

Cass County Weed Control Board  
Cass County Weed Control Office  
1201 Main Ave W, West Fargo  
Monday, July 11, 2022

9:00 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. 2023 Proposed Budget Information/action
  - b. 2022 Landowner Assistance Payment 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](mailto:wolfs@casscountynd.gov)

## Weed Control Progress Report

July 5, 2022

Period from June 13 to July 5, 2022

submitted by Stan Wolf

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### New Business:

**2023 Proposed Budget:** The 2023 proposed Weed Control Budget is to be submitted to the Finance Office by July 15, 2022. Inflation and supply issues are the great unknown for forecasting budget numbers. The Finance Office is recommending using an 8% inflation rate for 2023 expenses with a lower rate in subsequent years. The proposed 2023 budget will be presented at the upcoming meeting as there may still be some additional changes being made prior to the meeting.

Note: Director of Tax Equalization reported to the County Commission that the current taxable value of Cass County is up 9.5% overall: however, agricultural land values saw a decrease of 4% from 2021 to 2022.

*Action: Discussion on budget and mill levy. Final recommendation to be done at July 11 meeting.*

**2022 Landowner Assistance Payment:** An inquiry was made asking if Method could be added to the 2022 Landowner assistance Payment application as an approved herbicide for reimbursement. Method was on the approved list but was removed in 2021 as it is not labeled for grazing or haying areas. However, it is approved for rights-of-way that transect grazing areas. This means if a utility right-of-way crosses through a pasture it can be used in the right-of-way in the pasture and cattle can graze in the treated area.

*Proposed motion: Move to include Method as an approved herbicide for reimbursement in the Landowner Assistance Payment program.*

### Monthly Report:

**Vehicle Insurance:** At the previous board meeting, it was asked if the vehicle insurance would cover leasing/lending the 2012 Dodge Ram pickup to other county departments. The insurance policy does not allow for leasing/lending and have the vehicle remain on our name.

Talked to Sarah in Finance Dept., does not sound like it is an option to loan out the old truck. We would have to keep the insurance on us.

**Contractor Spraying:** The contractors started spraying on June 22. J & J Spraying started on I 94 and have completed spraying the outside ditches from Tower City to West Fargo. Plans are to have the I 94 median sprayed also. Construction of the safety fence in the median will limit the spraying coverage. Walker's Lawncare has started on Highway 18 from the north county line to Casselton. They will be spraying I 29 ditches and median. Wind, rain, and high temperatures have limited our spraying activity to date.

**Leafy spurge flea beetle collecting:** Leafy spurge flea beetles are emerging and collecting has begun. To date we have collected enough flea beetles for 17 releases comprising 7 landowners. A press release was given to the media and the Extension Ag Alert newsletter has included the notice in their June 30 newsletter.

**Spotted hemlock status:** Spotted hemlock has been found in the bloom stage in northern Cass near Erie. Early scouting in areas where spotted hemlock was sprayed last year with DruaCor has not found spotted hemlock plants. Further scouting will be conducted. Spotted hemlock identification cards have been printed and will be mailed to township chairmen to be given to the road maintainer operators. Hopefully, the maintainer operators will be able to see and report spotted hemlock infestations to the weed office.

**Upcoming Events:**

NDWCA Summer Symposium	August 23-25, Washburn ND
NDWCA Board meeting	September 27, Bismarck
NDWCA Area meeting	October 24, TBD