



Ward County Weed Control

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MINUTES – June 19, 2023

WEED CONTROL

Weed Board members present were Shaun Sipma, Christopher Rockeman, Jerome Behm and Lee Novak. Also present was Ward County Weed Officer Derrill Fick.

Chairman Sipma called the meeting to order.

Previous Minutes: Rockeman moved and Novak seconded to approve the previous minutes of March 20, 2023. Motion passed 4-0.

Bills: The bills were reviewed. Behm moved and Rockeman seconded to approve payment of the bills. Motion passed 4-0.

Cash on Hand: As of May 31, 2023 cash on hand is \$335,934.51.

Fick reported that \$5000 TAG grant funds will be received from the State Ag Department for reimbursement of portion of chemical purchase. The State Ag Department will also be providing a technology grant of \$7,600 for reimbursement of the purchase of two SpraySync dataloggers.

KMOT Ag Expo: Novak made a motion that the Ward County Weed Control Board participate in the 2023 KMOT Ag Expo, with a booth rental expense of \$600.00. Behm seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Spray Report: Fick reported the following:

- 1) Delvin Walter has been hired for seasonal spraying. No other applicants were received.
- 2) The contract sprayers for state highway rights-of-way should begin spraying later this week.
- 3) Shawn Morten-Dakota Helicopter plans to begin helicopter spraying as soon as possible.
- 4) Drone spraying – a few locations have been lined up for spraying this season, and Walker Landscaping will begin as soon as possible.
- 5) Office chemical sales began on June 6th and will end on June 28th.
- 6) Discussion was held regarding notifying townships that chemical is available to them at no cost, but is only to be used on township rights-of way.

ARPA Grant: Discussion was held regarding the need for water fill locations within Ward County. Novak made a motion that the ARPA grant (\$25,000) for the drone be repurposed for the improvement of efficiencies for infrastructure for water fill sites, and to authorize Fick to research equipment and locations. Rockeman seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, September 18 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting adjourned.

Nancy Kramer
Weed Board Secretary