in a special grant request for next year.

Long Range Objectives
Darwin Kurtenbach discussed the changes to the Long Range Objectives. Most changes are just grammatical corrections and typographical errors. A motion was made by Floyd Muntefering to accept the Long Range Objectives with changes. Seconded by Dale Patterson. Motion carried.

Annual Work Plan
Darwin Kurtenbach discussed the changes to the Annual Work Plan. There was a grammatical correction and then he went over the planned dates for upcoming events. One suggestion for next year's Conference that Darwin is considering is having the Weed & Pest Commission Meeting in the late morning and having Supervisor's Training in the afternoon, instead of how it has been done in the past. A motion was made by Ron Boone to accept the Annual Work Plan with changes. Seconded by Ron Thyen. Motion carried.

2013 Conference Update
Gary Pribyl gave a report on the conference that was held in Huron. There were 13 vendors and 171 individuals who attended this year. There were 6 sponsors as well. Enough money was raised from the raffles and the silent auction to possibly give 2 scholarships this year. Next year's conference will be in Aberdeen, but the 2015 Conference site has not been decided yet. They will probably decide in August.

Elections
Chairman Deibert turned the meeting over to Darwin Kurtenbach for elections. A motion was made by Dale Patterson and seconded by Ryan Brunner to nominate Lynn Deibert for Chairman. A motion was made by Ron Boone that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. Seconded by Floyd Muntefering. Motion carried, the Chairman will be Lynn Deibert.

Darwin Kurtenbach turned the meeting back over to Chairman Deibert for the Vice-Chairman election. A motion was made by Floyd Muntefering and seconded by Jason Humphrey to nominate Dale Patterson. A motion was made by Paul Coughlin that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. Seconded by Ron Thyen. Motion carried, the Vice-Chairman will be Dale Patterson.

Bennett County Grant
Lynn Deibert read a letter received from Tim Juhnke from Bennett County. Tim was supposed to attend the Conference, but due to weather and calving, he was unable to attend. Bennett County did have one personnel attend, so according to the grant criteria, they are eligible to receive half of their grant, just not the entire amount. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Dale Patterson to leave the grant funding at $2500 or half, since there was only one person attending the Conference. Seconded by Paul Coughlin. Motion carried.

Faulk County Grant
Faulk County did not have any representation at the Supervisor's Training that was held in Huron on day one of the Weed & Pest Conference. Roger Dieter, Faulk County Commissioner, stated that they are currently transitioning to a part time supervisor and there was a misunderstanding for attendance of Day 1 of the Conference for Supervisor's Training. Ron Moehring talked about emails that he had sent to Sally Snow when trying to get the Faulk County reports turned in so they would qualify for the grants. Ron Boone asked if they had attended the District Meeting and Roger Deiter stated that they had. Kevin Fridley reminded the Commissioners, according to the grant criteria, this is an all or no funding question. Darwin Kurtenbach talked about the program he had given at the District Meeting outlining the grant requirements. Department Staff had visited with Roger and their then part time Supervisor at the District Meeting as well. The Department still has not received contact information on who to send information to in Faulk County. He also stated there was another county that didn't have a second person at the District Meeting, and they will not receive their grant because they did not meet the grant criteria. After much discussion, a motion was made by Ron Boone that we follow the rules. Seconded by Dale Patterson. Motion carried.

Emergency Declaration for Phragmites – Meade County
Nate Jagim addressed the Commission regarding not getting his paperwork in to renew Phragmites as a locally noxious weed in Meade County. They have a grant and are planning to spray Phragmites in August. Nate is requesting an emergency declaration for Phragmites so he can do enforcement procedures if needed. Darwin Kurtenbach explained how an emergency declaration works. The Secretary of Agriculture and the Chairman of the Commission need to both approve the request, and then it is listed for 180 days. It can be done in just a few days. A letter would need to be sent to the Department requesting emergency declaration. The Commission didn't need to act on the emergency declaration.

Old Business
None presented.

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

Chairman Deibert declared the meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Brenda Sievers

Brenda Sievers
Commission Secretary

Lynn Deibert

Lynn Deibert, Commission Chairman
(Approved Minutes)