

Approved 5/13/14

# Ravalli County Weed District

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MAY 21 2014

Ravalli County Commissioners

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## WEED BOARD MEETING ON 3/11/14

*Members present:* Lance Brown, Tim Tackes, Julie Schram, Stacy Pease and Gil Gale  
*Others present:* Kellieann Morris, Gina Mazza, and Shane Arnott.  
*Members absent:* Robert Myers – no notification.

Lance called the meeting to order. Kellie left for a RAC presentation.

**Approval of 1/21/14 Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from the 1/21/14 meeting were emailed to all board members. Accepted as is with no changes. Minutes approved as is.

**Board Reports:** None

**Forest Service Report:** Shane commented that Kellie and Gil put together a RAC grant to develop a CWMA on the East side of the valley concentrating on dalmatian toadflax. This is what Kellie is presenting at RAC as we speak. Gil arrived later and informed the board about the plans for rush skeletonweed for the coming season.

**Coordinators Report:** Kellie emailed her report prior to the meeting but several members did not have a chance to read it. Lance gave some time to allow everyone to read it. Stacy asked what the Curly Leaf Pondweed grant was about. Shane gave a brief description. Stacy asked what a Slow Motion Explosion was. Shane followed that it is Kellie new invader grant concentrating on the small populations weeds like bugloss, whitetop, orange hawkweed, Japanese Knotweed, purple loosestrife, and Yellow flag iris. Tim asked about the total dollar figure because it seemed lower than previous years. Shane could not answer to that. Julie wanted to know if we were working with the Woodhouse on Sleeping Child. She said that nothing is being done with the property and the leafy spurge is getting really bad. Shane said he is familiar with the name but we will need to ask Kellie. Lance suggested we follow up on it.

**Review of the weed plan:** Lance asked if everyone read the weed plan and what comments they might have. Stacy asked about the “needs” section and whether we list the methods on how to achieve those needs. Also how we review to follow up on those needs. Shane commented that it’s kind of a wish list but Kellie may have to explain it further. In section 23 on the Railroad plan, Tim said we need to change that section but we don’t know the official status to the rail line. Tim and Lance said that we need to know what the legal status of the rail line is before we can move forward. Stacy suggested the change that section that the current status is uncertain and that we need to work with whoever is in control of the right of way. As of now MRL is in control and are responsible for weed control. Tim suggested a letter should be written to push that fact. It might push them to make a decision on what they are going to do with the ROW. Stacy noticed in the waterways section that there is no reference of aquatic weeds and maybe there should be since Montana seems to be paying more attention to them, they should be incorporated. Lance agreed that some aquatic weed language should be there.

**Kellie returned:** MRL- Kellie suggested to leave that section alone or take it out and just say in progress. As for the waterways, Kellie said the ditches are a problem, who owns them, who is responsible. Kellie says she would write a letter to all irrigation districts and get their weed management plans. Kellie will email the letter to the board members first. Kellie ended by saying she will make all the changes and additions to the plan and make an appointment with the commissioners for approval so she can get it to the state.

### Old Business:

- **Review of open lands board position:** – Kellie said the appointment of Rob Myers to the open land board null and void, we can’t appoint him without his knowledge. The open lands board still needs a weed board member. We don’t have any one person that can do it. The board proposed to appoint a specific member as a contact but allowing any available member to attend.
- **Other Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

- **Grants applied for preliminary funding:** – Kellie said discussed in the coordinators report. Done.
  
- **New Subdivisions / Gravel Pit Reviews:**
  - North Park Bonanza lands #2: Had a previous weed plan that was not successful. Approved with changes.
  - Montana Moose Acres: Hwy 93 old gravel pit reclamation. Approved with changes
  - Hirsch Subdivision: severely mowed down to the dirt. 2 lots on 3.5 acres. Approved with changes
  - Guy Lots: Just north of Hamilton Pack. Approved with changes.
  - River Bend Estates: This is a problem with the rhizomatous weeds and no effective management plan. They do not want to use herbicide. The board said that it's ok not to use herbicide but that makes it more important to have a strong plan to keep the weeds from spreading. The board did not approve and advised Kellie to meet with owner to develop a better plan.
  
- **Other new business:** Kellie

Next meeting will be on April, 8<sup>st</sup> 2014 at 7:30 PM. Extension meeting room.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 PM.

**Approved 5/13/14**

Respectively submitted,  
Shane Arnott