

## Harney County CWMA

### H.C. Court House Basement Meeting Room

February 7, 2019

### Meeting Minutes

The meeting was brought to order at 10:03 am. Those in attendance were:

Ed Sparks-Malhuer Refuge, Jim Campbell-Harney County, Zola Ryan-NRCS, Lisa Foster-FS, Jesse Brunson-FS, Kenny McLean-Harney CWMA

**Minutes:** Previous meeting minutes were not recorded by fill in Coordinator (Jim)

**CWMA Financials:** Were approved with change to 'OWEB Beaver tables account' needing SWCD current admin added. Motioned by Zola and seconded by Lisa.

### Old Business:

1. There was no old business to discuss

### New Business:

1. We introduced the newly hired CWMA coordinator, Kenny McLean to the group. Kenny gave a brief background of himself and explained he had moved from the County SWAT crew into this position. He explained that he has a couple years' experience in identifying and treating noxious but needed to learn more about the 'office' side of this position.
2. The CWMA submitted an OSWB grant application for a Med. Sage infestation north of Burns. This infestation has the potential to move onto public lands to the northeast and into the Silvies river. It was discovered by Jesse Barnes while she was doing some other weed treatments in the area. The CWMA is feeling confident that the importance of this project to the local area will allow it a very good chance of approval by the state weed board later this month.
3. The CWMA received a very large OWEB grant for treating TACA in the Beaver Tables area south of Crane. This project was slated to start in the late summer-fall of 2018. Due to the fact that our past CWMA Coordinator left early in 2018 and that the NRCS was planning their big private landowner treatments in the late summer-fall of 2019 the CWMA decided to ask OWEB for a 1-year extension on this 3-year project. OWEB approved this extension and we will be looking at starting this project in 2019 with the newly hired Coordinator. Zola has been working with Kenny on the NRCS pool of landowners in the phase 1 and 2 areas of the Beaver Tables. Zola has sent letters out to the landowners in these areas to make sure they understood we had a lot of planned funding and

seeing who would be interested in it. She sent letter to both landowners we know have TACA and those that could have it but might have been too small or light to detect when we did the aerial inventory in 2016.

4. Jesse Barnes, a current Harney County Weed Board member brought forward a grant opportunity in the Drewsey area. There are irrigation ditches that run from the Malheur north of the Drewsey valley, through several landowners and then back into the Malheur river near the town of Drewsey itself. On the banks of these ditches are several noxious weeds including Hounds tongue and Scotch thistle to name a couple. Due to the complex ownership of these ditches she thought the CWMA could help bring these landowners together to treat these noxious weeds and help prevent their spread down the ditches and river. Jesse was not at the meeting to explain the details but Kenny will contact her and explore this project idea further. The CWMA did think this was a good idea.
5. Kenny and Jim presented the CWMA Coordinators 2019 annual plan to the group. Kenny had filled in the known things that he needs to get done this year along with the estimated funding he is going to need to pull them off. We then asked the rest of the CWMA if they had things they would like to add to plan. Ed Sparks did mention he might need help with some Russian olive work on the Refuge. He also said he might be able to find the CWMA additional funding for that work as well. Zola said that confirming the TACA inventory for private landowners in phase 1 and 2 needed to be done. Ty Cronin did commit to help fund this endeavor too. Kenny is going to be adding these to his plan. Lisa said she thought there might be some work and funding for additional FS work in 2019. She will be looking into this more and let Kenny know when she has more details.

**With no further items to discuss, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:51 AM. The new CWMA chairperson, Jim Campbell conducted the meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for March 21 @ 10:00 AM in the Courthouse basement conference room.**