



Gallatin County Weed Board

Regular Monthly Meeting

September 6th, 2018 1:15 pm

ATTENDEES:

- **Board members:** Keith Mainwaring, Steve Saunders, and Fred Bell.
- **Others:** John Ansley (Coordinator), Mike Jones (Assistant Coordinator), Danielle Jones (Program Assistant), Don Siefert (County Commissioner), Glenn Cloclough (Private Applicator).

MINUTES: Keith moved to accept the minutes as written, Fred seconded and all approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The 2018 County Weed Management Plan has been revised. Changes were made to the County Noxious Weed List, the subdivision Weed Management Plan review process, and procedures for enforcement. There was a discussion about the implications of adding ventenata to the county list and how to approach enforcement and management for this species. It was suggested that wording be added to the Plan that clarifies that an educational approach will be taken for some county listed species, such as ventenata. With the agreement that this change would be made to the Plan, Keith moved that the plan be approved, Steve seconded the motion, and all approved. Fred signed the approved Plan.
- John presented the resolution that will go to the Commission office to approve both the County Weed Management Plan and the changes to the County Noxious Weed list. This resolution will likely go before the Commissioners at the public meeting toward the end of September.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Public Comment:** No public comment.
- **Monthly Report Q&A:**
 - There was a discussion about subdivision weed management plans and the increased amount of development in the county, particularly north of Belgrade.
- **Commissioner Report:**
 - The budget has been approved and finalized.
- **Coordinators Report:**
 - **Spray Update.** The contractors have finished spraying the county roads. The Weed District will do some touchups this fall to the roadways and other properties. John summarized the areas that have recently been sprayed.
 - **Complaint/Enforcement Update.** A court order was received to treat a 39 acre property for musk and Canada thistle. The property will be treated at the end of September or early October. Another court order may have to be obtained for a property in Bridger Canyon where the landowner has not responded to the notices. 55 friendly/informational letters have been sent out so far this summer, and 23 formal complaints have been received. A summary was provided about active complaints.
 - After the meeting adjourns, the group will visit the East Gallatin Rec Area to view a site with ventenata that was treated with Esplanade herbicide.

- **Roundtable, Discussion Included:**

- There will be a ventenata tour in the Pass Creek area in October.
- There will be an outreach effort at the state level to try to improve weed control efforts on railroad property.
- There is concern about an SK infestation under the power line on Skinner Road.
- Sulfur cinquefoil has been spreading in the Springhill/Rocky Mountain Road area, it would be good to reach out to landowners to encourage control, and possibly look for funding to help.

Meeting dismissed at 2:20 pm

Next scheduled meeting: October 4th, 2018, 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Danielle Jones, Program Assistant