

PENNINGTON COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD
Pennington County Weed & Pest Office
3607 Cambell Street, Rapid City, SD
Wednesday, December 9, 2020, 12:30 pm
Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Bert Jocks, Vice Chairman
Jerry Hirrschoff
Mark DiSanto, County Commissioner

Members Absent:

Dell Petersen, Chairman
Paul Paulsen

Others Present:

Scott Guffey, Director

Vice Chairman Jocks called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Additional Items / Approve Agenda

Motion made by Hirrschoff to approve the agenda, seconded by DiSanto, motion carried. Motion made by DiSanto to approve meeting minutes for the October 28, 2020 meeting, seconded by Hirrschoff, motion carried.

Budget Report

Scott Guffey presented Budget Report for Weed & Pest (615) and Natural Resources (616) budgets. Weed & Pest (615) has a negative 5.42% balance, Guffey said the \$40k budget supplement from the over-collected revenue has not been posted yet and there will be enough funding to cover the remainder of the year. Natural Resource budget (616) is at 16% for the remainder of the year.

OLD BUSINESS

Shaded Fuel Break Update

Sheridan Lake Rd re-alignment settlement sale – crew has been working on the remaining merchantable, highway department removed a section of guard rail for easier access to an area. So far have removed 7 loads of logs at about \$1,200 on average per load. Probably have 6-7 loads left to remove. Hopefully will be all done removing trees in a few weeks. S. Rochford re-alignment – received the FS contract for settlement sale of the timber yesterday. About half of the amount of removal that Sheridan Lake Rd project was, highway department will pay for stumpage and we'll over see the removal. A couple of cultural sites and wetland sites we'll have to avoid.

SD Weed & Pest Grants & BH Resource Advisory Committee Grants

Guffey submitted grants for the general county grants and a \$10k competitive grant for absinth wormwood control, we'll find out in February if awarded by the SD Weed & Pest Commission. The annually SD Weed & Pest Conference that the commission holds its meeting at has been cancelled this year. The commission will be meet in Pierre on February 19th and have a virtual option to listen in on. The Black Hill Resource Advisory Committee will meet tomorrow night, Thursday, December 10th from 5:30 – 8pm with a virtual listening option. Guffey submitted two proposals for funding, a \$30k two-year noxious weed control and a \$50k for a fuels reduction project.

Prairie Dog Complaints

Due to dry conditions later in the Summer that has been more complaints on prairie dogs than the last couple years. Three official complaints have been sent the SD Dept of Ag and forwarded to the county. Guffey sent volunteer letters in October, giving the landowners until the end of December to control their prairie dogs. He has heard back from all three and they are working on them.

NEW BUSINESS

2021 Weed & Pest Board Meeting Schedule

2021 meeting schedule will be for 6 scheduled meetings about every other month on Wednesday at 12:30, beginning in February.

Crew Update

As mentioned before the crew is working on finishing up the merchantable timber removal on the Sheridan Lake Road re-alignment. The highway department has been supplying one flagger and starting this week three sawyers and a boom truck, which has been a big help. Once we're done with Sheridan Lake Rd, they'll jump over to S. Rochford Rd to begin merchantable timber removal on that project.

Agency Report

None

ADJOURN

Motion made by DiSanto to adjourn the meeting at 1:10 pm, seconded by Hirrschoff, motion carried.

Next meeting will be February 24, 2021.

Submitted by Scott Guffey