Cass County Weed Control Board Cass County Weed Control Office 1201 Main Ave W, West Fargo Monday, March 14, 2022

9:00 AM Meeting called to order

Roll call of the members

Approve minutes of previous meeting

Approve order of agenda

<u>Agenda</u>

1. Budget Report

a. Monthly Financial Statementsb. Approval of billsInformation/action

2. New Business

a. Weed Seed Free Forage JPA Information/actionb. Landowner Assistance Program Information/action

c. 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

submitted by Stan Wolf

New Business:

Weed Seed Free Forage JPA: The Weed Board has entered into a Joint Powers Agreement with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture for inspecting for Weed Seed Free Forage hay lands. The present agreement expires on April 30, 2021. A renewal agreement has not been offered for 2022 as of this date. Typically, the renewal is sent out within 30 days before expiration requiring the signature of the board chair. Upon renewal the board has assigned the weed officer to conduct the inspections for the board.

Proposed Motion: Move to renew the Joint Powers Agreement with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture for inspecting Weed Seed Free Forage and assign the weed officer as the WSFF inspector.

Landowner Assistance Program: Cass County Weed Control has provided a Landowner Assistance Program for county landowner/operators. The LAP has provided for a partial reimbursement of herbicides for noxious weed control on non-crop, non-CRP privately owned lands within the county. Landowners/operators could choose from a list of approved herbicides to control noxious weeds. Up to 80% of the cost of approved herbicides plus \$3.50/acre for application costs could be reimbursed with a maximum of \$1500.00 per landowner/operator. A copy of a proposed 2022 LAP program is enclosed for your review.

Proposed Motion: Move to approve a Landowner Assistance Program for non-crop, non-CRP private lands in Cass County in 2022 with a total reimbursement of \$1500.00 per county landowner/operator.

Monthly Report:

Northern Corn/Soy Expo: The education booth was set up at the Northern Cory/Soy Expo on February 21. Due to the winter storm/blizzard attendance was down. I talked to a dozen people regarding noxious weed issues at the show. An invoice was sent to the North Dakota Weed Control Association for reimbursement.

Contractor Spray Contracts: The Cass County Rights-of-Way Noxious Weed Spray contracts have been reviewed by the county State's Attorney office and sent to Walker's Lawncare and J&J Spraying for their signature. Signed and returned contracts will be signed by the board chair.

Herbicides ordered and delivered: The herbicides needed for the 2022 spray season have been ordered and expect delivery by March 14. The herbicides will be stored at Union Storage and Transfer in Fargo.

Township Officer Update: A 2021 noxious weed control summary was mailed to all township officers. A township map was included highlighting the areas where noxious weeds were sprayed and identified where Spotted hemlock was identified and controlled.

New pickup: The latest word on delivery of the new Ford F150 pickup is delivery is expected in late March/early April. The pickup has been built and the dealership is waiting for shipment scheduling.

Ditch hay producer notice: A notice was developed and delivered to the ND DOT office for hay producers in the interstate ditches. The notice lists the herbicides applied and the recommendation to not compost the hay or manure due to residual properties of the herbicides.

Ornamental & Turf Recertification: Mr. Wolf was recertified in Ornamental & Turf herbicide application. Mr. Wolf is fully certified for herbicide application until 2025.

Upcoming Events:

Noxious Weed Task Force Northern Corn/Soy Expo Ornamental & Turf recertification Private Pesticide Applicator training ND Winter Show March 15, Bismarck Feb 21, Fargo Feb 25, Harwood March 9, Mapleton March 9-13, Valley City