



## Gallatin County Weed Board

### Regular Monthly Meeting

May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 1:15 pm

#### ATTENDEES:

- **Board members:** Keith Mainwaring and Fred Bell.
- **Others:** John Ansley (Coordinator), Mike Jones (Assistant Coordinator), Danielle Jones (Program Assistant), Glenn Cloclough.

**MINUTES:** Minutes were reviewed and a correction was noted, but a motion for approval was not presented because there was not a quorum present. A motion for approval of the minutes will be presented at the next board meeting.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- There was no old business to discuss.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- **Public Comment:** Glenn Cloclough (private applicator) introduced himself.
- **Monthly Report Q&A:**
  - Discussion included recent Weed Management Plans for subdivisions.
- **Commissioner Report:**
  - Commissioner MacFarlane was not present.
- **Coordinators Report:**
  - **Annual Weed Managers Meeting.** Approximately 20 people attended the meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Some of the entities represented at the meeting were the Forest Service, GVLTA, MDT, MSU, Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance, FWP, and NRCS. Upcoming projects were discussed and opportunities for partnerships were identified. The meeting went longer than planned, and it was suggested to schedule a longer period of time for next year's meeting.
  - **SW Area Meeting.** Mike and Danielle attended the meeting in Whitehall. Mike summarized some of the topics discussed, including the new education trailer that will be available for Weed District use, the upcoming spring crew training where Mike will give a talk, and the possibility of SW Area counties getting together every year for a spray day.
  - **Environmental Leadership Event.** Mike and Jen Mohler (from GISA) attended the event on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Flying D Ranch. The event was sponsored by Gateway Youth Group, and the format included 8-10 stations that kids rotated through, with Mike and Jen working the weed station. There was another educational event the next day with the Gateway Youth Group that Mike and Danielle attended in Gallatin Gateway.
  - **Ranch HOA Meeting.** John and Mike attended an education/outreach event on May 1<sup>st</sup> at The Ranch Subdivision HOA meeting. People from surrounding subdivisions were also invited to attend. They discussed weed id, weed concerns for the area, and summarized the services provided by the Weed District.

- **Equipment Update.** All of the trucks have been serviced, and all of the truck slide-in rental units have been calibrated. The ATV rental units and spray trucks will be calibrated next. Calls have started coming in for rental sprayers.
- **Cost Share.** Requests for cost share have increased in recent years, and the cost share funds for this year will likely exceed the allotted budget amount. John will ask for an increase in the cost share line item of the budget for fiscal year 2020, from the current \$4000 to possibly \$10,000.
- **Drone Update.** John and Mike met with the commissioners, county administrator, and others at the April 15<sup>th</sup> Monday morning meeting. They seemed supportive of the Weed District purchasing a drone, but requested that John and Mike write a draft drone policy for the county. John and Mike will contact other entities that currently have a drone policy to gather ideas for a Gallatin County policy.
- **Upcoming Events.** Farm Fair, May 7 to 9<sup>th</sup>; SW Area crew training, May 28 and 29<sup>th</sup> in Alder; Annual Bear Trap Spray Day, May 30<sup>th</sup>; Bighorn spray days, early June; Gallatin River Weed Pull, June 15<sup>th</sup>; Big Sky Community Weed Pull, late June.
- **Roundtable, Discussion Included:**
  - Complaints have been coming in, and some friendly letters have already been sent out this year. At least two official complaints have carried over from last year, and the process picks up again and continues for those complaints this year. The herbicide was recently delivered, and the contracts for road spraying are lined up. Later in May, the contractors will pick up their herbicide for the season.
  - There was an update given and discussion about blueweed and ventenata in Gallatin County.

Meeting dismissed at 2:15 pm

Next scheduled meeting: June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Danielle Jones, Program Assistant