

Cass County Weed Control Board
Cass County Weed Control Office
1201 Main Ave W, West Fargo
Monday, July 12, 2021

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. 2022 Proposed Budget Information/action
 - b. 2021 Contractor Spray Rates Information/action
 - c. Other

3. Monthly Progress Report Information

4. Upcoming events Information

Note: The conference room will be arranged to provide appropriate distancing between participants.

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

July 6, 2021

Period from June 14 to July 6, 2021

submitted by Stan Wolf

New Business:

2022 Proposed Budget: The 2022 Budget requests are due to the Finance Office on July 15, 2021. Weed Control is scheduled to present their budget to the County Commission on July 21 at 9:15 am. Enclosed is the proposed budget for 2022 and a table that forecasts budgets in future years at two different mill levies.

Action: Discussion regarding proposed 2022 budget and proposed mill levy. Move to accept proposed budget and recommend mill levy to County Commission.

2021 Contractor Spray Rates: Last month the board approved a change in the recommended herbicide spray application rate change due to the dry conditions. The contractors were informed of the change and were asked to provide a cost for the updated herbicide rate consisting of Tordon(22 oz/acre), Freelexx(16 oz/acre), and Liberate(2 qt/100 gal water). The table below reflects the new per acre rates with the contract rate

	<u>New rate</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Difference</u>
J&J Spraying	\$35.00	\$36.39	\$1.35
Walker’s Lawncare	\$38.75	\$39.40	\$0.65

Assuming both contractors spray the same acreage as in 2020, this will represent a potential savings of \$16,837 for 2021.

Proposed motion: Move to accept the new contractor rate/acre for 2021.

Monthly Report:

Spotted Hemlock Sprayed: The hay meadows where Spotted hemlock were identified in 2020 were sprayed with DuraCor by County Weed Control as per the agreement with the landowners. The spray operation was a one-time control measure to assist the landowners to get a handle on the infestations. A township road east of Leonard was sprayed with Freelexx 2,4-D to control Spotted hemlock.

Contractor spraying: Walker’s Lawncare has started spraying I29 on June 24 and has also covered Co Hwy 81, 26, 4, 5, 32, and 18, using the new spray rate. J&J Spraying has not started yet. To date a total of 798 acres were sprayed costing \$30,922.50.

Weed Management Plans: A Weed Management Plan has been submitted to the Weed Control Office for the North System Pipeline Relocation Project located south of I 94 between the Richard and Kindred exits. Additional Weed Management Plans have been submitted by various people creating subdivisions for rural residential homesteads. The locations will be monitored for noxious weeds until building development is completed.

Grant County Bug Day: Mr. Wolf and Mr. Grieve traveled to Grant County on June 22. The Grant County Bug Day was the 25th consecutive Leafy spurge flea beetle collection and distribution from the same location, the Heart Butte Scout Reservation on Lake Tschida. Approximately 80 landowners, agency staff, weed officers and others from approximately 6 counties attended. Approximately 450,000 beetles were collected and distributed, each attendee received two releases of 3000 beetles. Mr. Wolf took several pictures and video shots with the drone. Two containers of flea beetles were brought back to Cass County and released on a potential collection site near Erie.

Leafy spurge flea beetle collections: Weed Control staff started collecting flea beetles on June 16 and continued every day to July 1. To date a total of 24 releases were distributed to 18 landowners, each release consisted of 3000 flea beetles.

Upcoming Events:

2022 Proposed budget	July 15
Commission Budget Hearing	July 21 at 9:15 am
NDWCA Board meeting	Sept. 28, Bismarck