



Twin Valley Weed Management Area
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Twin Valley Weed Management Area Minutes
March 5, 2008

Bruce Rumsey opened the meeting at 10:05 A.M. in the Trailblazer RC&D Office. Those in attendance were: Bruce Rumsey, Clay Co. Weed; Bud Collison, Webster Co. Weed; Bobby Hamilton, Harlan Co. Weed; Tim Burseson, Harlan Co. Weed; Garold Ohmstede; Merrill Duntz, South Central PPD; Roger Stockton, Southwest RC&D; Jim Shipman; Jim Bowen, Corps of Engineers; Merle Illian, project coordinator; Mark Goebel, Franklin Co. Weed; Vernon Duncan, attorney; Charles Brooks, Tri Basin NRD; Bob Meduna, Nebraska Game & Parks Comm.; Todd Weverka, Furnas Co. Weed; and Jan Harvey, Trailblazer RC&D.

Self-introductions were made.

1. **Review of February Minutes:** The February minutes were mailed prior to the meeting. **Bobby moved to approve the February Meeting Minutes as mailed and Mark seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
2. **Financial Report:** The financial report was distributed. As of February 2008, there is a balance of \$1,861.91. There is a balance of \$386,443.00 in the Eastern Republican Riparian Improvement Project grant. **Garold moved to accept the financial report as presented and Bud seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Election of 2008 officers: Merle moved to keep the slate of officer that are presently serving on the board and Bob seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. **Bird Issues on Republican River:** Bob Meduna, Nebraska Game & Parks Comm., met with the board and discussed bird nesting and habitat along the Republican River. He mentioned that there is no documentation of Piping Plover and Least Terns nesting on the river. He does not see any problem with the work along the river. If people working on the river see Bald Eagle activity, he asked that they make note of it and report to the Nebraska Game & Parks Comm.
4. **Meeting with western landowners:** Merle met with Bob and area landowners at Bob's office. They went out on the ice with the landowners to tour the river. They found some small patches of phragmites.

Merle then met with Todd and landowners in Furnas County. The meeting went well and the landowners showed interest in the activities that will be done.

Agreement forms (similar to the one previously used) will include logjam removal and deep disking.

Landowner informational meetings will be held March 27 at 1:00 in the Ag center in Orleans, NE and at 7:00 in Arapahoe at the Ella Missing Center. News releases will go out to the papers. Laura Dake will give the welcome at the Orleans meeting and Eldon Reese at the Arapahoe meeting. The weed superintendents will give a power point presentation at each meeting. Letters of interest, agreements, and maps will be ready to sign at the meetings.

5. **Follow up Spraying this Spring:** Bob of Chem-Trol mentioned that they would do follow up spraying this spring. We will discuss with Bob on what he can do. **Todd moved to send Chem-Trol a letter in regards to the 2007 work completed, monitoring their completed work, and requesting maps and/or GIS files of the work completed last fall. Bud seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

6. **Channel Cleanout:** A & L Construction started working east of the Franklin Bridge. They are making progress.

There was a site showing from Guide Rock Bridge one mile east. Six contractors attended. Bids will be opened March 10 at 10:00. It was suggested for the next bid letting to develop a scoring/rating sheet for bid letting which would rate each contractor for documentation purposes.

7. **Deep Disking:** A&L Construction will start disking at the sites when they get closer to Red Cloud. NRCS will be doing cross sections of the islands Monday afternoon so that documentation can be made as to the results of the disking.
8. **Fencing:** Dick Booker requested a single fence between cropland and riparian area. It was discussed and decided that it did not fit the parameters of the grant.
9. **2008-2009 Grant Content:** A draft of the new grant was distributed. John Thorburn will be preparing the grant. The grant is due the middle of April.

10. **Other business:**

- Web site – A picture gallery is being worked on.
- Nebraska Weed Association Conference – The conference was held in Kearney. The Weed Association is considering putting phragmites on the state noxious weed list.
- Department of Natural Resources – They have request use of the Argo to complete a river survey.
- There will be an Ag/Home Expo in Red Cloud on March 12.
- Mike Clements suggested having 3-4 burn test sites for phragmites and use burn specialist to conduct the burn. Information gathered could be used to determine how fire affects phragmites.

The next TVWMA meeting will be April 2 at 10:00 at the Trailblazer RC&D office. **Garold moved to adjourn and Bob seconded the motion.** Meeting adjourned at 12:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Bud Collison, Secretary