

APPROVED 03.04.24

Grand County Noxious Weed Control Board

Special Meeting Minutes

January 8th, 2024 16:04

Grand Center, 182 N 500 W, Moab UT

Virtually on Google Meets

Members Present

Tim Higgs, Kevin Walker, Jordan Nesbitt

Members Absent

Sena Hauer, Christopher Marlor

Others Present

Elizabeth (Izzi) Weimholt, Cory Farnsworth, Steve Schafer, Kelli Quinn

1. **16:04 Tim Higgs called the meeting to order**
2. **Approval of minutes from November 22nd, 2023, postpone approval of minutes from July 10th, 2023**
 - a. **Motion to Approve and Postpone** - Kevin Walker
 - b. **Seconded motion** - Jordan Nesbitt

3. **Citizens or Agencies to be heard**

Steve Schafer - Moab Mosquito Abatement District. Steve wanted to touch base on the office building that is currently shared by Grand County Weeds and Mosquito Abatement. There are issues with the building deteriorating and inadequate storage for pesticides. This topic has been brought up to the Board before. Steve would like to collaborate with brainstorming solutions.

Kelli Quinn - National Park Service Ecologist - no comments at this time.

4. **Old Business**

None

5. **New Business**

a. **Review Bylaws**

The Board discussed the possibility of an additional clause for member absences

b. **Vote on Chair**

Nomination of Jordan Nesbitt to Chair - Tim Higgs

Seconded motion - Kevin Walker

- i. **Vote passes unanimously**
- b. **Vote on Vice Chair**
 - Nomination of Tim Higgs to Vice Chair - Kevin Walker**
 - Seconded motion - Jordan Nesbitt**
 - Vote passes unanimously**
- c. **Vote to approve the Annual Report for UDAF**

The Board discussed the Annual Report that Izzi drafted for the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food. The main discussion centered around the last portion of the report, which was an opportunity for Grand County to list weeds control issues unique to our County, and request assistance if needed. The Board settled on the importance of notifying UDAF about the cultural hesitancy of Moab and Castle Valley towards herbicide, and the importance of our Class 1A African Rue site. The Board did not request any assistance at this time.

 - Motion to approve the Annual Report for UDAF, with additions - Jordan Nesbitt**
 - Seconded motion - Kevin Walker**
- d. **Review 2024 Budget**
 - i. Izzi explained some of the line items found on the 2024 County Department Budget, specifically the trainings line item (Swiftwater Safety course, conference fees, Wilderness First Aid courses)
- e. **Weed Supervisor report**

Izzi took the majority of December off for unexpected personal leave

 - Operations Coordinator position was not approved, but will be re-submitted for in 2025
 - 1.32 acres of Russian Knapweed treated in Roberts Bottom (backpack spraying), funded by the WRI grant platform, organized by the BLM
 - 447 Ravennagrass removed from Mill Creek Canyon
 - 243 Ravennagrass removed from Grandstaff Canyon
 - Russian Olive treatments along HWY 128

Upcoming Work

 - Grant writing season (ISM, WRI)
 - Arundo and Ravenna removal on private property
 - Annual UWCA conference on Feb 21-22
 - Izzi will attend two professional development courses - Master Gardener USU Extension, Harvard Business School Leadership
- f. **Grant updates**

6. Committee Reports

7. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

8. Jordan entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn – Kevin Walker

Seconded Motion – Tim Higgs

Motion passes unanimously