

# MINUTES

Stark County Weed Control Board

January 31, 2024

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## In Attendance

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Les Simnioniw, County Commissioner Paul Clarys, Dave Wanner and Mac Hoerner met at the County Office. Others: Travis Jepson, Kurt Froelich, Jo Thompson. Absent: Shelly Ziman, Greg Messer, Ervin Binstock

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## Call to Order

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Chairman Les Simnioniw called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Mac motioned to ratify the agenda, Dave second.

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## Financial Report

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2023 year-end Financial Reports were reviewed and discussed as well as the approved 2024 budget. Current fund balance is \$389,400.28. Paul motioned to approve the Financial Report, Mac second. Roll call vote was taken, Motion carried unanimously.

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## Minutes

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Mac made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes, Paul second. Motion carried.

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## Updates

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- Travis provided an update regarding the new spray truck. It is currently at Hutz Welding having the boom fabricated and will then go to Pump Systems for their portion of the project. All of the parts are sourced, and the project is on track for the unit to be in service for the 2024 spraying season.
- The NDWCA annual convention was attended by Travis and Jo in January. It was a good conference with useful information. Topic highlights included: Open Meetings/Records laws, Aeronautics/Drones, Genetic Testing of Weeds, Biological Control. Ventenata, an annual invasive grass, was another timely topic presented on. This grass is a concern due to its growing presence in Montana, South Dakota and Wyoming, and it's ability to rapidly spread, significantly reducing livestock forage and increasing wildfire intensity on range and pastureland. Travis was also presented with the ND Department of Agriculture's 2024 Weed Control Partner Award.
- The EPA has put an indefinite hold on the PRIA date for TruRange herbicide. Some counties are cost-sharing Method, and it was discussed if we wanted to add it to our products for the upcoming season. No decision was made at this time. It effectively targets Leafy Spurge, Wormwood and Canada Thistle.

- Venue herbicide is another product that Travis suggested as a possible cost-share product for specific situations.

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### Pesticide Application Record Books

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Pesticide Application Record Books were created to be given out during upcoming Private Applicator Certification trainings, and also to landowners purchasing restricted use herbicides through our cost-share program. They are based off the NDDA Pesticide Application Record form, with other helpful info included in a bound format that is easier to keep in your spray unit. The majority of the printing costs were sponsored by Envu, Corteva and Nutrien Solutions.

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### 2024 Newsletter

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A quote was obtained from Quality Quick Print for the cost of printing and mailing a newsletter to all Stark County landowners that are eligible for the cost-share program. Mac made a motion to proceed with having Quality Quick Print print and mail the newsletters. Dave second. Roll call vote was taken, motion passed unanimously.

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### Call for bids

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Paul made a motion to call for herbicide bids to be opened at the 03/27/2024 meeting. Dave second. Motion passed.

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### 2024 meeting schedule

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It was agreed that the meeting schedule and time will continue to be the last Wednesday of every other month starting in January, at 10:00 am.

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### Adjournment

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The meeting adjourned on a motion by Mac, second by Dave, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

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### Next Meeting

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Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.