

Powell County Weed Board May 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order:

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm by Jim Stone. In attendance: Jim Stone and Rem Mannix by Zoom, Joe Dippold, Tammy Schusted, Sandy Graveley, Bo Walker, Karen Laitala, and David Wells in person at Weed Office.

Approved Agenda:

Tammy Schusted made a motion to approve the agenda. Sandy Graveley seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved by the board.

Approved Minutes:

Sandy Graveley made a motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting, this was seconded by Tammy Schusted, and approved by the board.

Old Business:

County Weed Management Plan Update: Tammy Schusted made a motion to approve the County Weed Management Plan as written, Joe Dippold seconded the motion, and it was approved by the board.

New Business:

Budget: Background given by Karen Laitala. We have created a new line item for placing future funds received for administrative fees. Currently looking to have our outlay account adjusted. Plans are to leave 50% left in the outlay account, have 25% moved into line item 2140-360 for building repairs and maintenance and the remaining 25% into line item 2140-390 other purchased services. A discussion of buildings maintenance and upgrading included roofing, doors and framing, and other items pertinent to both the office building and the shop. A discussion was also held about replacing the Weed Board vehicle. To use funds from the outlay account requires that the purchase be greater than \$5,000.00 and a life expectancy of 5 years or greater. Jim Stone spoke on a salary raise of 10% for Karen and a COLA raise for David. Rem Mannix stated that the Commissioners would be willing to hear the board's recommendation. Rem explained that all other position wages are set by the Clerk and Records salary. The Weed Coordinator's position is separate from this and that the Commissioners will consider funds available to the Weed Board. Joe Dippold made a motion to make the recommendation to the Commissioner's to raise Karen's salary by 10%. Seconded by Tammy Schusted and approved by the Board.

Administrative Report:

Presented by David Wells: still waiting on claims to be filed for end of fiscal year in order to balance the final budget. David answered questions on the budget and end of the year standing. Davis will provide Pam Reighard (County Treasurer) with a financial break down of each payment received for the Weed Board expenditure and the percent administrative portion of these payments.

Approve Bills:

A motion to approve was made by Sandy Graveley, seconded by Tammy Schusted, and approved by the board.

County Commission Report:

Rem Mannix reported that the FY 2021 Budget will be worked on in the near future, that the commissioners are working with local businesses requesting their help with opening the city businesses back up, and the potential for city business owners to work with the Governor to give the Counties the power to choose what is right for their County.

Member Reports:

Bo Walker, County Extension, has completed his training and is now certified to evaluate noxious weed seed free forage. Montana Department of Ag will post a list of those growers that have been certified for noxious weed seed free forage. Sandy Graveley asked about the weeds along the river. He is still working on getting certified as a pesticide applicator for Montana.

Weed Coordinator's Report:

In addition to submitting her monthly report, Karen explained that this year our grant proposal to the trust fund to treat the Clarkfork River's edge was not approved in response to a board member's comment about the leafy spurge along the river.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tammy Schusted, seconded by Sandy Graveley and approved by the Board. The meeting was adjourned by Jim Stone at 8:41 pm.

Minutes Submitted by David Wells