

PENNINGTON COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD

Pennington County Weed & Pest Office

3607 Cambell Street, Rapid City, SD

Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 12:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jerry Hirrschoff, Chairman

Mark DiSanto, Vice Chairman

Deb Hadcock, County Commissioner Liaison

Paul Paulsen

Bert Jocks

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Scott Guffey, Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hirrschoff called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Additional Items / Approve Agenda

Motion made by DiSanto to approve the agenda, seconded by Jocks, motion carried. Motion made by Paulsen to approve meeting minutes for the August 3rd, 2022 meeting, seconded by Jocks, motion carried.

Budget Report

Scott Guffey presented Budget Report for Weed & Pest (615) and Natural Resources (616) budgets. Weed & Pest (615) has 22% remaining, Forestry budget (616) is at 67% for the remainder of the year.

OLD BUSINESS

Shaded Fuel Break

The crew started on the South Rochford Rd project private land tree removal, the trees are located on private lands that will be affected by the road re-alignment. There are 300 merchantable trees for removal, Nieman Timber Co. will be purchasing the trees. Guffey ordered a Diamond drum masticator (\$32,500) from RDO, it is supposed to be delivered next week and they will give us a demo on how to operate it. Guffey said this masticating head will work better near roads, since debries won't fly as far. Funding for the masticating head will come from over-collected funds. After the crew is finished with Rochford Rd, there are few trees to cut along Bogus Jim Rd for county highway project. Once Bogus Jim is complete, they will start on the Twin Springs fuels reduction project.

Black Hills National Forest Plan Revision

The county commission approved \$50k from the contingency fund to the Black Hills Council of Local Governments to hire an consultant to assist the counties with the forest plan revision. Guffey said once they move into phase II on the revision process, there could be weekly half to full day meetings. Counties don't have the staff to dedicate that much time, that is why a consultant makes sense. The FS will be meeting the counties next week to discuss the counties concerns with the forest plan assessments and concerns with the cooperative agency status agreement.

Black Hills Forest Advisory Board

Guffey has had two meeting as an advisory board meetings, still getting up and going. Elected a chair and vice chair at the last meeting and now will be diving into forest related issues. Some of the first issues to discuss are forest plan revision, mining, OHV travel, and logging.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Supplement

Guffey will need a budget supplement to the 616 Forestry budget to pay for the new drum masticating head and still determining if we'll need a budget supplement to the 615 Weed & Pest budget. Forestry and if needed Weed & Pest budget supplements will both come from over-collected revenues.

Vehicle Purchase

Guffey said Lamb Motors contacted him, the Ford F350 1ton diesel pickup ordered on the state bid list last November is not coming in and would have to be ordered off this year's state bid list, which that same vehicle now costs \$12k more. Guffey has been looking for a used 1ton diesel pickup under \$50k and has not found much. If he can find one under \$50k, it won't have to go out for bid. Guffey said if he can't find one, he'll ask the \$42k vehicle allowance in this year's budget be rolled over to next year's budget and will order off of state bid.

SD Weed & Pest Grant Application

Guffey said the weed & pest grant applications are out from the SD Weed & Pest Commission. Once again there is the county grants, that every county is eligible for that are around \$5k. Also, there is the competitive grant application, Guffey said he would be applying for Yellow Toad Flax bio-control agents. It would be a group application between Pennington, Meade, and Lawrence county in the amount \$5k. Guffey has also been appointed to the grant review committee.

District 4 Weed & Pest Meeting

The state weed & pest district 4 meeting is Tuesday, October 25th at the Outdoor Campus in Rapid City. Two representatives from the county must attend to be eligible for the grant funds. Guffey and Jocks will plan attending the meeting.

Crew Update

The crew have been cutting trees for a couple of weeks now and will continue through the winter. A couple of prairie dog towns need to be poisoned too.

Additional Item

Agency Report

None

ADJOURN

Motion made by DiSanto to adjourn the meeting at 1:15pm, seconded by Paulsen, motion carried.

Next meeting will be December 7th, 2022.

Submitted by Scott Guffey