



**Gallatin County Weed Board
Regular Monthly Meeting
December 03, 2009**

Board members present were Bob Hofman (Chair), Jeff Littlefield, Keith Mainwaring, Craig Morgan, and Fred Bell. Commissioner Skinner was excused. **Also** present were Rachael Rhoades (MSU student), John Ansley (Interim Coordinator) and Rosemary Perry (Secretary).

Minutes. The Minutes of the November meeting had been sent to the Board and were approved as submitted.

Budget. No discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Fred Bell** had a question regarding the development of the utility company agreement. This project will be picked up again now that the grant applications have been submitted. We are still waiting for the Three Rivers contract.
2. **Bob Hofman** asked if Ansley had had a chance to check out the old sprayers. Ansley has not had a chance to get to them yet.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Public Comment/Other.** Rachael Rhoades introduced herself. She is a student majoring in plant sciences at MSU.
2. **Monthly Report Q&A.**
 - Bell had a question about the commercial applicator who had called regarding a three (3) year contract with a developer. The developer had paid him for the first year of weed control but not for the second. The applicator had called looking for some assistance on procedure. He was referred to Justice Court.
 - Bell had a question about the call from Barta regarding the soils report for grant application. Ansley explained the new WINPEST report requirement for grant applications.
 - Bell asked about the call from the Department of Ag regarding matching funds for the Frog Rock grant area. Ansley explained that there was a discrepancy in the estimated funds that the Weed District would expend in the area on the original grant application. This has been rectified with the Department of Agriculture.
3. **Interview Committee.** There was discussion regarding the set up of the Interview Committee. Commissioner Skinner and Ron Carlstrom (Gallatin County Ag Extension Agent) would both like to be on the committee. The Board felt that Bob Hofman should also be on the committee, however his Board term expires on December 31st and he doesn't know at this time if he will be reappointed. Jeff Littlefield and Fred Bell will serve.
4. **Commission Report.** None.
5. **Interim Coordinator Report.**
 - Ansley submitted a letter of nomination to the MWCA for the Big Sky Weed Committee naming Jody Fagan and Mike Jones for all their work. He informed the Board that he would like to have nominated Commissioner Skinner for the Commissioner Award. However, the

Commissioner has to be a member of the MWCA. Commissioner Skinner has been a tremendous support to the Weed District and it would be nice to acknowledge him for that.

- Weed Summit. Plans for the Weed Summit are under way. For the Agency Award Ansley would like to see the MDT recognized for all the work they are doing. We are having trouble coming up with a name for an individual Weed Fighter of the Year Award. Hofman suggested nominating Commissioner Skinner and Littlefield suggested renaming the award to be a Special Recognition Award.
- Ansley and Perry submitted an article to the SW Area Newsletter.
- MWCA membership. Ansley informed the Board that the MWCA has a group rate for membership. He asked the Board if they would like to join as part of a group. Bell and Littlefield have been paying individually and so the Weed District could pick up their memberships. The Board felt it would be good to do a group membership.
- The Contract for insulating the shop was awarded to Gallatin Insulation. The Commission approved the contract at a public meeting on November 24th. The CorBond representatives brought up questions on the quality of the product used by Gallatin Insulation at high altitude. Ansley has done research on the matter and received documentation from the company regarding high altitude applications.
- Ansley will deliver the contracts to Door Tech and Tin Works this afternoon after the meeting.
- Blue Sky Development Enforcement billing. The Invoice for the mowing and spraying of the property was sent out per State law by certified mail and also by delivery confirmation. The certified mail was returned to us as unclaimed; however the delivery confirmation letter was delivered. Ansley has sent a copy of the invoice to the Clerk and Recorder for attachment to the taxes.
- Ansley and Perry are currently cleaning up computer files.
- The two (2) grants – Rocky Creek WMA and the Hebgen Basin WMA were submitted on November 30th. Ansley discussed running the grants (if awarded) through the Northern Rocky Mountain RC&D. Ansley presented his request to the RC&D Board and was approved. This will make the budget process for the grants more streamlined.
- Mainwaring asked if there was a warranty on the insulation. Ansley informed him that there was a standard one year warranty.
- Fred Bell asked if the stimulus funds were here yet. Ansley replied that the grants department has informed him that a percentage of the total funds have been received.

6. Round Table.

- Littlefield reported that he had attended a four hour seminar on Internal Control and Fraud Training that the county had put on. Perry also attended. The presenter was a CPA and put forward a lot of Risk Management strategies.
- The Grant Evaluation Forms from the Department of Agriculture were passed out for the Board to review.

The meeting adjourned at 2.10PM. The next meeting will be January 7th, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Perry, Secretary