

Upper Arkansas River Cooperative Weed Management Area

April 12, 2018

Garden Park Building Conference Room

201 N. 6th Street, Canon City

9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Quarterly meeting minutes

Attendance: Nick Bankston-Fremont Co, Kayla Malone-Chaffee/Lake Counties, Marisa Neuzil-Teller-Park CD, Debbie Mitchell-Fremont, Charles Bryant-Huerfano County, Tina Travis-El Paso County, Bryan Welding-El Paso, John Coyle- Ark Valley Weeds/CWMA, Patty Knupp-NRCS, Shannon Auth-Custer County CSU Extension, Angela Safranek-USFS, Roger Squire-Custer County Road and Bridge

Welcome & Introductions: See attendance

Kayla: Call to order 9:33 AM

Approval of Minutes: Patty Knupp made a motion to approve the February meeting minutes, Nick Bankston seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Noxious Weed Fund Grant: The appointed grant amount was negotiated down to \$120,000. All active partners participated in a one-time conference call to work out details of this year's grant. Future communications will flow through Carol Kuisle-Franta, of Custer County, as she is listed as the point of contact. The cooperative discussed the changes that were made to the grant process and decided as a group to write a letter to address the inconsistencies that arose after the application process. One letter would only address grant concerns and another may be written to address noxious weed concerns in general. Talking points were drafted by the group and Kayla will compile them into one letter.

Healthy Lands Workshop: Flyers have been distributed and categories will be as follows:

Revegetation- NRCS

Fremont County Master Gardeners

Calibration-John Coyle (Ark Valley Weeds)

Pesticide Labeling-Larry Walker

Native seed sales- Marisa Neuzil

Herbicide Sales-Nick Bankston

Annual meeting will be planned at the July meeting

Round Table:

Marisa - Took and passed the QS General Pesticide Applicator's test along with the Roadside, Right-of-Way. Is currently studying for the Rangeland and Agriculture endorsements. Weed program is going to be implemented by John Coyle.

Tina and Bryan: El Paso county passed on applying for the Noxious Weed Fund grant this year because of the application process. Bryan was already seeing noxious weeds in the second week of April.

Roger-Custer County Road and Bridge- He said that the Hayden Fire area is full of weeds. They are looking to hire and train someone who can be a weed manager and sprayer.

Nick- Fremont County is starting to spray. He was looking for a second seasonal employee.

Shannon- Custer County SCU Extension- She introduced herself and as she is new to this position she is trying to get a grasp on the current state of Custer County regarding weeds. She started on February 19th.

Patty Knupp- NRCS- She told the group that there is an April 26th meeting regarding HPP funds for the remainder of the 2017 fiscal year. Charles was interested in attending. We were encouraged to look up State Land Board lands in our area.

Charles- Huerfano- Charles stated that he was having difficulty getting in touch with anyone from the State Land Board.

John- Ark Valley Weeds- He has begun spraying for government entities. Working in the Mason Gulch fire he thought that bio controls could be used.

Angela- USFS- They are redoing the main weed spraying contract for her 3.1 million acres. The Forest Service has \$74,000 to spend for that area. They are looking for a Pike National Forest Weed Manager.

Debbie- Fremont County Conservation District- Cost share is ready to go. Adams County weed program has checked in with her regarding their weed program.

Kayla- Chaffee County Weed Manager- She was approved for two seasonal employees. One will be returning for his second season and the other will be a student intern from the University of Wisconsin. She is getting the helicopter booked for the Elongated Mustard spray in late May, early June.

Next Quarterly **July 12, 2018**

Garden Park Building 201 N 6th, Canon City 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Adjourn – 11:45 AM

