

APPROVED 03.02.26

**Grand County Noxious Weed Control Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 12th, 2026 at 16:00
1000 Sand Flats Rd, Moab UT**

Members Present

Ben Menard, Jordan Nesbitt, Jeanine Saia, Sena Hauer (virtual), Brian Martinez

Others Present

Elizabeth Weimholt, Maria Rago, Isabelle Jones, Matt McEttrick

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

2. Approval of minutes from November 3rd, 2025

Motion to approve - Ben Menard

Seconded motion - Sena Hauer

Motion passes 4-0, Brian absent

3. Citizens or agencies to be heard

Matt McEttrick, Utah DNR - Matt is looking forward to another season working with GCWD, and thanked the department for their great work on the river and in the Matheson Preserve.

Jordan Nesbitt, BLM - The BLM completed seeding projects across the County.

4. Old Business

None

5. New Business

a. Vote on Chair

Motion to nominate Jordan Nesbitt as Chair - Ben Menard

Seconded motion - Sena Hauer

Motions passes 3-0, Jordan abstaining, Brian absent

b. Vote on Vice Chair

Motion to nominate Ben Menard as Vice Chair- Sena Hauer

Seconded Motion - Jordan Nesbitt

Motion passes 3-0, Ben abstaining, Brian absent

c. Open and Public Meetings Act (OPMA) Training

Izzi will send a link to all Board members to complete their OPMA training

d. Review Noxious Weed Control Board By-laws

The Board reviewed the County bylaws. The County will be standardizing board by-laws this year, so Izzi will send a restructured version of the bylaws later in 2026.

e. Review Noxious Weed Act

The board reviewed the State Noxious Weed Act

f. Vote to Approve Annual Department Report for UDAF

Izzi read from and summarized the draft of the UDAF report. Notable differences from 2024 are an increasing focus on fuels reduction - including working with local fire agencies and non-profits and building a noxious weeds fire prevention program. Jordan suggested mentioning that the crew was understaffed for most of the year.

Motion to approve report, with suggestions - Jeanine Saia

Seconded motion - Jordan Nesbitt

Motion passes 4-0, Brian abstaining

g. Weed Supervisor report

- Since the start of the year the crew (Isabelle) has focused on the ravenna and giant reed removal program.
- Totals for CWDG work since October: 1,088 cut stumps treated (russian olive, tamarisk, and siberian elm) physical removal 124
- Upcoming projects: Izzi will be hosting the MCRW-CWMA annual meeting in early February. WRI proposals will be submitted by project partners for Mill and Pack creek , Mill creek canyon, and Roberts bottom (Dolores River). Brian is involved in rewriting the

watershed plan for the State with Southeastern Watershed Council, and is looking for success stories with watershed work. He asked if GCWD would like to be involved.

- Preliminary planning for invasive species awareness week event with project partners (NISAW).

h. Grant updates

- Predicted grant funding reimbursement is lower than predicted, due to staffing shortages and delays. ~ \$86,000 left in funding, not counting carry over funds for FY27.
- Goals of 2026: Hire a full crew. Keep advocating for good work and maintain relationships with outside agencies.
- Goals for the board in 2026: Partner with Youth Garden Project for a Weed and Feed

6. Committee Reports

7. Discussion of future agenda items

a. Items from staff

- Maria (Fuels Reduction Coordinator): Update on FireBreak work including Phase one of the ongoing City Springs fuels reduction project.
- Isabelle (Crew Lead): Expected knapweed treatments weren't feasible last year because of the dry fall. Hoping to work more on the BLM grant specifically Fish Ford.

b. Weed board members

- Jeanine is open to helping in future event planning, especially for a Youth Garden Weed and Feed

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn - Ben Menard

Seconded motion - Sena Hauer

Motion passes 5-0