

**MINUTES OF WEED BOARD MEETING HELD MARCH 25, 2024 BEGINNING AT
6:00 P.M. AT THE WEED OFFICE 757 EAST 1800 NORTH DUCHESNE, UTAH**

Present

Weed Department Supervisor Mike Cardon; Duchesne County Weed Dept. Employee Braxton Spencer; Board Members Rodger Ames, Melissa Hughes, Kim Harding, Jim Young, Ryan Harrison, Deputy Treasurer Connie Sweat taking minutes of the meeting.

Welcome

Welcome by Rodger Ames.

Tour of the New Weed Department Building

Consideration of Minutes From September 25, 2023

Motion to approve by Kim Harding, second by Ryan Harrison. All in favor.

Discussion and Consideration of a Grand Opening for the New Weed Department Building

The County Commissioners have suggested we have an open house type grand opening for the new building. Mike suggested a day in April for a couple hours. Melissa will post on the County's Facebook page.

Discussion and Consideration of a Co-op Meeting with Uintah County

The meeting with Uintah County last month was beneficial to get ideas from other agencies. Both Counties will be doing a cooperative in the Pleasant Valley and Pariette areas, so when out in the field spraying there isn't a worry about county lines. Uintah County Supervisor Nate Belliston has ridden with Mike to view the Japanese Knotweed.

Discussion of Russian Olive Removal Projects for This Winter and Prior Projects

Braxton gave a short overview of the projects completed in 2023. He also gave a comparison to the projects completed in 2022. Winter 2022-23 went on for a 5 months, therefore twice as much area was treated and twice as much money spent. Everywhere they cut they go back the following year and spray any re-growth.

Some discussion about Moon Lake Electric using a mulcher type machine in ROW areas. They have contacted Mike to cut the willows in the Ioka area.

Discussion and Consideration of Purchasing a Drone and FAA Certification

Mike had a short video presentation about spraying with a drone. A drone could be quite costly, however a lot of advances are coming. He could potentially spray as much as 600 acres a day. Rodger commented that Soil Conservation could possibly help with costs. Mike said he would need to get an FAA certification, however it could be done online in seven days. Some discussion about the drones and costs. Board recommended Mike continue to research the capabilities, costs, etc..

Discussion of ISM Grant, Japanese Knotweed, Russian Olives, and Russian Knapweed

Mike applied for an ISM Grant (Invasive Species Mitigation) thru UDAF. Japanese Knotweed is a rhizome that spreads through the roots. It's difficult to get rid of, but they are trying to maintain and keep it from spreading. He was able to get permission from the Clayburn's last fall and has been treating there. As well as the patch on the Moon / Merkley fenceline.

Discussion of Road Trucks

In the process of getting tank bids for the new truck. Discussion about tank size and costs as the new truck has heavier springs and a longer frame. It was decided to keep both trucks so both employees can be out working at the same time.

Discussion and Consideration of Road R-O-W's to Address This Spring / Summer

Ioka Lane, 6000 South in Arcadia / Granita Park, the new Lake Boreham Road, East River Road, as well as roads in Altonah are areas of concern for the department to keep an eye on.

Conflict of Interest Statements

Conflict of Interest statements were signed by all board members and staff.

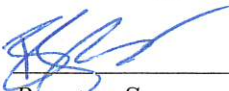
Comments & Concerns

Short discussion about biological bugs that were previously put on the Moon property just outside Duchesne.

Adjourn

Melissa Hughes motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 P.M.

Read and approved this 23 day of September 2024.



Braxton Spencer
Weed Supervisor



Rodger Ames
Chairman

Minutes of meeting prepared by Connie Sweat 