

Custer County Weed and Pest Board

Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2022

The January 11, 2022 meeting of the Custer County Weed and Pest Board was called to order at 12:59 PM by Klint Rittberger.

In attendance were June Johnston, Klint Rittberger, Tom Patterson (call in), Marci O'Connell, and Mike Baldwin.

All motions were approved unanimously unless otherwise noted.

Approve Minutes:

- The meeting minutes from the December 14 meeting and today's agenda were approved with a motion by Johnston and a second by Patterson.

Old Business:

- 2022 State Weed and Pest Conference:
 - The conference had a location and date change due to the closure of the original facility booked for the event. Conference will now be held in Huron at the Crossroads Hotel and Event Center from February 16-18.
 - O'Connell volunteered to attend the conference as the second county representative.
- No-spray requests:
 - Baldwin asked the Board for any comments on the revised no pesticide request forms along county right-of-ways adjacent to private property. Rittberger made one suggestion on changing the minimum sign height from 36 inches to 48 inches above the ground. No other comments were received. Baldwin will incorporate Rittberger's comment and will begin reaching out to landowners with previous no-spray requests.
- Status of previous prairie dog complaints:
 - An inspection was performed by Baldwin on January 10. Based on prairie dog count conducted during the December inspection, it was evident that no control measures had been implemented.
 - Baldwin did not receive a response from the letter sent to the two property owners with written complaints filed against them. They were given a deadline of January 10 to take action.
 - A third written complaint, which was expected to be filed by a new individual, was not received. This complaint would have been against a different property owner than previously discussed, but in the immediate vicinity. Baldwin did send a voluntary compliance letter to this landowner and the landowner expressed a desire to rid the prairie dogs from the property and asked for a list of prairie dog applicators.
 - The Board agreed to begin enforcement measures for the following property:
Legal description: NE 1/4, SW 1/4, Section 35, Township 2, Range 10, Black

Hills Meridian, Custer County, SD. The Board could not act on the property with the following legal description: E 1/2, SW 1/4, SW 1/4, & W 1/2, SE 1/4, SW 1/4, Section 35, Township 2, Range 10, Black Hills Meridian, Custer County, SD. This was due to the recent discovery of a second individual added to the property deed in the previous months. This individual was not contacted so proper notice needs to be afforded. Baldwin will contact this person.

New Business:

- Election of officers:
 - Johnston nominated Rittberger for the Chair position, seconded by Patterson, motion carried.
 - Rittberger nominated Johnston to the Vice-Chair position, seconded by Patterson, motion carried.
- Vacant Board position:
 - Johnston made motion to elevate O'Connell from Auxillary member to full member, seconded by Patterson, motion carried.
 - One letter of interest was received for the advertised Board position. This position will be an auxiliary board member. Board agreed to invite person to the next meeting to discuss position.
- Rate of pay for 2022 meetings:
 - The County Commissioners set new Board meeting rates at \$40 per meeting. Mileage is staying at \$0.42 per mile.

Other Business:

- Annual and Fiscal Reports to State:
 - Baldwin is working on end of year reports for the SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Reports are due by the end of the month.
- Black Hills Stock Show:
 - Black Hills area Weed & Pest Supervisors were asked to assist with the State weed and pest booth at the Stock Show. Board agreed to allow Baldwin to assist one afternoon.
- Reimbursement requests:
 - Baldwin informed the Board about late chemical reimbursement requests that have come in within the last week and a half. The Board denied reimbursing these requests since they were well past the deadline and payments would have to come out of the 2022 reimbursement program.

Next meeting:

- Motion by O'Connell, seconded by Johnston to schedule next meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 1:00 PM.

Adjournment:

- Motion by Johnston, seconded by O'Connell to adjourn meeting at 1:41 PM; motion carried.