

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

The May 11, 2020 meeting of the Cass County Weed Board has been canceled due to lack of business. The next scheduled meeting of the Weed Board is to be held on June 8, 2020

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 5, 2020

Period from April 6 to May 5, 2020

submitted by Stan Wolf

New business for June meeting:

2021 Proposed Budget: The proposed 2021 budget is to be submitted to the county Finance Office by July 15, 2020. Overall expenses are not expected to change save for a few to reflect inflation. No equipment purchases or replacements are expected. I have enclosed is the 2021 proposed budget draft for your review. Revenue and staff expenses will be entered by the Finance Office later. Proposed operational expenses have been entered. Also enclosed is the list of equipment showing purchase date, current mileage, expected replacement date, and average miles per year. Please review and offer comments at the June meeting.

In March I met with Ben Dow, Fargo Public Works Director, regarding the possible disbanding of the Fargo Weed Board. Mr. Dow stated that if the weed board is disbanded in 2021, Fargo Public Works will continue to conduct weed control operations within the city. Cass County will not be required to spray road rights-of-way within the city. Scouting and control of Purple loosestrife will continue be conducted by Cass County Weed Control as has been done in past years. The Cass County Weed Officer will be required to investigate noxious weed complaints but will work with Fargo Public Works in conducting control efforts.

Monthly Report:

Daily activities have been limited to work in the office or on the Highway Dept grounds due to COVID-19 declaration. Department head meetings have been attended via video conference or phone. Travel is allowed within the county for work related issues, I fully expect that summer weed control activities will not be affected as we can easily maintain distancing requirement if still in effect.

NDSU Noxious Weed Specialist: I have been asked to be on the search committee to review candidate applications and interview applicants for the NDSU Noxious Weed Specialist position. This position will conduct various trials and offer control recommendations on controlling noxious and invasive weeds in North Dakota. Currently the meetings have been held via teleconference.

Sprayer Contracts: The contractor noxious weed spray contracts were signed by the contractors and Mr. Wilcox. Signed copies were mailed to the contractors.

Purchases: Purchased the following items for the new vehicle storage area; 2 vehicle remote door openers and one door keypad, two-wheel hand truck, step ladder, trash can and other small items.

First aid kits were restocked with fresh items, many were past expiration date. Kits will be placed in the vehicles, storage area and office.

Vehicle fire extinguishers were serviced and certified for the year. An extinguisher was installed in the vehicle storage area.

Both the Honda and Kubota sprayers have been readied for the upcoming season. The pump on the Kubota needed a new diaphragm as it was not providing normal operating pressure.

Paul Audette and a seasonal employee from Vector Control assisted in moving all chemicals, shelving and misc. equipment into the new equipment storage area. Received some unneeded shelving from Cass County Veterans Services which will be set up in vehicle storage area for parts and misc. storage.

Remote pilot certification for piloting the drone was set to expire at the end of May. Took the recertification exam and passed, certification is good for two years, expiring on May 31, 2022.

Other activities:

Upcoming Events:

NDWCA Sprayer School, pending

May 26, Carrington