

Cass County Weed Control Board
Cass County Weed Control Office
1201 Main Ave W, West Fargo
September 9, 2019

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

Agenda

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| 1. Budget Report | |
| a. Monthly Financial Statements | Information/action |
| b. Approval of bills | Information/action |
| | |
| 2. New Business | |
| a. Noxious Weed Development Fund | Information/action |
| b. 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

Sept 3, 2019

Period from August 5 to Sept 3, 2019

submitted by Stan Wolf

New Business:

ND Noxious Weed Development Fund: In 2013, Mr. Wolf and the NDWCA proposed a Noxious Weed Development Fund program whereby funds would be set aside in a trust and the proceeds from the interest revenue would be available for noxious weeds research projects. At the time, the proposal was dropped due to the drop in oil tax revenue. Recently, the ND legislators have asked for ideas on how to utilize the Legacy Fund proceeds. Mr. Wolf has been asked to address the NDWCA board regarding the Noxious Weed Development Fund concept at their next board meeting on September 24 in Bismarck.

Proposed Motion: Move to approve Mr. Wolf to attend the upcoming NDWCA board meeting and encourage the NDWCA to promote the Noxious Weed Development Fund for noxious weed research.

Monthly Report

Contractor roadside spraying: Walker's Lawncare continues to spray county and township roadsides. Wind and weather conditions continue to hamper spraying activities, they are only able to spray a couple of days a week. To date Walker has sprayed 1794 acres amounting to \$69,913.60. J & J Spraying has not started spraying the southern half of the county but is ready to start with their full crew of trucks and RTV sprayers.

Nebraska Palmer amaranth tour: Mr. Wolf participated in the Nebraska Palmer amaranth tour sponsored by the ND Soybean Council on August 12 – 15, 2019. University of Nebraska North Platte and a local Cenex Harvest States agronomy service facility arranged the tour at the Univ. of Neb North Platte station and several field sites around the area. Univ. of Neb highlighted some of their research on the campus and surrounding test plots on August 13. CHS directed the group to several farmer field sites showing production practices in controlling Palmer amaranth in corn and soybean. The presence of Palmer amaranth was everywhere in all crop production systems: soybean, corn, and alfalfa hay production. It was noted that Palmer amaranth has been able to adapt to all control methods and still produce seed. Palmer amaranth has been able to develop resistance to post emergence products with the present exemption of dicamba and paraquat. Farmers and agronomy staff have been able to develop production strategies that can control Palmer amaranth utilizing crop rotation and various herbicide applications. The use of pre-emergence soil residual products to control emerging Palmer amaranth is providing good control early in the season.

The take home message from the tour is that everyone needs to be vigilant and diligent in scouting and controlling Palmer amaranth as soon as it is found. Waterhemp should be included in the scouting and control efforts since Waterhemp is so closely related to Palmer amaranth in its growth habits and herbicide resistance. All lands need to be scouted: field edges, fence lines, tree belts, pastures, hay lots, feedlots, wastelands, etc. Leave no weed is the goal to stem the invasion.

Weed/Vector vehicle storage building: The County Commission approved the addition to the Weed/Vector vehicle storage building. The addition will consist of a 50' x 50' bay for Weed Control and a 25' x 50' bay for Vector Control added to the south end of the current vehicle building. Vector Control will fund for the entire cost of the addition. Construction will start shortly with completion expected in November.

Other activities:

The Purple loosestrife sites in Fargo and Briarwood have been scouted several times and plants were sprayed. Several county flood lots were sprayed for Canada thistle. An area in Section 28 Highland Township was sprayed for Leafy spurge in the Maple River Dam pool area.

Jeff Grieve went back to his regular job on Aug 5.

Canada thistle sites where CT rust was observed were rescouted with Chelsey Punuel ND Dept of Ag. It appears that the CT rust is slowly spreading to neighboring plants. Ms Punuel is working with NDSU and other researchers to determine best methods of introducing CT rust in new locations.

Numerous letters were mailed out to landowners notifying them of noxious weed infestations on their lands.

Upcoming Events:

NDWCA Board meeting
NDWCA Area Meeting
NDWCA Annual Conference

September 24, Bismarck
October 14, Valley City
January 7-9, Bismarck