

PENNINGTON COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARD
Pennington County Natural Resources Office
3607 Cambell Street, Rapid City, SD
Wednesday, October 9, 2024, 12:30 pm
Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Paul Paulsen, Chairman
Jerry Hirschoff
Casey Knuppe
Bert Jocks
Travis Lasseter, County Commissioner Liaison

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Scott Guffey, Director

CALL TO ORDER

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

Additional Items / Approve Agenda

Motion made by Jocks to approve the agenda, seconded by Knuppe, motion carried. Motion made by Knuppe to approve meeting minutes for the August 14, 2024 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 23% remaining, Forestry budget (616) is at 19% for the remainder of the year.

OLD BUSINESS

Shaded Fuel Break

County highway department is working with the Forest Service on range fences along S. Rockerville Road, we are doing the fence clearing. About 10 miles of a 20ft clear cut will be done, there is 156 ccf of merchantable logs and 9 ccf of POL to remove, along with some big oak trees. Neiman Timber is interested in merchantable logs, looking for interested parties in the POL and oak trees. Clearing needs to be done by March, 2025.

Black Hills National Forest Plan Revision

Nothing new to report on the plan revision, FS working on an Old Growth EIS. Pennington County submitted comments that old growth protections are already in the forest plans, no need add extra protections that lead to confusion and lawsuits.

2025 Budget

2025 Budget was approved as submitted. Guffey said there is \$30k in for vehicle replacement, not enough for pickup. There is still \$30k remaining in 2024 for vehicle replacement. Guffey talked to the Auditor on how to use both amounts for a 1-ton diesel pickup purchase off the state bid. Guffey is going to ask the dealership if we can put half down now and pay the other half when the vehicle arrives in 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

2025 SD Weed & Pest Commission Grant Applications

The 2025 SD Weed & Pest Commission Grant applications are due November 15th, Guffey will submit contractual county grant – which is awarded to every county that applies, as long as they meet all the criteria that are required. Guffey will also be submitting a competitive grant in the amount of \$10,000 for absinthe wormwood and common tansy control in

the county. Motion by Jocks, for Guffey to submit the two grants and to have him sign both grant applications on behalf of the Pennington County Weed & Pest Board, Seconded by Hirrschoff, motion carried.

Crew Update

Crews winterized the spraying equipment and now have started brushing the S. Rockerville Rd fence line project.

Additional Item

Agency Report

ADJOURN

Motion made by Hirrschoff to adjourn the meeting at 1:10pm, seconded by Jocks, motion carried.

Next meeting will be December 11, 2024.

Submitted by Scott Guffey