

Noxious Weed Board Meeting

Minutes Outline

Lewis & Clark County
Regular Monthly Meeting
March 1, 2023
1:00 p.m.



City-County Building
Room 326
Helena, MT

Members Present

Dave Burch – Board Member, Chair
Pete Christensen – Board Member
Rob McDonough - Board Member

Staff Present

Christian Lehnert – Lewis & Clark Weed Coordinator
Candace Payne – Lewis & Clark County Commissioner
Jenny Chambers – Lewis & Clark County Public Works Director
Jade Wills – Lewis & Clark County Weed, Admin II

Guests Present

No Guests Present

***Due to technical issues Zoom was unavailable, staff will work to correct this for upcoming meetings**

***There was not a quorum (of voting members) present, meeting was still held however, no voting took place**

Call Meeting to Order: (00:00:18)

Chair, Dave Burch called the meeting to order at 1:07 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: (00:01:10)

Roll Call: (00:00:23)

- Board Members:
 - Judith Ann Vincent-Absent
 - Dave Lewis-Absent
 - Mike Cobb-Absent
 - Steve Johns-Absent
 - Neil Snow-Absent

Introductions/Recognition of Visitors: (00:02:37)

- Jasmin Chaffee- MT Department of Agriculture, Guest

January 11, 2023, Meeting Minute Outline: (00:00:58)

- Distributed in Board Packet

Public Comment: (00:03:06)

- *Jasmin Chaffee- MT Department of Agriculture*
 - Presentation of what is new and going on with Department of Agriculture and their program(s)
 - Weed free materials

- Noxious Weed Trust Fund Programs
 - 1.8 million available to award; 2 million in requests
 - NWTF Grant hearings next week in Helena
 - No additional public comment

Action Items:

These items were discussed however not voted on due to lack of quorum.

1. Notice of Intent; Updating the Lewis & Clark County Noxious Weed Listing (00:11:29)
 - Intention of cleaning up the County Noxious Weed Listing through a Noxious Weed Resolution, explained (Christian Lehnert) delisting any Montana Noxious Weeds
 - Discussion of whether to open up a legal ad for public comment; if so must specify no annuals, no natives
 - This item will be tabled until next meeting where a draft will be presented
2. Authorization of Fund 297 WGSCR (00:16:31)
 - a) Microscope; Noxious Weed Planner (00:16:31) (Christian Lehnert)
 - Will be used for in house identification
 - Generally, cost is around \$200-\$300
 - Tabled until next meeting; staff will provide quotes
 - b) Weed Pulling Gloves & Stamp with Clothing Ink- Promo Item (00:20:20) (Jade Wills)
 - Staff explains the request to purchase poly dipped gloves that can be stamped with LCC Noxious Weed District name & phone number to distribute as a promo item.
 - Request for this purchase will be e-mailed out as staff would like it to be approved and move forward with the purchase for the HBIA Home & Garden Show.
 - Staff will more than likely propose purchasing the stamp & 400 gloves (350 size large, 50 size extra-large)
 - Stamp estimated \$30-45; Gloves \$1.25/pair, Staff will see if a discount is possible for a bulk purchase.
 - c) Name Tags; Board/Staff
 - The Board has previously requested quotes on name tags; Helena Stamp has quoted approximately \$12-\$15/each
 - Staff will e-mail out the request to use Fund 297 for the purchase of all board member/staff name tags to move forward with this purchase.
 - If approved will proceed in hopes of having the name tags completed and available at the HBIA Home & Garden Show.

Staff Reports:

Christian Lehnert– Weed Coordinator: (00:28:24)

- Busy with budgeting; next Month will be the Noxious Weed Boards Annual Budget Presentation
- Hydroseeder Purchase/Procurement process discussion
 - No bids were received from the limited solicitation
 - Next step: direct negotiations with vendors
 - Hydroseeder will be useful for many things including some upcoming Country projects; Landfill revegetation of dirt pile from a new cell, Valley Drive project Road & Bridge is working on.
- Working on draft interlocal agreements, hopefully with the City of Helena & the City of East Helena
- Seasonals; Will be gearing up to start the hiring process
 - May have 2 or 3 returning seasonal sprayers

- Alex Lopez, Noxious Weed Planner will be returning for the season April 3rd.
 - Will resume compliance & inspections
- Greenhouse logistics

Jenny Chambers – Director of Public Works: (00:47:00)

- Working on draft Interlocals
- Advertise the open Noxious Weed Board positions in Lincoln & Augusta during public meetings
- Public Works Complex & Master Study discussion
 - SLATE Architecture is in the final process of completing the Masterplan.
 - Board members would be interested to see this plan

Candace Payne – County Commissioner: (00:50:33)

- New Ex-Officio member/County Commission representative for the LCC Noxious Weed Board
- Discussion of FWP land/parking area paving project near Craig. Interested in seeing who would be responsible for the Weeds as it is a 3 party contract.
 - Project area is railroad property but there is a lease as well
- Would like to see 4-H group involvement as well as other communities such as Canyon Creek/Lincoln/Augusta
 - Discussion: Board Member and Vice Chair, Judith Anne Vincent has a lot of involvement with the 4-H Groups, put on several presentations last year. Judith Anne also does a lot of work in Canyon Creek as that is where she lives.

Board Reports:

D. Burch: (00:34:39)

- MWCA Annual Conference has a good conference
 - Large attendance; over 240 people registered

P. Christensen: (00:38:51)

- No Report

R. McDonough: (00:38:54)

- Lot of snow in the area

Discussion:

- Board Member Guidebook Distribution (00:39:29)
 - Hard copy member guidebooks were distributed to members in attendance. Other members will receive theirs next meeting and/or via mail.
 - Updated guidebooks will be distributed annually; note pages in the back
- Budget Request Discussion (00:42:01)
 - FY2022 the HyrdoSeeder was requested and approved
 - FY2023 thinking about some more rental equipment; potentially repurposing (mostly) current trailer rentals to create a couple more slide in sprayers as they tend to be popular
- 2023 HBIA Home & Garden Show; Saturday March 18th 9:00am-5:00pm and Sunday March 19th 10:00am-4:00pm.
 - Staff will plan to attend all weekend
 - Sign up sheet passed around the room for board members who wish to volunteer; staff will e-mail out a sign-up sheet as well for any members not present

- Embroidery Items & Spray Days (Judith Anne Vincent; from December cancelled meeting. (01:04:42)
 - Tabled for Judith Anne to speak about next meeting.

Items for Next Meeting:

- Wednesday April 5, 2023 at 1:00p.m. Location: City County Building Room 326
 - Staff will work to get the technical difficulties/Zoom issue taken care of for next meeting
 - Items:
 - FY2024 Budget Presentation
 - Tabled Items from this meeting:
 - Action Items:
 - Draft Notice of Intent; Updating the Lewis & Clark County Noxious Weed Listing
 - Fund 297 quotes & fund request for Microscope
 - Discussion Items:
 - Embroidery Items & Spray Days (Judith Anne Vincent)

Adjournment: (01:17:40)

Meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

Meeting Minute Outline:

Prepared by: Jade Wills; Lewis and Clark County Administrative Assistant II
Please note this is only an outline, **official meeting minutes are the Audio recording.**