



**Gallatin County Weed Board
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
May 7 2015**

ATTENDEES:

- **Board members:** Steve Saunders, Keith Mainwaring, Jeff Littlefield, Bob Hofman
- **Others:** John Ansley(Coordinator), Emily Lockard (Extension), Brad Bauer (Extension), Mary Vanderby (Program Assistant), Rosemary Perry, Mark Payne, Glen Colclough

MINUTES: Bob Hofman moved the minutes be approved as written, Keith Mainwaring 2nd. Minutes approved

OLD BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Emily Lockard:** Reported the Noxious Weed Grants are being finalized by MSU and should be available shortly. Packets will be prepared and sent out. There is a range monitory workshop with Jeff Mosley on June 23- more details will be available later. Steve recommending letting Belgrade FFA know about the workshop
- **Brad Bauer:** Hosting small acreage classes there is one week devoted to noxious weeds. Brad has a forestry management evening workshop in Big Sky planned. More information will be available later.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **E-mail Preservation – full disclosure:** Steve asked Mary to report how the process works currently. Mary said the County archives all email. The board was encouraged to loop all email through the Weed District office and use the IT archive system as a backup. Board members are discouraged to communicate on official business without including the county. If there is communication between board members, the communication must be kept for 3 years.
- **Monthly Report Q&A**
 - Keith asked about the sealer for the chemical shed. John has contacted MaCon about a sealer product to apply ourselves. The commercial sprayer we used for our concrete pad did not feel comfortable applying a sealer.
 - Steve Saunders asked if calls were increasing for advice and sprayer rental. Things have started to get busier.
 - Emily inquired about a call from Gallatin River Ranch concerned about the number of sheep grazing in the subdivision. We referred the caller to MSU.
- **Coordinators Reports**
 - **Big Sky Weed Summit (April 14)** about 15 of the landowners at Big Sky attended to talk about issues from the Big Sky area and schedule some cooperative projects throughout the summer

- **Level 3 Workshop (April 15 & 16)** Jane Mangold is teaching a class that Mike and John are both participating in. They will develop a project and submit the results in the fall.
 - **SW Area Meeting (April 21)** meeting in Whitehall. Discussed crew training and had volunteers for different stations. John will be doing calibration and label stations.
 - **Real Colors Workshop (April 21)** class put on by the County. Dan Clarke presented. Discussed different personality types and how to best compliment each other in the work place
 - **Weed Manager's Meeting (April 23)** 22 people attended representing different agency around the county. It is nice to bring all the agencies together to hopefully head off issues and try to schedule cooperative projects
 - **Conflict Resolution Workshop (April 23)** also put on by the county.
 - **Staff Meeting re: Budget (April 29)** our initial budget is about the same as last year. They did cut us from last year in the oil/gas category. Total amount previously was \$11,000 now \$5,500. This will be close to our annual use. We will request a \$700 increase in training for the next fiscal year. We are going to request funds for a 40 ft I-beam inside the shop to help transfer the sprayers from inside to outside. This is a safety issue with the floor hoist – it can become tippy
 - **Farm Fair (May 5-7)** 1,000 4th graders go through in the 3 days. Jen Mohler from Gallatin/Big Sky Noxious Weed Committee and Shantell Frame from Dept of Ag helped.
 - **Dept. Head Meeting (May 7)** Jim Doar is a big advocate on safety and developing a plan. OSHA does not regulate the County we may contact MOSHA to come do an inspection. John questioned when to use a contract routing form. The County would like a completed Service Agreement when we order our herbicide. The public group will meet about 3 times a year.
 - **Crew Update** Madison Ruff and Trygg Moog, both from Havre will be our spray crew this year. They will start May 18
 - **Upcoming Events**
 - **BLM Beartrap Spray Day May 21st** Mike and our crew will go
 - **Gateway Youth Weed Pull May 29th**
 - **Crew Training Dillon June 1-3:** The crew should only need to attend June 1-2. Our crew are licensed applicators with a current government license.
- **Round table**
 - **Steve Saunders:** Steve is negotiating with Bayer Environmental Science to serve as a consultant. Steve will visit with the Commissioners and John if this comes about over any conflict of interest issues.
 - **John Ansley:** Complaints are coming in. All are resolved but the most current.
 - Rosemary stated there should be a MOSHA report from the last time they inspected.
 - **Weed Shop Tour**

Meeting dismissed 2:00 pm

Next scheduled meeting: June 4, 2015, 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Vanderby

Program Assistant