Cass County Weed Control Board Cass County Weed Control Office 1201 Main Ave W, West Fargo Monday, April 8, 2024

NOTE: The Weed Board meeting will begin at 11 am due to scheduling conflicts.

11:00 AM Meeting called to order.

Roll call of the members

Approve minutes of previous meeting

Approve order of agenda

<u>Agenda</u>

1. Budget Report

a. Monthly Financial Statementsb. Approval of billsInformation/action

2. New Business

a. Review Weed Officer Candidates Information/action

b.

c. 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

Period from March 11 to April 2, 2024,

submitted by Stan Wolf

New Business:

Review Weed Officer Candidates: Candidates were interviewed for the weed officer position on April 3, and April 4, 2024. A review of the candidates will be undertaken to determine further action.

Monthly Report:

Spray Contract Bid Award: The contracts were mailed to Walker's Lawncare and J&J Spraying for their signature. J&J Spraying has returned signed copies for the board chair to sign to complete the contract.

Herbicide Purchase: The herbicides needed for the contractors and weed control staff have been ordered with delivery to be determined. The plan is to have the products delivered directly to the contractors and to Cass County Weed Control. The total cost is \$140,400.00.

RISE Grassroots Network: Senator Hoeven's office sent out a request for assistance to petition to increase the funding for the EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs to properly fund the pesticide registration program for new herbicides and reregistering current herbicides. The President's proposed budget decreased funding by \$6 million which may decrease the number of registrations done. Currently there is a large backlog of registrations waiting to be completed. Mr. Wolf on March 18, 2024, did respond to Hoven's office to add Cass County Weed Board to the list of supporting agencies to increase funding to the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs.

Seasonal field aid position posting. The position posting closed on March 25, 2024. One application was received and contacted to come in for an interview. The applicant did not respond. The position has been reposted.

NDDA TAG Grant Payment: Received NDDA Targeted Assistance Grant payment in the amount of \$209.85 as a 75% cost share for purchasing the Remote ID unit for the drone. The remaining funds available in the 2023-2025 TAG program are \$7,290.11.

Weed Control Work Order: Fargo Parks has agreed to have Cass County Weed Control conduct control operations for Purple loosestrife in North Oaks park in north Fargo. This area is the same area previously controlled by Weed Control for the city of Fargo.

Weed Seed Free Forage Inquiry: Two contractors working with the FM Diversion Project called to inquire about straw mulch, who they could purchase from. They were referred to the ND Department of Agriculture which has a list of WSFF producers. They were also advised to develop contracts with local producers for their needs.

Upcoming Events:

NDWCA board meeting Cass Co Weed Board meeting NDWCA Sprayer School April 23, Bismarck May 13, West Fargo May 25, Carrington