



Gallatin County Weed Board Regular Monthly Meeting

July 11, 2013

Attendees:

- **Board Members:** Fred Bell, Jeff Littlefield, Keith Mainwaring, Bob Hoffman, Craig Morgan
- **Others:** Joe Skinner (Commissioner), John Ansley (Coordinator), Mike Jones (Assistant Coordinator), Mary Vanderby (Program Assistant)

Minutes: Fred Bell moved to approve the minutes from June meeting, Keith Mainwaring 2nd, approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- **Monthly Report Q&A**
 - Cost Share – Fred Bell had a question about cost share - \$100 possible match per land owner for chemical costs – annual budget \$4000
 - Normont equipment: Claims – new road safety signs for crews.
 - Charles Page: Complaint on Monforton Rd – Canada thistle
- **Commissioner Report** – Budget approved similar to last year.
- **Department of Agriculture Meeting:**
 - Not much will change locally for our office. All management of aquatic weeds going to FWP. Some change in other state agencies alignment.
- **TU/BSNWC Pull:**
 - 30 volunteers, 750 lbs of weeds pulled along Gallatin River. John, Mike, Keith attended
- **Big Horn Sheep Spray Days:**
 - Took crew went for 2 days also hit Portal Creek and Deer Creek. Cooperative project with Forest Service, FWP, couple volunteers
- **Big Sky Weed Pull**
 - July 23 – Mike will attend
- **Big Sky Spray Day**
 - July 31 in cooperation with Madison county – will hit many of the “problem” spots.
- **Car Port/ Lean-to**
 - Building is completed, still need to purchase a hoist to lift sprayers. Recommended to get the Jet chain hoist to slide along the trolley. Check with electrician to get outlets and the best setup for the hoist.
- **Road Spraying/Applicator**
 - Met with Zach to review work.
 - Initial evaluation would be to go back to a county crew next year but will wait to make final decision at the end of the season.

- **Complaints:**
 - Many complaints coming in.
 - County Attorney reviewed our initial contact letter, the first notice was sent registered mail and 2nd notice will be reviewed and sent out as needed.
 - Will discuss with new attorney about the continuation of enforcement in future years after initial complaint has been processed and how best to enforce a WMP.
- **Cherry River Spray Day**
 - July 18, Cooperative effort with FWP. Seeing great improvement from previous years
- **County Fair**
 - July 17-21st – booth will be set up
- **Sprayer Rental**
 - Rentals slowing down, June is our busy month.
- **Subdivisions**
 - Valley Ridge – Requested weed problem be taken care of before approval
 - West Winds – Requested weed problem be taken care of before approval
 - County Park – has been sprayed and looking good.

ROUND TABLE

- County Road work is going well. Will go to West Yellowstone next week and hit entire area.
- There was a minor accident with the 4-wheeler. Operator was fine, no chemical spill. Mike and John repaired damage, straightened racks.
- Property complaint on Jack Rabbit lane submitted by Keith. Now owned by SKA, Inc – complaint process will need to be followed
- Question about spraying hoary alyssum... spray even when in bloom.
- Vinegar and salt as weed control – works as an acid and is non selective in control
- Pramitol – sterilant - best used with something to kill the top of the plant, pramatol works in the root system

Next meeting August 1, 2013

Meeting adjourned