

Approved 11/18/14

## Ravalli County Weed District

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### WEED BOARD MEETING ON 8/12/14

*Members present:* Lance Brown, Julie Schram, Stacy Pease, Katrina Mendrey, and Gil Gale

*Others present:* Kellieann Morris, and Shane Arnott.

*Members absent:* Tim Tackes, Robert Myers – no notification.

**Approval of 5/13//14 Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from the 5/13//14 meeting were emailed to all board members. Accepted as is with no changes. Minutes approved as is.

**Board Reports:** Katrina talked about the bio-control workshop being held at the agriculture research station and has been approved for 2 private applicator credits.

**Forest Service Report:** Gil explained the extent of the hawkweed infestation in the East fork drainage. A Montana Conservation Corps crew has been working hard on it. Gil feels it is containable. There is a timber sale in the works up there which Gil is working to mitigate the potential spread impacts.

There was also discussion on the need for the weed district to update their mapping capabilities, both software and hardware.

**Coordinators Report:** Kellie emailed her report to the members prior to the meeting and asked if any of them had questions.

#### Old Business:

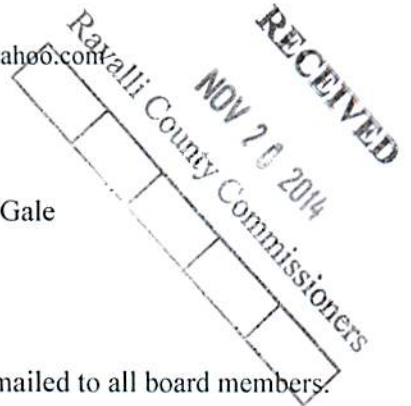
- **MDT seeding project:** – Kellie said MDT gave us an extra \$2-3000 to seed part of hwy 93. We had Cenex drill seed 10 acres on the west side between Bear Creek and Sheafman.

**MRL status:** Kellie wrote an email to Rail Link and they hired a truck to spray to Hamilton and then contracted with Pat Connell to control the line from Hamilton to Darby.

- **Darby Gravel Pit:** Kellie said the pit was disturbed and we are still getting blueweed growing in there. The road Department wants to get in the pit or maybe just park equipment in the pit. Gil asked how many blueweed rosettes are we seeing. Shane responded that the first time they disturbed the pit 2 springs ago, we got thousands of rosettes. At this time, this year we are up to 63 plants. It is declining but still there. Julie commented that she hates to see us move to soon. Lance commented that we should have them stir it again next year, and see what next year brings. A motioned was made to keep it closed, stir it up again next year and reevaluate it. Motion seconded and all in favor.
- **Salmon Way and other complaints:** This has been the year of complaints Kellie exclaimed, and they take a lot of time. The Salmon Way property has been foreclosed on for several years. The bank listed as the owner said they didn't own it. Anyway it took a lot of time to figure out and now it is being maintained.
- **Other Old Business:** None

#### New Business:

- **Rush Skeletonweed:** Kellie said that rush skeletonweed was found in Moise Meadows subdivision north of our office. There were 10 plants, 3 of which were large mature plants, so the seed source is out there. Much of that area has been searched and no other plants have been found. Kellie continued that there has always been an unspoken rule that there will be a prize for finding a new invader. Kellie decided that that Autumn totally deserved a prize reward for this find. Kellie sent the claim in for it and finance said she must have an official policy to do something like this. So now there is a policy for a specific list of new invaders. Kellie will give out one reward for the weed found on private land and one reward for the weed found on forest service.



- **2014-15 Budget:** – Kellie said our budget has been submitted and there have been several budget meeting with the commissioners. There was a depreciation list she was given in which didn't have her 85' Chevy spray truck. She immediately let them know that and told them it needed to be replaced. The commissioners granted her 24000 out of CRP to replace that spray truck. Lance expressed his concern that the roadsides are looking poorly again, and although he understands we need to do some of our State roads, we are neglecting out County roads and we need to figure this out new truck or not. Kellie said we need support for our other seasonal position they took from us. She suggested for the board to write a letter of support to the commissioners for that position. Stacy volunteered to start a draft letter and will send it around for comments.
- **Weed Seed Free Forage:** Kellie.....Took her test and passed and is now certified for field inspection.
- **Other New Business:** Kellie recently found out from the Human Resource Director we are the lowest paid department Head.
- **New Subdivisions / Gravel Pit Reviews: None.** Julie asked how the Penny Canton subdivision was doing which Kellie responded OK and she did see them out with equipment.
- **Other new business: None.**

Next meeting will be on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Kellie said we will probably skip October.

Lance adjourned the meeting 9:20 PM.

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Respectively submitted,  
Shane Arnott