



Gallatin County Weed Board

Regular Monthly Meeting

March 5, 2020 1:15 pm

ATTENDEES:

- **Board members:** Keith Mainwaring, Bob Hofman and Noelle Orloff.
- **Others:** John Ansley (Coordinator), Mike Jones (Assistant Coordinator), Danielle Jones (Program Assistant), Don Siefert (Commissioner), and Cola Rowley (Deputy County Administrator).

MINUTES: Bob moved to approve the minutes for the February board meeting, Keith seconded, and all approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- An update of the Gallatin County Weed Management Plan is required by MDA in 2020. A draft with revisions for the update was handed out at the last meeting for board members to review. The revised enforcement policy has been incorporated into the draft Plan. Other changes to the Plan included an updated weed list and revised estimates of acreage for each weed species in the county. Board members provided comments about suggested revisions. These changes will be incorporated into the Plan, and the final copy will be brought to the next meeting for signature by the Board. After the Board approves the Plan, the Commissioners will need to approve also, which will happen at a public meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Public Comment:** No members of the public were present.
- **Monthly Report Q&A, discussion included:**
 - There has been a lack of new subdivision weed management plans submitted recently.
- **Commissioner Report:**
 - There was discussion about personnel changes for the Weed District that will be requested in the FY21 budget, including rewriting job duties and reclassifying positions.
- **Coordinators Report:**
 - **North Bridgers WMA NWTF Grant Hearing.** Mike gave a presentation to the Trust Fund committee on March 4th in Helena about the Bridger WMA Continuing Grant. The grant application was submitted to the Trust Fund in January, and Mike summarized the details of the grant for the committee and answered questions. The grant would provide \$20,000 in cost share funds for helicopter spraying in the WMA in 2020.
 - **SW Area Commercial/Private Applicator Training.** Mike and Danielle attended the training in Whitehall on February 18th, and Mike summarized the topics covered, including feral swine, glyphosate, ground squirrel control, turf management, and invasive grasses.
 - **Position Reclassification Letter.** John discussed the possibility of the Board writing letters to the Commission to express its support for the personnel requests that will be part of the FY21 budget.
 - **2020 Annual Weed Manager's Meeting.** The Weed Managers Meeting is scheduled for the morning of April 29th in the Ag Center conference room. A save-the-date email has been sent out to

weed managers in Gallatin County. The purpose of the meeting is to bring together people that may be interested in sharing weed management projects that they have been working on, as well as discussing potential opportunities for collaboration across agencies.

- **Roundtable, Discussion Included:**

- John will send out bid requests to Nutrien Solutions, Ag Depot, Rocky Mountain Supply, Wilbur Ellis, and Helena Chemical. Tordon, Escort, 2-4D amine, and glyphosate will be included in the bid. The surfactant Liberate will also be purchased, but it will not be included in this bid. Only Nutrien Solutions carries Liberate, so it will be purchased from them separately. Bids will be opened at the April board meeting.

Meeting dismissed at 2:00 pm

Next scheduled meeting: April 2, 2020, 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Danielle Jones, Program Assistant