



## Gallatin County Weed Board

### Regular Monthly Meeting

January 9, 2014

#### ATTENDEES:

- **Board members:** Fred Bell, Bob Hofman, Jeff Littlefield, Keith Mainwaring
- **Others:** John Ansley (Coordinator), Mike Jones (Assistant Coordinator), Joe Skinner (County Commission) Marcie Murnion (Conservation District), Emily Lockard (County Extension), Brad Bauer (County Extension), Jane Mangold (MSU)

#### MINUTES:

- Fred Bell – County Weed Management Plan due for revision – needs to be done by July, plan to have it done when the new weed list comes, April or May
- Fred Bell – Driving issue with the diesel truck – hub nut was backed off in the back – now fixed
- Minutes – Bob moved to accept, Keith 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

#### OPEN BOARD POSITIONS:

- Fred Bell applied to remain on the board, application was accepted and he will continue
- Craig Morgan did not reapply and will be leaving the board after many years of service.
- Keith Mainwaring unanimously approved as new chairman and took over running the meeting

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Gravel Pit in Weed Management Plan – staff recommends imputing a statement that says “**\*Be aware that gravel sources and topsoil may contain noxious weed seeds; therefore, we recommend using a source that is actively controlling noxious weeds on their property, consistent with an approved Weed Management Plan.\***”

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Jane Mangold Extension Noxious Weed Specialist– Medusahead – found in North Western Montana – annual invasive grass. Located in Sanders County on Salish Kootenia tribal lands. The county and tribe are working together. Infestation is about 80 acres. Same growth form as cheat grass. Has very high silica content, low palatability – very poor forage, creates thick layer of thatch. Best management practice is prescribed burn, herbicide application(Plateau) and revegetation. Photos from Oregon infestation presented.
- Marcie Murnion – Purchased 5 units in the Market Place building in Manhattan. The goal is to rent out kitchen in the facility and other facilities to have a rent free location. Purchased city lot used the help an

Americorp person to help develop an outdoor facility. Plan is to reduce Conservation District presence in the small acreage arena. Currently envision a full time position in the District for an education/resource person cooperating with Extension and NRCS. Conservation District is currently one of 3 finalists for a national grant for Conservation Districts

- Emily Lockard – Master Gardener class has started. Beef producers luncheon was held and the banquet is coming up. Crop school is Feb 19 at Headwaters (agenda available online). Greenhouse seminar - March 6. The search is underway for a new 4H agent

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Monthly Report Q&A**
  - **Fred Bell** – Questioned about Garden Center Subdivision – resubmitted, waiting on some paperwork from them
  - **Tumbleweed** – at Monforton School – we do not spray for that, it is a nuisance weed, public person is approaching the school to have a regular maintenance program.
  - **MCC – Montana Conservation Corp** – Looking for projects – we have invited them to our Spring meeting to help them connect with other agencies.
  - **Display Cargo Trailer** – South West Area is putting together an educational walk in trailer that can be used throughout the area. Insurance needs to be figured out – will most likely be housed in Dillon. Funding: trailer – from Dept of Ag, displays being priced out now.
- **Commission Report**
  - Continuing search for County Administrator. Looking at County internal structural changes.
- **Coordinators Reports**
  - **Weed Control Association Conference:** Jan 14 – 16, Urban county meeting to discuss items specific to growing areas
  - **GBSW C Meeting** – Dec 12, finalized the by-laws and articles of incorporation.
  - **Contracted Road Bid** – We are preparing 2 separate bid options, packets will be mailed out the week of Jan 27. Contractors can bid on one or both options. Bid deadline is Feb 21, 2014. The goal is to have cost saving over hiring an additional crew.
  - **MWCA Membership** – We have 10 people that we can have on our list. Will add new board member after appointment.
- **Round table**
  - **John** – Enforcement legal request reply from Erin Arnold
    - We are able to continue in the spring the enforcement of a complaint that begins in the fall
    - If a subdivision violates a WMP, the subdivision cannot be considered immediately in violation. The enforcement process must be followed in its entirety.
  - The Enforcement Reserve account has been approved and set up
  - Rush Skeleton – Beaverhead County has a population in the Black Tail area. Infested by a sheep population moved from Washington State. Cooperative effort will take place for treatment.
  - No additional requests have been made on the North Horseshoe hills Grant
  - Warne Chem – we have just placed a large order that we will pick up at conference.

Meeting adjourned 2:20 pm

Next scheduled meeting: February 6, 2014, 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Vanderby, Program Assistant