

Cass County Weed Control Board
Cass County Weed Control Office
1201 Main Ave W, West Fargo
May 8, 2017

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. Landowner Assistance application Information/action
 - b. ND DOT Spray Agreement Information/action
 - c. FSA Authorization to Inspect Information/action
 - d. 2018 Budget Proposal Information
 - 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

May 1, 2017

Period from March 16, to May 1, 2017

submitted by Stan Wolf

New Business

Landowner Assistance application: The Landowner Assistance application has been updated to include generic herbicides that have the same active ingredient as brand name approved herbicides. Chaparral and GrazonNext herbicides were added to the list.

Suggested Motion: Move to adopt the 2017 Landowner Assistance program.

ND DOT Spray Agreement: The Fargo District of the North Dakota Department of Transportation has offered its 2017 Noxious Weed Agreement for controlling noxious weeds in the federal and state road rights-of-way within Cass County. NDDOT will reimburse Cass County Weed Control \$50,000 for the actual cost of chemical treatment upon receipt of substantiated and detailed billing. Previously Cass County Weed Control has had the spray contractors conduct the weed control efforts on federal and state rights-of-way and those costs were submitted for reimbursement.

Suggested Motion: Move to accept the NDDOT contract for reimbursement for noxious weed control on federal and state road rights-of-way.

FSA Authorization to Inspect: The Farm Service Agency has requested that the Weed Board authorize several FSA personnel to inspect and re-inspect CRP lands for the presence of noxious weeds within Cass County for 2017. The Weed Board has authorized their request in previous years.

Suggested Motion: Move to have the Board Chairman sign the FSA Authorization to Inspect form for 2017.

2018 Proposed Budget: Due to changes in North Dakota statutes regarding proposed county budget hearings the Auditor's office is asking that department budget proposals be prepared by the end of June. No changes are foreseen regarding the daily operations and special programs. The 2004 ¾ ton pickup has 117,000 miles and averages ~3500 miles per year over the last 9 years. The North Dakota State Procurement Office bid price for a 2017 Ram 2500 Tradesman 4x4 Crew Cab 8' box pickup is \$28,393.00.

Discussion: Do we replace the pickup?

Monthly Report

Attended the township officers meeting on March 23 and described the Weed Management Plan and urged the townships to adopt a similar plan in their zoning requirements.

Attended Tall Towers Ag customer appreciation day on March 31. Provided a live Palmer amaranth plant and discussed how to identify Palmer amaranth. North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Doug Gohring also discussed the need to identify and control any Palmer amaranth that will show up.

Presented NDWCA poster award at Carson ND on April 5.

The Joint Powers Agreement between the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Cass County Weed Control has been approved by the NDDA. We can inspect and certify haylands for the Weed Seed Free Forage program.

Invoices in the amount of \$66.00 to cover the shared costs for the educational booth at the North Dakota Winger Show were sent out to Barnes, Stutsman, Sargent, Richland, Ransom, LaMoure, Dicky, Traill, and Steele counties. All counties with the exception of Ransom County have paid their share.

Attended the Cass County Soil Conservation Service board meeting on April 18. Discussed the need for Palmer amaranth inspections of recently planted CRP fields and landowner identification. Also discussed the proposed Geronimo Energy Solar Farm and their request for cooperation in determining seed mix for solar farm.

Inspected borrow pits for Hwy 38 construction project for Gladen Construction. The pit inspections are required in the Cass County Highway Department construction projects.

Overdrive application in road ditches near soybeans: A question was raised regarding applying Overdrive (dicamba) near soybeans without a buffer strip as directed by the new dicamba Extendimax and Engenia formulations. The buffer strips pertain only to the Extendimax and Engenia technology. We can continue to utilize Overdrive following the label directions. Our current protocols for road ditch spraying is to not spray when the temperatures will exceed 85 degrees. We also watch for wind speed and direction to prevent drift onto sensitive crops.

Upcoming Events:

Seasonal help starting work on May 22

Sprayer School

NDWCA board meeting

May 23, Carrington

June 27, Bismarck