

Grand County Noxious Weed Control Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 12th, 2023
1000 Sand Flats Rd, Moab UT 84532
Virtually on Google Meets

Members Present

Lydia Zowada, Tim Higgs, Kevin Walker

Members Absent

Christopher Marlor

Others Present

Elizabeth Izzi Weimholt, Randall Lewis

1. **16:01 Lydia Zowada called the meeting to order**
2. **Approve minutes from November 7th and December 19th, 2022**
 - a. **Motion to approve minutes from November 7th** - Tim Higgs
Seconded Motion - Lydia Zowada
Motion passes unanimously
 - b. **Motion to approve minutes from December 19th** - Tim Higgs
Seconded Motion - Lydia Zowada
Motion passes unanimously
3. **Citizens or Agencies to be heard**

None
4. **Old Business**

None
5. **New Business**
 - a. **Vote on Chair**

Nominations - Tim Higgs nominated Lydia Zowada as Chair
Seconded nomination - Kevin Walker
Motion to approve Lydia Zowada as Chair - Tim Higgs
Seconded Motion - Kevin Walker
Motion passes unanimously
 - b. **Vote on Vice Chair**

Nominations - Lydia Zowada nominated Tim Higgs as Vice Chair
Seconded nomination - Kevin Walker
Motion to approve Tim Higgs as Chair - Lydia Zowada
Seconded Motion - Kevin Walker
Motion passes unanimously
 - c. **Review Noxious Weed Control Bylaws**

The Board discussed the Noxious Weed Control Bylaws. The only change that was requested was that "County Council" be changed to "County Commission". The Board also discussed the possibility of alternates for voting members, and Izzi said they'd ask Aaron Eager if that was a possibility.
Motion to approve with changes - Tim Higgs

Seconded motion - Lydia Zowada
Motion passes unanimously

d. Approve State Annual Report from Grand County

The Board discussed the State Annual Report. The State Annual Report was drafted by Izzi Weimholt and will be sent to Aaron Eager at the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) after approval. The Board discussed the rating section of the report, where the Weed Supervisor rates their work through the past year for a number of different work site types. Tim Higgs suggested that the ratings for Roads be changed from "Good" to "Fair" and that the rating for Riverways be changed from "Excellent" to "Good". Izzi agreed with the rating change for Roads, and then explained their reasoning for the Riverways rating, stating that the river corridor of the Colorado River from Loma CO to the Moab boat ramp (excluding Westwater) had been treated and/or monitored, as well as the Green River from Green River State Park to Mineral Bottom. Tim explained his reasoning, stating that there were still weeds at the boat ramps that he visited. After discussing, Izzi changed the ratings on the two work site types.

Motion to approve with changes - Tim Higgs
Seconded motion - Lydia Zowada
Motion passes unanimously

e. Weed Supervisors report

Izzi reported on their work for the past two weeks, and explained that for the majority of the time since the last Board meeting they had been out of the office in the Grand Canyon. Much of the work completed was related to re-writing office procedures, and Izzi shared the new Pesticide Emergency Response Plan that they had created, as well as the Department's organizational system for Chemical Safety Data Sheets and Herbicide Labels. Lydia, Tim, and Izzi discussed their experiences with chemical spills. Izzi then updated the Board on the Seasonal Plant Tech position - several interviews have been scheduled, and Jordan Nesbitt has been hired for the position during her month-long furlough from the DNR.

f. Grant updates

- UWSA grant was completed and awarded.
- Goathead / Puncturevine ISM grant will be finalized for FY23, and Izzi will be applying for the same grant again for FY24. Izzi and Randall Lewis spoke about puncturevine, and Randall updated the Board that he had reached out to Science Moab to have an episode on puncturevine. He also asked whether there were any community events planned for mid-summer puncturevine control, and Lydia suggested partnering with Trail Mix / Grand County Active Trails Department.

6. Committee Reports

None

7. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

The Board discussed the possibility of adding Russian Thistle (Tumbleweeds) to the County Noxious Weeds list as a Class 4 Prohibited.

8. Motion to Adjourn – Tim Higgs

Seconded Motion – Lydia Zowada
Motion passes unanimously