

Upper Arkansas River Cooperative Weed Management Area

July 11, 2019
Garden Park Building Conference
Room 201 N. 6th Street, Canon City
9:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.

Quarterly meeting minutes

Kayla Malone-Chaffee/Lake Counties, **Marisa Neuzil**- Teller-Park CD, **Debbie Mitchell**-Fremont, **Tina Travis**-El Paso County, **John Coyle**- Ark Valley Weeds, **Kara Harders**-CSU small acreage/NRCS, **Brittany Pierce**- Fremont County Weed Management, **Aaron Richter**-BLM, **Angela Safranek**- USFS, **Patty Knupp**- NRCS, **James Kulbeth**-US Army FC, **Mitchel Emmer**- USFS

Welcome & Introductions: See attendance

Kayla: Call to order 9:40 AM

Approval of Minutes: Kara Harders made a motion to approve the April 11, 2019 meeting minutes, Debbie Mitchell seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2019 Grant Cycle: The 2019 NWF grant SOW was being finalized with Patty York and Kayla will keep us apprised when all is finalized. Debbie pointed out that Fremont County Conservation District did not get the \$2,000 it had requested in cost-share. Kayla acknowledged that this was an oversight and that Fremont County Weed and Chaffee County Weed departments would move some funds around if possible before the final documents had been signed. We discussed the State's mapping requirements regarding EDDsMaps and Aaron and Charles shared that they used ONYX and COGCC GIS to help with their efforts. A portion of the group will be staying after the meeting to discuss creating a standardized Strider form for Map-it Fast.

Financials: The group would like it to be documented in the minutes that Debbie Mitchel was elected treasurer of the UACWMA. Kayla made a motion, Brittany seconded the motion. Motion passed. Marisa made a motion that Brittany Pierce become the vice president office due to Nick Bankston's departure, Debbie seconded. Motion carried. Kayla and Debbie continue to pursue the option of the Upper Arkansas Cooperative Weed Management Association becoming its own 501c3 in order to facilitate funding options in the future. This will be a lengthy process. Fremont Conservation District has passed a resolution to be the 2019 grant cycle pass through.

The current bank balance is \$10,542.06

Healthy Lands Workshop: The briefly discussed the lack of attendance and how to strategize for greater attendance next year. This led to a discussion as to the success of

the CDOT training. There was some disappointment as to the lack of attention from attendees and as such; the group will determine how best to relay the necessary information to CDOT attendees.

Annual Conference Discussion: Topics for the annual conference were shared amongst the group. The Road Ahead is the over-arching theme of the workshop. Tina wanted clarification about the actual wording used so that Federal employees will be allowed to come. Angela explained their policies and it was decided that we may call the annual meeting whatever we like. The meeting will take place on November 14, 2019. Registration begins at 8:00 AM and will end by 3:00 PM. Topics will include Terrestrial Selective Herbicide Use (Pesticides and families), CDOT Roadside Study (Right of Way), Strategizing/ Prioritizing (Laws and Regs), Common Weeds in Ag Ditches (Ag), Poisonous Plants (Public Safety), IMP for Aquatic Ecosystems (Aquatic), Biocontrol Updates (Environmental Protection?). A new theme for lunch buffet was chosen and core categories that were not addressed this year will have precedence for next year.

Round Table:

Debbie: Debbie and Brittany did some scouting at the Russian Olive Project and have seen new growth. Fremont CD is currently advertising for a new DCT to replace Brittany.

John: John had to leave to go spray.

Angela: Angela was pleased to introduce the new weed coordinator for the Pike. Mitchel Emmer recently accepted the position. They have been busy strategizing how best to tackle the weed problems in the USFS. There will be a contingent from Uzbekistan coming to Canon City August 26-30th to learn about pasture management and restoration. The USFS is working on releasing a bio-control for Yellow Toadflax.

Marisa: Marisa spoke about recent activities of the district. TPCD sponsored many things such as Environmental Film Festival, Earth Promise Day, continues to coordinate weed management for both Teller and Park Counties, and has a Scentless Chamomile Weed Pull planned for July 13th in Fairplay. Marisa continues to attend HOA meetings in order to reach the most people possible. The TPCD Board, acting as Weed Advisory Committees, has sent along new three year weed management plans to both counties' Board of Commissioners for adoption by resolution.

Kayla: This year 120 acres of Elongated Mustard was helicopter sprayed. This was an exponential growth from last year due to much changed weather conditions. Her office has two full-time seasonal employees and are very busy now that the weeds have started popping up. They are looking at Bindweed Mites as well as Gall Wasp for Russian Knapweed.

Kara: Kara has been conducting site visits. There is a dilemma out of her office as to how to respond to herbicide recommendations on non-CDA weeds. They are working on a protocol.

Tina: El Paso has been very busy with site visits by call-ins. They have been dealing with potential Meadow Hawkweed .

Mitchel Emmer- Mitchel has been busy learning the ropes and visiting historical Orange Hawkweed sites.

James Kulbeth- James found an invasive plant on disturbed sites on Fort Carson and was later identified as Yellow Mignonet. They will treat this in order to contain and eradicate. He has also found an invasive grass that they are attempting to identify.

Patty Knupp- Patty worked in conjunction with the insectory with seven releases of the Russian Knapweed Gall Wasp in Crowley County. They are establishing these as nursery sites. Patty reminded people to send updates to Mary for website. There is an event at

Chico Basin on August 1-2.

Next Quarterly Meeting: **October 10, 2019**

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

Adjourn – 12:50 PM

