

FALL RIVER COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD MEETING  
June 6, 2013 Minutes

The Fall River County Weed and Pest Board meeting was called to order by President Jerry Wyatt at 4:12 p.m., June 6, 2013 at the Fall River County jury meeting room. Attending members were Jerry Wyatt, John Bogner, Joe Faulkenburg, Heath Greenough, John Sides, and Nina Steinmetz. All motions unanimous unless otherwise stated. Motion to approve the agenda and minutes of the last meeting was made by Joe Faulkenburg and seconded by Heath Greenough.

Old Business:

Spring Fling, April 27, at the Mueller Center for public education on noxious weeds was well attended. The Mountain Pine Beetle and Ips tree stumps was a main point of interest. An estimated 30-40 people stopped to examine noxious weed samples.

The mosquito fogger was calibrated on May 7<sup>th</sup> in Rapid City. Van Diest Supply Co. out of Pierre puts on this workshop for free. Calibration is required by the state for fogging equipment.

The Weed and Pest staff, Nina Steinmetz, supervisor and sprayer help, Ray Palmer, attended the SISMA training Day, May 13. Topics covered included basic first aid, calibration of spray equipment, weed Id, fire safety and proper handling of chemicals. It was a very informative day.

Leasing of the PERC machine went very well. Landowner leased the machine for the weekend and was able to do over 40 acres of an infested prairie dog pasture with less than 10 dig out holes.

New Business:

Heath Greenough made the motion to increase the county's contract spraying rate for private landowners to \$77.00 an hour with a verification of need form to keep in compliance with state law. John Sides seconded the motion.

Nina Steinmetz reported that the Hoary Cress population has almost doubled this spring. Weather conditions the last two weeks has made control very difficult. Escort is still the suggested chemical for control. We will also be trying to schedule the airplane to fly the Cheyenne River to GPS leafy spurge patches that we can treat in the fall.

John Sides requested that the Board write a letter to local flower shops and funeral homes, requesting that Baby's Breath (*Gypsophila paniculata*) be removed from floral arrangements that are going to the cemetery. Baby's Breath can be a invasive noxious weed that can spread rapidly across private land (pastures) with little to no forage value.

The next scheduled meeting is set for Tuesday, July 2, 2013 – 3:00 p.m. - Fall River County Courthouse jury room.

Meeting was adjourned.

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Nina Steinmetz, Secretary

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