

DRAFT

Grand County Noxious Weed Control Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

January 27th, 2024 at 16:00

257 E Center St, Moab UT

Virtually on Google Meets

Members Present

Jordan Nesbitt, Tim Higgs, Sena Hauer, Ben Menard, Brian Martinez

Members Absent

None

Others Present

Elizabeth (Izzi) Weimholt, Maria Rago, Kara Dohrenwend, Sophia Fisher, Cory Farnsworth, Kelli Quinn, Bryce Rodgers

1. 16:00 Jordan Nesbitt called the meeting to order

2. Approval of minutes from the Special Meeting on December 11th, 2024

Motion to approve, with the amendment to change "City Commission" to "County Commission" - Sena Hauer

Seconded motion - Tim Higgs

Motion passes 5-0

3. Citizens or Agencies to be heard

Kara Dohrenwend, Bryce Rodgers, and Sophia Fisher; Rim to Rim Restoration - Kara, Bryce, and Sophia spoke about the recently awarded Community Wildfire Defense Grant, and the ways in which the Grand County Weeds Department will be involved.

Kelli Quinn, National Park Service - NPS is installing more boot brushes to reduce the spread of invasive plant seeds. Non-native Phragmites is an ongoing priority for treatment and eradication.

Cory Farnsworth, Grand County USU Extension - Cory spoke about two upcoming events:

- 2/20-2/21 San Juan Soil Health Boot Camp
- 2/27 Grand County Soil Health Workshop

4. Old Business

None

5. New Business

a. Vote on Chair

Motion for Jordan Nesbitt to remain Chair - Sena Hauer

Seconded motion - Ben Menard

Vote passes 5-0

b. Vote on Vice Chair

Motion for Tim Higgs to remain Vice Chair - Tim Higgs

Seconded motion - Jordan Nesbitt

Vote passes 5-0

c. Review Noxious Weed Control Board By-laws

The Board reviewed the Grand County Noxious Weed Control By-laws, and suggested potential changes. Suggested additions and changes include:

- Adding that the Board review and approve the Annual Report to UDAF
- Moving the January meeting to the Monday following the first Grand County Commission meeting, and before the Annual Report due date (January 15th each year)
- Annually review the Utah Noxious Weed Act at the first meeting of the year, or include some Utah Noxious Weed Act requirements in the County by-laws (ex. member requirements)
- Updating "Utah Code Title 04 Chapter 4-17-4" to "Utah Code 4-17-105"
- Ceasing to be an advisory board
- Correcting typos

The Board did not vote on any of the listed suggestions and changes, and tabled further discussion until later in the year.

d. Review Noxious Weed Act

The Board reviewed the State Noxious Weed Act

e. Weed Supervisor report

The majority of the work completed since the previous meeting was Giant Reed and Ravennagrass removal on private property, with some exceptions. Details below:

Giant Reed and Ravenna grass removal	
Ravenna Pamphlets distributed	125
Ravenna Properties	21
Ravenna plants removed, private	1326
Ravenna plants removed, city/county facilities	138
Total Ravenna removed	1464
Giant Reed Properties	16
Giant Reed square ft treated	1495
Other Work	
Russian Olive removal on Right-of-ways	15

Additionally, GCWD tabled at the Green Thumb Gathering and organized the upcoming Middle Colorado River Watershed Cooperative Weed Management Area (MCRW-CWMA) annual winter meeting in Grand Junction.

f. Grant updates

Izzi updated the board on the remaining balances for the department's multiple grants and contracts for FY25. The Fuels Reduction Coordinator full-time grant-funded position has been approved by the County Commission, and is now awaiting a contract in order to use CWDG funding. The position will likely be posted in March.

6. Committee Reports

7. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

a. Items from Staff

b. Weed Board Members

Motion to adjourn - Brian Martinez

Seconded motion - Ben Menard

Motion passes 5-0