

Cass County Weed Control Board
Cass County Weed Control Office
1201 Main Ave W, West Fargo
April 8, 2019

8:00 AM Meeting called to order
Roll call of the members
Approve minutes of previous meeting
Approve order of agenda

Agenda

1. Budget Report
 - a. Monthly Financial Statements Information/action
 - b. Approval of bills Information/action

2. New Business
 - a. Plant Tissue Analysis Information/action
 - b. Joint Powers Agreement Information/action
 - c. Flood Fight Assistance Information/action
 - d. Purple loosestrife in Fargo Information/action

 - e. Other

3. Monthly Progress Report Information

4. Upcoming events Information

For information on any of the agenda items or the need for special accommodations contact: Stan Wolf, 701-298-2388, wolfs@casscountynd.gov

Weed Control Progress Report

April 1, 2019

Period from March 11, to April 1, 2019

submitted by Stan Wolf

New Business:

Plant Tissue Analysis: Almost every year we receive calls from landowners or farm operators stating that our spray operations have affected their adjacent crops. Many times, it appeared that the crop response might be due to dry conditions, adjacent farming operations, or other crop by environment interactions. The only way to determine if crop response is due to herbicide drift is to conduct a tissue analysis. The cost of tissue analysis for 2, 4-D, dicamba and Tordon is ~ \$150.00.

Proposed Motion: Move to approve tissue analysis of possible herbicide drift.

Joint Powers Agreement: Cass County Weed Control has entered into a Joint Powers Agreement with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture whereby Cass County Weed Control is an agent of the NDDA for inspecting Weed Seed Free Forage fields for hay or straw mulch. This agreement commenced on December 30, 2009 and has been renewed every year since. The current agreement will expire on April 30, 2019. A twelve-month renewal of the agreement has been presented by the NDDA for the period of May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020. The renewal will allow the Weed Board to assign an inspector to conduct and certify hay land and straw mulch fields as Weed Seed Free Forage. The reimbursement rates for the inspections are: \$30.00/hour; \$2.00/acre; and \$0.58/mile.

Proposed motion: Move to accept and sign the Joint Powers agreement and assign Stan Wolf, Weed Officer as WSFF inspector.

Flood Fight Assistance: The Cass County Highway Department may ask for the use of the drone and pilot to conduct preliminary flood damage evaluations of county roads. Mr. Wolf would provide video or still shots to the county engineers.

Proposed motion: Move to allow Mr. Wolf to use drone to provide video or pictures to the Highway Department.

Purple loosestrife: Cass County Weed Control has worked with the City of Fargo in controlling Purple loosestrife inside the city limits of Fargo since 2005. Fargo Public Works has signed a work order and reimbursed Weed Control for control costs every year. Fargo has allowed CC Weed Control to conduct the work as CC Weed Control has the herbicide and equipment. The Purple loosestrife sites still have a few plants that show up which are easily controlled by using a handheld bottle sprayer. The time and effort to control these sites is

usually more than the compensation charged as we do not charge for travel time. Our time could be better-utilized scouting and controlling weeds in the county.

Question for the board: Do we continue to work with the City of Fargo in controlling Purple loosestrife inside the city limits of Fargo?

Monthly Report

Sugarbeet Institute: Attended Sugarbeet Institute on Thursday, March 21 in Fargo. Visited with NDSU Extension and chemical exhibitors.

Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification: Attended private pesticide applicator recertification in Fargo. Provided information on Palmer amaranth, Houndstongue and Cass County Weed Control Landowner Assistance Program.

Tall Towers Ag: Attended Tall Towers Ag customer appreciation day on March 29. Provided information on new noxious weeds, Houndstongue and Palmer amaranth.

NDWCA Board Meeting: Attended the NDWCA board meeting on March 26 in Bismarck. Discussed the proposed Palmer amaranth action plan with the ND Ag Commissioner and staff. The proposed plan describes how NDSU Extension, weed control officers, and landowners can follow when Palmer amaranth is suspected or found. The NDWCA encouraged Extension and NDDA staff to inform the local weed officer regarding the location and landowner for all suspected and confirmed Palmer amaranth locations.

Several board members expressed interest in attending a proposed Palmer amaranth tour to Nebraska this August.

Flood Fight Assistance: Assisted in filling sandbags on Wednesday, March 27.

Commercial Pesticide Applicator recertification: Attended Commercial Pesticide recertification class on Thursday, March 28. Certifications in Ground Core, Ag Pest, Right of Way, and Ornamental Turf. Certifications are good until 2022.

Upcoming Events:

Conservation Planting Workshop	April 4, Mapleton
Cass County Township Officers	April 11, Casselton
Cass County NRCS-Soil Conservation	April 16, Fargo
Sprayer School	May 28, Carrington