

Cass County Weed Control Board  
Cass County Weed Control Office  
1201 Main Ave W, West Fargo  
December 11, 2017

10:00 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. LAP Payments                 | Information/action |
| b. Seasonal Field Aid           | Information/action |
| c. Meeting schedule             | Information/action |
| d. Election of Officers         | 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](mailto:wolfs@casscountynd.gov)

## Weed Control Progress Report

December 4, 2017

Period from November 13 to December 4, 2017

submitted by Stan Wolf

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### New Business

**LAP Payments:** Over the years several Landowner Assistance applicants have occurred expenses that totaled more than the \$1000.00 maximum reimbursement. Several landowners have asked if the reimbursement rate could be increased. We are currently budgeted for \$10,000 for LAP reimbursement and we have never had a total of payments go over that amount.

Below are the LAP payments over the last several years comparing the current \$1000 and proposed \$1500 maximum payments.

#### LAP Payments Over Years

Year	Acres	Payment Reimbursement at	
		\$1,000	\$1,500
2011	412	\$ 5,778.41	\$ 5,927.46
2012	284	\$ 4,699.16	\$ 4,728.05
2013	240	\$ 3,492.37	\$ 3,787.87
2014	407	\$ 6,713.09	\$ 6,848.46
2015	198	\$ 2,781.33	\$ 2,781.33
2016	487	\$ 8,278.73	\$ 8,937.77
2017	320	\$ 3,940.28	\$ 4,866.87
mean	335	\$ 5,097.62	\$ 5,411.12

In any given year we have not gone over the budgeted amount and there was only one landowner who applied for more than the proposed maximum \$1500 reimbursement. The current policy does state "in the event that Reimbursement Applications total more than the \$10,000.00 budgeted amount, all reimbursements will be prorated".

*Proposed motion: Move to increase the Landowner Assistance Payment maximum to \$1,500.00.*

**Seasonal Field Aid:** Every year a summer field aid has been hired to assist the Weed Officer in scouting, mapping and controlling noxious and troublesome weeds. An additional consideration for hiring the field aid is safety when field operations are conducted in rough or remote areas. Having an additional individual in the area to quickly assist in the event of a sprayer upset is important

to minimize environmental damage or to provide medical assistance if needed. To start the process, a Staff Requisition needs to be signed by the board then forwarded to the portfolio commissioner.

*Proposed motion: Move to approve hiring a Summer Field Aid and sign the Staff Requisition.*

**2018 Meeting Schedule:** Every year we need to notify the Auditor's Office of our meeting dates to comply with the state open meeting law. The proposed meeting dates for 2018 are listed on the attached schedule. Please review schedule and advise for any changes.

*Proposed motion: Move to approve the 2018 Weed Board meeting dates.*

**Election of Officers:** The chair and vice chair officers are elected for a one-year term; election of officers is required at the start of the year.

### **Monthly Report**

**One Ton Pickup truck:** We are unable to order a new 2018 dual wheel pickup truck as GM has stopped taking new orders as of November 5, 2017. The assembly plants are retooling for a new body style for 2019 models. Single wheel one-ton pickup production may be discontinued at any time. Our options are to locate a truck on a lot at a significantly higher cost, wait until fall when the new state bid program is released, or wait until 2019.

**Annual Weed Survey:** All weed boards are required to report noxious weed acres to the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. The noxious weed acres listed in the enclosed report reflect the acres that were controlled by county and contractor spray crews and infested lands that were reported to the weed officer. Please review the report, especially the contact information for board members.

**County Flood Lot Lease:** Mr. Wolf is a member of the Flood Lot Lease Committee looking into updating the lease agreements for leasing county owned flood buy out lots. The committee met several times over the course of the summer and fall. The committee has recommended several changes from the current flood lot lease including: leasing flood lots only to adjacent landowners, lots must be maintained and weeds controlled-especially noxious weeds, encouraging the planting of trees, prohibiting the erection of buildings and storage of equipment. Alternative uses of the property may be considered after proposals are submitted to the County Administrator and reviewed by the

Administrator, County Planner, Weed Control Officer and the Portfolio Commissioner for Weed Control, with final approval by the County Commissioner. A copy of the proposed Cass County Flood Lot Lease Policy is enclosed.

**Commissioner Portfolios:** Commissioner Arland Rasmussen has been assigned the Weed Control portfolio for 2018.

**Upcoming Events:**

RRVARC Research Partners  
NDWCA Conference  
Wild World of Weeds  
Soil and Water Workshop  
Corn-Soy Expo  
North Dakota Winter Show

December 14, Fargo  
January 9-11, Bismarck  
January 16, Fargo  
January 17, Fargo  
February, 13, Fargo  
March, 2-10, Valley City