

FALL RIVER COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD MEETING

April 17, 2018 Minutes

The Fall River County Weed and Pest Board meeting was called to order by President Jerry Wyatt at 2:10 PM April 17, 2018 at the Fall River County South Annex meeting room. Attending members were John Sides, Wayne Hageman and Nina Steinmetz. Also in attendance were Ron Moehring, SD Department of Ag., Telca Paprocki, Buffalo Gap National Grasslands Representative, Susan Henderson, Susan Watt, Cindy Brunson, Mark Weldon and Karla Weldon. Bob Novotny arrived at 2:45 PM and Joe Falkenburg arrived at 3:10 PM., All motions unanimous unless otherwise stated. Motion to approve the agenda and minutes of the last meeting were made by John Sides and seconded by Wayne Hageman.

Old Business:

Fall River County Commissioner approved \$6000 for a 50/50 reimbursement grant for prairie dog rodenticides. Receipts will be accepted from November 1, 2017 to October 31, 2018.

The Black Hills Botany Ecology Workshop was held March 9, 2018 at the Game, Fish and Parks Outdoor Center in Rapid City by Weed and Pest staff. Topic on conservation and science of black-footed ferrets, principles of soil health, and influences of precipitation on bison weights were a few of the presentations.

Weed and Pest staff also attended the Black Hills Invasive Plant Partnership meeting March 23 at the Game, Fish and Parks Outdoor Center in Rapid City. Discussion was held on Absinth wormwood being added to the state noxious list and 2018 projects that each county and agency will be working on.

Wayne Hageman made a motion to allow Nina Steinmetz, Weed and Pest Supervisor, to use best judgment for getting the newsletter printed. Seconded by John Sides. The quotes for printing and mail were very close.

New Business:

Samantha Christensen has been approved to be the new mosquito surveillance tech. Shelby Happe will be doing the training and orientation. County will have traps in Hot Springs, Edgemont, Oelrichs, Buffalo Gap, and Hermosa.

The Notice of Responsibility to Control was printed in the newspapers starting on April 5th for 2 weeks.

Wayne Hageman made a motion to keep the 2018 Fall River County Contract Spraying rates the same as 2017. Rates are posted at the Weed and Pest Office.

Nina Steinmetz reported on the 2018 Spring Fling held April 14th at the Hot Springs Mueller Center. A small variety of state and local noxious weeds were on display.

A break was taken at 2:50 PM to allow time for the arrival of one more board member.

Meeting reconvened at 3:15 PM.

Mrs. Brunson presented additional information on burrowing owls and Jerry Wyatt read the following materials: Letter to Fall River County States Attorney from Mrs. Brunson, Letter from Susan Henderson requesting an extension for application, the final prairie dog count taken at the Henderson Property, and a letter from the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service SD Ecological Services for environmental comments. Ron Moehring, SD Department of Ag, explained the process for taking the prairie dog count, its results on March 30, 2018, and his observations.

After a lengthy discussion with all parties involved a motion was made by John Sides and seconded by Wayne Hageman that remedial action was required and would start on April 30, 2018. Board Member's vote: Jerry Wyatt – Yes, Bob Novotny – Yes, John Sides – Yes, Wayne Hageman – Yes, Joe Falkenburg- No. Nina Steinmetz will prepare notice letters and find commercial applicators to do remedial action.

The next meeting will be May 1, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. at the Fall River County Weed and Pest Office/ South Annex. Meeting was adjourned.

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Nina Steinmetz, Secretary

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