

Grant County Weed Board Meeting

July 16th, 2019

Vice President Dick called meeting to order at 8:04 p.m. Members Present: Dick Woodbury, Leonard Gerhardt, Matt Neiderman, Drew Gaugler, Morris Haase and Merlin Leithold, weed officer.

Secretary's Report: Leonard moved to approve the secretary's report, as presented, Matt seconded the motion, **M/C**.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$109,396.69 in account before tonight's bills. Total bills \$33,148.51 and \$16,403.43 in receipt. Bills presented – Cenex Fleet Card - Gas - \$304.60, Nutrien Solutions – chemical - \$32,113.48, Kupper – oil change - \$100.59, MariAnn Leithold – bug day sweeping - \$96.00, Tyr Hammargren – bug day sweeping - \$90.00, Merlin Leithold – mileage - \$143.84, Lorele Leithold – catering bug day - \$300.00.

Matt moved to accept the Treasurer's report and pay the bills. Morris seconded the motion, **M/C**.

Old Business:

Spraying Report: Merlin gave a spraying report, and Randy Lyons was here today, and Merlin gave him a tour of the county, to see where landowners live, etc. Will be coming either next week or the following week. Merlin has slightly over ¼ roads done. A lot of thistle starting to show up. Leafy spurge areas look good where sprayed last year. New spots everywhere as well.

Bug Day Recap: Around 119 people attended. Handed out approximately a little over 750,000 beetles. One of the best years ever. 3,000 beetles in a bag, usually 2 bags per person. Sold 6 bug nets as well. Out of bug nets. Will have to order some next spring. A decent amount of spurge again. As always, have to wait until next year to see whether the site maintains itself, or if it disappears. People from counties of Burleigh, Morton, Oliver, Grant, Sioux, Hettinger, Towner, Richland, McLean and Perkins in South Dakota. Weed officers from Burleigh, City of Bismarck and Morton. APHIS had a crew of 4, and ND Dept. of Ag was also there. Tess Keller, Grant County Extension attended and helped wherever needed. Rick Schmidt, Oliver County Extension attended. KFYR TV reported live on site with Facebook plus a news report. Jill Friesz from Grant County News attended as well. And, our board President, Eddy Ulrich was there.

TAG – Camera System: Merlin stated that when he applied for the TAG Grant for the camera system, he also applied for labor costs for installation. He was told afterwards, that he must show some proof that we paid for labor to install the system. Matt moved that Merlin hire someone to assist him in the installation, with a \$300 limit. Drew seconded the motion, **M/C**.

New Business:

Palmer Amaranth Tour: Merlin stated that he has been selected as one of the six weed officers in the state go on a tour to Nebraska August 11-15. He would have to go to Jamestown, to get on one of the buses. The transportation, rooms, and some of the meals are paid. Just mileage to Jamestown,, and possibly some meals would have to be paid by the board. Plenty of room in the budget for this. No one objected.

Credit Card: - Merlin has used a credit card from the auditor's office when needed. It is a hassle to use it, have to go to Carson, get the card, use the card, and return the card to Carson by the following day at the latest. We do have the Cenex fleet card, for gas only, we also have a card from Office Depot, for office supplies only. Would be nice to have our own card. Like the other two cards, purchased itemized, and have to be paid through a voucher board approved. One suggestion is to check with Office Depot to see if they have a visa/office depot credit card, since we have an account with them anyway. Otherwise, Merlin will talk to Sara to see if we can get a bank card through the county, or a standalone card, from somewhere else. Leonard moved to have Merlin get a credit card. Matt seconded the motion, **M/C**.

Next Meeting – September 17th, 8:00 pm.

Being no other business, Matt moved to adjourn the meeting, Drew seconded the motion. **M/C**

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.