

**Upper Arkansas Cooperative Weed Management Area**  
**January 14, 2021**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**Quarterly meeting minutes**

**Brittany Pierce** – Fremont County Weed Management; **Marisa Neuzil** – Teller-Park CD; **Debbie Mitchell** – Fremont CD; **Charles Bryant** – Huerfano County; **Kara Harders** -CSU-Small Acreage; **Tina Travis**- El Paso County, **John Coyle**-Ark Valley Weed Management, LLC, **Mitch Emmer**- USFS, **Angela Safranek**- USFS, **Kayla Malone**- Chaffe/Lake County Weed Management

**Welcome & Introductions:** See attendance

**Brittany:** Call to order at 9:33 A.M.

**Approval of Minutes:** Debbie made a motion to approve the minutes, Kayla seconded. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** The financial report was presented with a balance of \$8778.23. There have been \$2741.15 in expenses over the last quarter. Marisa made a motion to approve the financial report; Tina seconded. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

- 2020 NWF final reports have been submitted to the CDA as of 1-13-2020. An invoice accompanied the report for the full amount.
- The 2021 NWF application was submitted in the beginning of December and the total ask was \$101,000 with \$104,000 in match.

**New Business:**

- Kayla gave the group an overview of the National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW). This will occur under the auspices of NAISMA. The week of 22-28 will be the week for 2021. Go to [www.Nisaw.org](http://www.Nisaw.org) for more information regarding programs and educational outreach.
- UACWMA educational outreach. Charles has been talking to the Huerfano County CSU extension agent regarding getting some on-line content up and running for weed management. Kara commented that she has been doing that for her job and the audience is not as great as one would think. It seems to be a lot of work for not such a great return. Kayla suggested that we don't re-invent the wheel and that entities like CWMA have a great library of noxious weed materials. We would like to perhaps plan for an in-person outdoor event in the Fall in lieu of our indoor annual conference. This will depend on restrictions and guidelines in place at that time. Kayla spoke about creating some pop-up weed and wildflower walks. She also asked us to promote the on-line continuing credit course for realtors. That information can be found on the CWMA website. We will table the specific plans for educational outreach to the April 15th meeting when we might have a better idea about how things are going regarding Covid-19.
- Brittany was presented with the CWMA Newcomer of the year award for 2020. Congratulations.

## **Round Table:**

**Brittany:** Brittany has been busy submitting grant requests and final reports for the UACWMA. These are all in and she is now focusing on some larger projects that may happen with the BLM. She is setting up contact with contract weed sprayers and the district has purchased a new Kubota UTV. Fremont County Weed Management is still waiting to get into the new building.

**Marisa:** The Teller-Park Conservation District had a successful spray season due to the great work of John Coyle and Ark Valley Weeds. This was the fourth year of collaboration and each year runs more smoothly on our end. The district is working with the City of Fairplay to come up with a plan to address the Scentless Chamomile problem in their town. We will be sending out educational materials with utility bills as well as coordinating community weed pull days. TPCD will work in conjunction on education and will help with prizes and grass seed. They have budgeted for increased spraying through our office and we are all excited to see the outcome as we work cooperatively with all of the outside agencies.

**Debbie:** Debbie has all of the weed books that we ordered as a group and will hold on to those for now. She also has twenty calendars left over from our original order. Patty will take some, but the rest are available.

**Charles:** Charles let everyone know that Darryl Crawford had passed away last November. He is still on water duty as well as meeting with the new board of commissioners and the county weed board. He has one seasonal employee returning this season.

**Kara:** CSU has hired another regional SAM specialist which will take some pressure off her. She conducted a small acreage management survey and noxious weed management was the major concern. She has five site visits lined up in the month of January. All in-person events have been cancelled for the foreseeable future.

**Tina:** El Paso County approved to come up with weed management plan for El Paso County Parks.

**John Coyle:** Ark Valley Weed Management; John had a busy summer and treated 4,000 acres total. He had two seasonal employees who will return for the 2021 season. He is excited to see the inter-governmental cooperation in Fairplay and Park County. He is also looking for a new UTV. He is an at-large board member for WSWS. He is preparing for a virtual round table regarding Better Land Management through Better\_\_\_\_\_. They are going to deal with governmental RFP process.

**USFS:** Mitch had a great season with Ark Valley Weeds. He is working on some big projects in Jefferson and Douglas Counties. Angela has started working on the IDIQ. She is hoping to have the long-term contracts in place sooner than later.

Meeting times for 2021:

January 14- Planning on in-person at Brittany's new office- Will switch to Zoom if needed

April 15

July 8

October 14

Meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

