

Harney County CWMA

SWCD Meeting Room

November 16th , 2017 @ 10:00am

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was brought to order at 10:13 am. Those in attendance were:

Bonnie Rasmussen-ODA

Randy Wiest-State Lands

Cyndee Hill-NRCS

Karen Moon-Watershed Council

Edwin Sparks- Refuge

Steph Bonson- CWMA Coordinator

Gail Beverlin-NRCS

Ty Cronin-BLM

July 18th , 2017 minutes were approved without any needed revisions. Motion to approve minutes, made by Ty and seconded by Randy. Approved.

CWMA Financials:

1. Financials were reviewed. General funds balance was \$15,280.24 (the corrected amount is \$14,394.24) With the SWCD funds of \$3025.80, General funds will have a grand total of \$17,420.04. The BLM account still has a pending ASAP draw, for the Nick Schott's pre-inventory flight. Bonnie started some discussion about BLM agreements. Apparently, BLM agreements have been put on hold at the Washington DC, level. The CWMA's current BLM agreement started in August of 2015 and is a 5 year agreement. The SWAT agreement is at the end of its term. Ag & Natural resources are not a high priority at our state level at this time, either. Public support and local relationships are more important than ever. It was decided that more seeding on the Miller Canyon grant would be more beneficial than spraying. The seeding will take place this winter. Ty made a motion to approve the financials and Randy seconded. The board approved the financials.

Old Business:

1. Update on the Beaver Tables Medusahead OWEB grant, it has been unofficially approved. The grant was for \$231,000. Cyndee has contacted the 7 landowners, 5 have their applications received. 1 is coming soon. 1 Absentee landowner has been contacted via a mailing address. Ty said that the BLM treated approx. 3500 acres in the Beaver Tables area adjacent to the CWMA's proposed 2018 treatments, this year. Department of State Lands treated 480 acres in the area as well.
2. Update on the RCPP Stinkingwater Area Medusahead Management Plan, the Full proposal was submitted on September 5th, 2017. It will be a 5 year project covering the CWMA's 5 phase plan for

the Stinkingwater Area Medusahead Management Plan. The total funds requested were \$970,320.00. We are waiting to hear on it's approval.

3. The CWMA Medusahead Spray projects for 2017 were a total of 11,566 acres. This was an increase from 9,209 last year. Most of the acres this year were treated in and around the Drewsey/Pine creek area, with some in Warm springs and Riley. The CWMA used Cliff Hoeft, with South County Helicopter for Helicopter applications. Local pilot, Nick Schott treated the Fixed-wing acres. The CWMA Coordination Fees totaled \$4,919.00. There has been no negative feedback about raising the CWMA coordination fees. The BLM treated approx. 5000 acres of roads & polygons in Otis East, 43,000 acres in Bartlett/Buzzard and 3000 acres in Riley.
4. We had a visit from Tim Butler and Tristen Berg of the Oregon Department of Ag. They were here to see some of our projects, as well as inform us about the upcoming grant opportunities with the OSWB.
5. Steph is currently working on the Diamond Valley Pepperweed Project. This project was brought to the CWMA from Dan Otley & Jim Campbell of the Harney County Weed Board. We had 2 meetings with the landowners. Ed Sparks attended both meetings. Everyone who was at the 2nd meeting signed up. Steph has visited all the landowners that have signed up. There are lots of flooded meadows and perennial creeks/streams. This may require a combination of aerial and ground applications. Bonnie suggested working with landowners on management plans. The best time to treat the Pepperweed in the meadows would probably be before it blooms, after the water is off and cut it before there is seed in it. Ed said that the Refuge is working on Pepperweed and will focus in the grant areas. Ed will furnish the CWMA with partner match for the grant. They are using Floyd Holbrook to do their ground spraying. Jim Campbell is planning to submit a grant in the "OO" area. Bonnie asked what the follow up plan is for Riley. It might be a possible grant opportunity for the future, to do follow up treatments and seeding to protect the investment there.
6. The CWMA had a Championship booth at the Harney County Fair this year. Ty Cronin helped Steph set up and decorate the Deschutes County Trailer. Deschutes County loaned us their Weed Trailer and have offered to let us borrow it again in the future. Ty said we could possibly use the SWAT crew to help with the booth next year.
7. Cyndee would like to vote for a new chairperson, as she has been chair for the last 3 years. The vote was tabled until the next meeting. It was also suggested that we invite the other Jim Campbell to our CWMA meetings, since he is on the Harney County Weed Board.

With no further items to discuss, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:41am. The next CWMA meeting is scheduled on January 11th, 10:00am at the Harney County Court House Basement Meeting Room.