



## Gallatin County Weed Board

### Regular Monthly Meeting

October 1, 2015

#### ATTENDEES:

- **Board members:** Keith Mainwaring, Fred Bell, Steve Saunders
- **Others:** John Ansley (Coordinator), Mike Jones (Assistant Coordinator), Mary Vanderby (Program Assistant), Mark Payne, Glenn Colclough, Peggy Lehmann

**MINUTES:** Keith moved to accept the minutes, Fred 2<sup>nd</sup> – approved without dissent

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Peggy Lehmann of Axtell Gateway Rd came to the board with a concern. The Lehmann's have a contract with Gallatin County Weed District for a no-spray zone in front of their property. Late June Ms Lehmann noted that everything on Axtell Gateway Rd from McReynolds Rd N on the E side had been sprayed by herbicide. Ms Lehmann contacted the Weed District and was reassured that no one connected with the County had sprayed the road. There is no way to determine who did spray. It was decided that Ms Lehmann will contact her neighbors and place additional No-Spray signage along the road provided by the county. This will hopefully prevent people from randomly spraying along the road. Ms Lehmann may contact Theresa Schrum with Dept of Ag to see if there is a test to find out type of herbicide.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- **Monthly Report Q&A**
  - Fred had question about Jackrabbit business park and if it was a commercial project. They have 1 acre lots planned.
  - Fred questioned about the walk in citizen that came in. We educated him on the county GIS system that is available online so he can find out landowners to develop a cooperative treatment plan in his area. This is a great resource available to the general public
  - Fred has a parking lot in front of a warehouse that needs weed treatment. The plan is to use 2,4D and a sterilant. What is the best plan to keep the weeds controlled. Cheat Grass is the invader trying to be controlled. Plateau or "Roundup" would be a better answer for the cheat grass.
  - Keith asked about a meeting with EXCEL Machine – it was for the beam in the shop, we have not yet received a bid back. We just met with Scott Sievert to work on a bid as well.
  - Steve asked when the Springhill Reserve plan was completed. He noted that lots are now available for sale. It was applied for a couple of years ago and has been taken care of since that time.
  - Steve asked about the Panache property. The property has been sprayed by All American Weed Services, Glenn Colclough. Steve brought up the challenge of herbicide selection when the development is going to be turned into residential lots. The challenge is timing! Fred did bring in the Realtor opinion that spraying is needed and ongoing. A clean property is more appealing than an infested property. Weed infestation is listed in the buy-sell agreement and sellers disclosure.

- **Coordinators Reports**

- **Spray update:** the guys have been focusing on touch up roads and parks where there may be issues. They went down and did a fall treatment around West Yellowstone. There have been phone calls on Japanese Knot Weed. The guys removed a trailer load of a plant in the city on the corner of Sheridan and Durston. There is also a sighting on Swamp Rd. John treated the plant in the Right of Way. The feeling is there are more plants of Knot Weed than what we know – it can be a very destructive invader. Keith recommended a PSA in the Spring.
- **Enforcements:** McCrone's: Cooperation was not received, we obtained the court order to treat the property up Kelly Canyon and plan to treat next week.
- **Trust Fund Grants:** Reports for this year are complete. We have a potential grant in the Jackson Creek/Bozeman pass area. Ranch manager of Whisper Ridge is trying to put together a group for a grant area. Steve asked about potential cooperation with the FS if we are able to get the grant. He recommends contacting Bob Summers of Helena Weed Control to work the area along the interstate if it abuts the grant area.
- **BSCC Meeting:** Mike & Jen Mohler met with Ciara Wolf of the Big Sky Community Corp to develop a weed management plan to treat their parks and trails and how GBSWC could assist in that effort
- **Ophir School Education Day:** 2<sup>nd</sup> graders were given a morning of educational activities.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - Spray up till hard freeze
  - McCrone property Enforcement
  - SW Area weed committee meeting in Butte
  - Big Sky Weed Committee meeting October 18
  - Mary Vanderby has submitted her resignation and will be leaving the Weed District as of October 13.
  - Mike and John will not be attending the Fall Coordinator Training but will attend the Dept of Ag training here in Bozeman.

- **Round table**

- Steve approached the topic of making the reporting of work more visual and measurable. He would like to develop a work plan and overlay onto a map that clearly shows where work is being done and prioritize objectives. More of the big picture plan than the minute details that are reported in the monthly report. A laptop may be the answer to bring in and present for board meetings. Set priority projects.

Meeting dismissed 2:40 pm

Next scheduled meeting: November 5, 2015, 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Vanderby

Program Assistant