

PENNINGTON COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD
Pennington County Natural Resources Office
3607 Cambell Street, Rapid City, SD
Wednesday, December 6, 2023, 12:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Mark DiSanto, Chairman
Paul Paulsen, Vice-Chairman
Bert Jocks
Travis Lasseter, County Commissioner Liaison
Jerry Hirrschoff

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Scott Guffey, Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman DiSanto called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Additional Items / Approve Agenda

Motion made by Lasseter to approve the agenda, seconded by Jocks, motion carried. Motion made by Lasseter to approve meeting minutes for the October 11th, 2023 meeting, seconded by Jocks, motion carried.

Budget Report

Scott Guffey presented Budget Report for Weed & Pest (615) and Natural Resources (616) budgets. Weed & Pest (615) has 4.6% remaining, Forestry budget (616) is at 31% for the remainder of the year. Will have to ask for a supplement for the 615 budget from over-collected revenue.

OLD BUSINESS

Shaded Fuel Break

The Continuing Resolution by the US Congress has delayed potential funding for the proposed five-year agreement, that could include fuels mitigation work, timber stand improvement, timber sale marking, or just about anything else that would be a 5-year agreement worth \$1 million. Guffey did sign an egress hazard tree agreement with the Mystic District to cut hazard trees in residence or high use right-of-ways. Mystic District Ranger Jim Gubbels is working on getting funding the fence clearing project along S. Rockerville Road. Crew have been assisting the state and forest service on the BH LiDAR plot assessments.

Black Hills National Forest Plan Revision

Final Assessments have finally been released, much improved from the original draft versions. Phase II, the Plan Development stage will begin this Spring. Shawn Cochran will be the new Black Hills National Forest Supervisors, he will start January 16, 2024.

SD Weed & Pest Applications

Guffey submitted the regular county grant for reimbursement of chemical and seasonal costs, they general are around \$5,000. Guffey also submitted a grant for chemical cost reimbursement in the amount of \$5,000 for Salt Cedar control. SD Weed & Pest Commission meets in February to approve grants and amounts.

District 4 Weed & Pest Meeting

Guffey and Jocks attended the SD Weed & Pest 4 district meeting on Nov. 8th at the SD Outdoor Campus. Guffey questioned the state on why the new district 4 representative came from the same county (Perkins) as the previous representative came from, when there was good applicants from other counties in the district. The state didn't have a good answer to the question.

NEW BUSINESS

2023 Weed Spraying Summary

See attached Report

District 2 Weed & Pest Board Opening

DiSanto is the current District 2 (Hwy 79 – Cheyenne River) board representative and will be termed out, as well as moving out the county. Guffey will ask around to see if anyone is interested in serving on the board.

2024 Weed & Pest Board Meeting Schedule

Guffey presented a draft board meeting schedule for 2024, the number of meetings and times are similar to this year's schedule.

Crew Update

Crew is working on the BH LiDAR plots and cutting on hazard trees along rights-of-way.

Additional Item

Agency Report

ADJOURN

Motion made by Paulsen to adjourn the meeting at 12:50 pm, seconded by Jocks, motion carried.

Next meeting will be February 28, 2023.

Submitted by Scott Guffey