

Cass County Weed Control Board  
Cass County Weed Control Office  
1201 Main Ave W, West Fargo  
May 14, 2018

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 |
| <br>                            |                    |
| 2. New Business                 |                    |
| a. Proposed 2019 Budget         | Information        |
| b. Joint Powers Agreement       | Information/action |
| c. Drift Complaints             |                    |
| d. Biocontrol agents            | Information/action |
| e. Sweep nets                   | Information/action |
| f. Excess Equipment             | Information/action |
| g. new                          | Information/action |
| h. Other                        |                    |
| <br>                            |                    |
| 3. Monthly Progress Report      | Information        |
| <br>                            |                    |
| 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

May 7, 2018

Period from March 29 to May 7, 2018

submitted by Stan Wolf

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### New Business:

**2019 Proposed Budget:** The Auditor's office has requested that department 2019 proposed budgets be submitted by July 16. At this point, no new equipment purchases are expected and no changes in operational expenses are foreseen.

**Joint Powers Agreement:** A one-year extension of the Joint Powers Agreement between the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Cass County Weed Control was signed by the board chair prior to April 30 deadline, otherwise the agreement would go into default. The JPA allows the Weed Board be the agency for inspecting hay and crop lands for the Weed Seed Free Forage program. Previously the board has assigned the inspection duties to the weed officer.

*Proposed Motion: Move to assign the weed officer to conduct the inspections for Weed Seed Free Forage for Cass County Weed Control.*

**Drift Complaints:** As has happened in the past, we receive calls from landowners stating that our spray operations have affected their adjacent crops. Many times, it appeared that the crop response might be due to dry conditions and crop by environment interaction. The only way to determine if crop response is due to herbicide drift is to conduct a tissue analysis. The cost of tissue analysis for 2,4-D, dicamba and Tordon is ~ \$150.00.

*Proposed Motion: Move to approve tissue analysis of possible herbicide drift.*

**Biocontrol:** A landowner is interested in biocontrol agents for Canada thistle in his CRP pollinator mix planting. Integrated Weed Control publishes a catalog of various biocontrol agents for sale. They have available the Canada thistle stem mining weevil at \$125.00 per release. Canadian research states that the incidence of a fatal rust fungus disease was more than doubled when the insect is present. I have expressed interest in receiving a release or two of CT rust if available this fall.

*Proposed Motion: Move to purchase a release of Canada thistle stem mining weevils.*

**Sweep nets for Leafy spurge beetles.** We have 14 new nets with long handles and six used nets with short handles on hand. New nets cost ~\$50.00 each. Several landowners have repeatedly asked for Leafy spurge flea beetles. I recommend that sweep nets be made available to landowners so they have the option to collect and move flea beetles themselves.

*Proposed Motion: Move to sell six sweep nets at \$25.00 each.*

**Excess Equipment:** A set of ramps that were used to load the old 4-wheeler sprayer are not being utilized and I foresee no need to keep them as they are too light for the current UTV sprayer. The Auditor's Office has recommended selling them outright instead of through an auction. New price for similar ramps is ~\$100.00.

*Proposed Motion: Move to sell the unused ramps.*

### **Monthly Report**

**NDWCA Poster Presentation:** On April 2 traveled to Minot to award the NDWCA poster contest winner a plaque and tee shirts were given to the classmates.

**Tall Towers customer appreciation:** Provided an update on the current programs including Landowner Assistance Program at Tall Towers appreciation lunch on April 3.

**Township Officers meeting:** On April 5 addressed the township officers, presenting information on the Cass County Weed Management Plan, Landowner Assistance Program, new weeds possibly being introduced with hay, and to purchase clean gravel.

**State Noxious Weed List:** the state noxious weed list was published in the Forum as required by law.

**Drone:** Pickup up the drone on 4-24-18. Took and passed test to be certified pilot of small Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

**Overhead door:** Door installed on 4-25-18. Waiting for concrete apron install. Costs to date are \$6000 for the door.

**One-Ton Truck:** Delivery of truck is expected in early June. Truck bed is at dealer and ready for install. Highway Dept sandblasted and painted water tank frame and installed new tank. Tank and pump unit was reinstalled on present pickup.

**Garden Center Inspection:** Scouted the big box garden centers for noxious weeds for sale among the potted plants.

**Weed Board Member Terms:** The terms for Ken Hagen and George Grossman expire on July 1.

**Upcoming Events:**

Weed Control Field Aid starting date  
Sprayer School

May 29  
May 29