

Wasatch County Weed Board Minutes
Administration Building, 25 N. Main, Room 100
Heber City, Utah 84032

Approved
05/04/2024

March 6, 2024 @ 1:00PM

Topic	Discussion
Attendance	Laurie Backus—Weed Board Chairman Quintin Lewis—Weed Dept. Head Eric Bunker—Weed Board George Muir—Weed Board Amanda Simpson—Wasatch County Public Works Office Mike Johnston—Heber City
Welcome and Review of Minutes	The October 11, 2023 Minutes were reviewed. A motion to approve was made by George Muir, seconded by Eric Bunker.
Weed Grant Updates	<u>Title II</u> \$13,407 has been spent out. <u>Forest Contract</u> \$22,000 available to spend out thru 2026. Amber Helmus can add to that as needed. <u>Weed Supervisor</u> (due April 1 st , 2024) Quintin Lewis will apply for Leafy Spurge and other invasives again, the max that is available is \$10,000.00.
Updates on CWMA	<u>Projects for 2024 Season</u> – Dutch Hollow: Saturday May 18th and Thursday June 6th – Soldier Hollow: Tom Halladay is reaching out to Soldier Hollow to confirm the dates. – Rock Cliff: Sara Jo Dickens is taking over this project using drones. She is applying for ISM money and wants to map this year and put product down next year. – Mill B: Saturday June 22nd. – Squaw Creek: Tuesday June 18th George Muir asked if there is any spraying planned at Wallsburg this year. Quintin said he saw knapweed on fish and game grounds and will work with Mark Farmer to remind them to get it done. George mentioned the thistle around the irrigation ponds. Quintin said they also do the thistle at Deer Creek at Wallsburg Bay, most of it was knocked down with the Dedicated Hunters but they still check it and keep up on all of their sprayed sites. Eric asked if all of these spray days were open to dedicated hunters and Quintin confirmed that yes, they were.

	<u>Highlights from Weed Supervisor Conference</u> – Quintin reminded everyone about updating SDS books. – Chemical Resistant Inhibitors. ALS and PSII is 50% of the resistant cases that they have. That is a big worry about this because it is in a lot of the chemicals that are used, and these plants are building a resistance, such as in Kochia. They were telling us how one plant of Kochia carry between 25-50 thousand seeds in one ball of tumbleweed. – Cost of chemicals to come to market in: • 1995 from step one all the way to where it is on the shelves being sold is 152 million dollars. • 2014 to 2019 it was 301 million dollars per one chemical to make it to market. • For every one chemical that does make it to market, there is 159,574 chemicals that does not meet the qualifications to make it to market. • Phases of production: - Discovery – 1 year - Pre-development – 3 year - Development – 3 years - Launch – 3 years It takes anywhere from 9 to 12 years to bring out a new chemical, not a quick process. Quintin passed around a chart showing where we are currently for the development of new chemicals. Due to the cost, time, and regulations it is so hard to make them that we are way down in production then years passed. This is why it is so important to use two modes of action when targeting weeds, because if they become resistant to what chemicals are available to use, there may not be any other options. Eric commented on how important mixing correctly is, as well. If it is mixed to weak the weeds can become resistant too. – Utah Poison Center came and talked about pesticide exposures. - o Insecticides have a 49% exposure rate. - o herbicides are at a 17% exposure rate. Examples of side effects from exposure via ingestion: Diquat- kidney failure; Paraquat- Multi-organ failure.
Year in Review	Laurie got the year end review post done. Quintin is going to provide pictures to go with the post. Laurie recommended how we need to try to get better quality photos for IT to post, rather than pictures straight from the PDF.

Committee Concerns, Updates and Issues	Mike Johnston from Heber City said the new Code Enforcement Officer for Heber is Travis Price. Weed complaints for Heber will be directed to him. Quintin talked to Mike about how the County, besides just the Weed Plan, a Weed Bond is required, and explained how it worked, and said if that is something Heber City would like to adopt, Quintin would be happy to help. George Muir inquired if the County inspects contractor's equipment and loads so that invasive weeds are not brought in via that route. Quintin said that as of now, that action is not in place but that it would definitely help if we had the man power to do it. Laurie stated that a few parks are looking hard at grazing. Quintin stated that it was brought up in the Public Lands Meeting. Quintin asked everyone to please reach out if anyone see's any problem area's in the County that need addressed. He said that he has written out 75 notices from properties that he found last fall that he could tell there was not any kind of weed management done on the property. Eric Bunker asked if the Notice reflects the fact that they have the warning that there is a possibility of losing their Green Belt status. Quintin said that it is not, but he has gone thru the Assessors Office before, for the properties that did qualify for Green Belt, to send warnings. He said that it can not be in the Notice without going thru the process of bringing it to the counsel, but an idea would be to add it in his "comments" so that the property owners were aware.
Next Meeting / Meeting Adjourned	Next meeting: Laurie has conflicts for April, May, and June's scheduled dates. If the Meeting room is available these meetings will be rescheduled to April 3rd, May 15th and June 5th. Motion to adjourn was made by George Muir, seconded by Eric Bunker