

Upper Arkansas River Cooperative Weed Management Area

January 10, 2019

Garden Park Building Conference Room

201 N. 6th Street, Canon City

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

Quarterly meeting minutes

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, Roger Squire-Custer County Road and Bridge, Kara Harders-CSU small acreage/NRCS, Donna Albertson-Las Animas weed specialist, Shane Ewing- CPW-Lake Pueblo State Park, Shelly Simmons-Coordinator Purgatoire Watershed Weed Management Collaborative.

Welcome & Introductions: See attendance

Kayla: Call to order 9:35 AM

Approval of Minutes: Kara Harders made a motion to approve the October 11, 2018 meeting minutes, Roger Squire seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Kayla gave a financial report. UACWMA currently has \$8,505 in the account.

Marisa Neuzil made a motion to open a new UACWMA banking account in Canon City making Deborah Mitchell of Fremont Conservation District the primary account signee as well as Kayla Malone of Chaffee County Weed Management. Roger Squire seconded. Motion carried.

Annual Conference Review: The group briefly reviewed the survey results of the November Annual Conference. We decided that we would remain at the Abbey because attendees are familiar with this location and there is plenty of space. We will address specific topics in July.

Noxious Weed Fund Grant: The 2019 Grant request has been submitted. The 2018 participating partners are in the process of finalizing end-of-year reports. Kayla will compile all budget sheets, mapping, narratives, and documentation for the group. We expect to have this complete and sent in by January 31.

Healthy Lands Workshop: Kayla brought up moving the workshop out to Chaffee County for a change in demographics. After some discussion, new member, Shane Ewing, suggested that the visitor center might be available at the Pueblo Lake State Park. We strategized on workshop format and came up with the possibility of having two presenters as well as informational tables set up in the back area. Some potential topics were “Fake” News-Pseudo Science, Disaster Recovery, Plant Response to Ecological Variability (i.e. drought), Bio-controls. Table topics could include: herbicide labelling, weed I.D, seed and herbicide sales, master gardeners, etc. Shane had the action item of taking this back to his agency. He will look at both May 4th and 18th.

The group discussed using some of the current funds to purchase stickers for events such

as Healthy Lands Workshop and the Annual Meeting. Kayla was going to look at our designs and determine how much this would cost.

Once again, Patty reminded us that Mary needs success stories for our website. Kayla let us know that Play, Clean, Go! will require a small fee in order to access its materials. Marisa made a motion to pay the fee of \$50 (?), Kara seconded. Motion carried.

The permanent boot brush stations need to be put up in Fremont, Chaffee and Teller Counties this spring. Ideally; these would be on private property next to public lands.

Round Table:

Kayla: Kayla said that they treated 16 acres of Elongated Mustard and that they are cautiously optimistic that they have it contained and decreasing. We may have a partner day in June so that we all have an idea about what this weed truly looks like. Chaffee County is also working on the Hill Ranch revegetation project. Kayla was recently elected to the board of NAISMA. This term runs through 2021. Kayla is on the board of CWMA as well.

Kara: Let us know that there is a new Custer County CSU extension agent. Guinevere Nelson.

Donna: Working on getting her QS in 103,107,109 for Las Animas.

Patty: Finishing up on accepting EQIP applications until January 18, 2019. NRCS continues to work during partial government shutdown until otherwise directed.

Charles: Custer County Weed Advisory board updated weed management plan and plans on cost sharing in 2019. Custer County has a fear of post-fire flooding and will be seeking emergency funding for flood mitigation. AmeriCorps has been contracted to complete some work in and around La Veta. I believe that they are using EWP funding is being utilized for snagging and dragging. Flood models have been projected using clear water and not the debris fields that they will most likely experience.

John: In addition to contracting with TPCD; John has contracts with the BLM and has been working along the Arkansas River from Leadville down to Canon City. He will work for the next four years in Fremont County. John informed us that the Western Society of Weed Science will be holding its conference in Denver.

Shane: Shane is the native vegetation technician for the Pueblo Reservoir. He is working on Tamarisk and Russian Olive projects. He enquired about training for his seasonal staff regarding weed management.

Debbie: Fremont Conservation District has been working on EWP as well as a TCP restoring creeks in the Hayden Pass area. They are still gathering TCP applications for 2020.

Shelly: Shelly is in the process of planning a Map it Fast mapping workshop to take place in Pueblo in February. She will send an email as details become available. She asked Kayla and Marisa to come down to the next conservation board meeting to speak about how we run our individual weed programs. This will take place on February 7th. They have successfully treated White Top down in that area.

Tina: Tina is the president-elect of CWMA! She discussed an area called the Pineries and how they are using biological controls in an area that has become a monoculture of Canada Thistle and Yellow Toadflax.

Bryan: He said that for the first time in many years there will be a new vendor for El Paso County herbicide spraying.

Next Quarterly Meeting: **April 11, 2019**

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

p.m. Adjourn – 12:09 PM