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Board of Directors Meeting

April 9, 2009

1. Call to order – The regular meeting of High Plains Weed Management Association was held April 9, 2009 at the Bluffs Business Center. President Jeff Schledewitz called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Board members present: Jeff Schledewitz, Verlin Bruns, Kay Grote, Robin Lapaseotes, Emily Munter, Terry McCord. Board Members absent: Gerald Davis, Mike Marker, Owen Walker, Dan Weinreis. Others present: Dennis Beyer, project Manager; Paul Beaver Field Coordinator; Georgette Jordening and Curtis Cloud, NRCS; Jennifer Rogers with Sen. Ben Nelson's office; Chris Kaiser, South Platte NRD; contractors: Justin Liss, John Ewing, Paul Cook, Kim Erickson, and Panhandle RC&D programs assistant Joyce Mick.

Introductions of the new secretary Joyce Mick and the new Field Coordinator Paul Beaver were given by Project Manager Dennis Beyer.

2. Approval of Agenda - Verlin Bruns moved to approve the revised agenda, seconded by Terry. ROLL CALL: AYES: Jeff Schledewitz, Emily Munter, Terry McCord, Robin Lapaseotes, Kay Grote, Verlin Bruns. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes – The Board reviewed the minutes and Robin Lapaseotes moved to approve the minutes of March 11, 2009 meeting; seconded by Verlin Bruns. ROLL CALL: AYES: Verlin Bruns, Kay Grote, Robin Lapaseotes, Emily Munter, Jeff Schledewitz. NAYS: None. ABSTAINED: Terry McCord. Motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report – The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report and Terry McCord moved to approve the treasurer's report; seconded by Emily Munter. ROLL CALL: AYES: Verlin Bruns, Kay Grote, Robin Lapaseotes, Terry McCord, Emily Munter, Jeff Schledewitz. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

5. Project Manager Report – Dennis Beyer explained to the Board that we could not get a current to date report due to the banking on line was down and that the bills for approval were totaling \$145,302.77 – and some of the checks have been sent out and that we put in for a request of funds for \$378,000.00 and have not received it yet. This past month the Secretary and Field Coordinator and myself went through every file to get them updated for all forms filled out correctly, invoiced and whether paid, completed or not completed and corrected the excel forms for the list of projects and completed projects. Beyer reported that keeping the contractors busy due to weather factors involved, they still got a lot done in spite of it. Have not heard anything



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on the CIG grant application. New land applications are coming in daily and it is getting out by word of mouth. The last month has been very busy.

6. Field Coordinators Report – Paul wanted to thank you for the opportunity to work with each and every one. Paul stated that going through the files was a job and was very helpful. Weather being a factor, keeping the contractors busy; spraying and regrowth was his concerns.

7. Old Business

a. Board Vacancy – Chris Kaiser of the South Platte NRD would be interested to serve on the Board. Verlin Bruns moved to approve Chris Kaiser of the South Platte NRD to serve on the Board, seconded by Robin Lapaseotes. ROLL CALL: AYES: Verlin Bruns, Kay Grote, Robin Lapaseotes, Terry McCord, Emily Munter, Jeff Schledewitz. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

b. NETF Awards Ceremony in North Platte – Dennis Beyer reported to the Board that there is a workshop and an official grant announcement from NETF in North Platte on April 20, 2009 at 11:30 a.m. and that Jeff Schledewitz, Dennis Beyer and Paul Beaver will be attending. Joyce Mick will be unable to attend due to another commitment. He reported to the Board that the North Platte River Invasive Species Control Project Follow Up was awarded \$400,000.00 this year with a 50/50 cost share with landowners and the Platte River Invasive Species Control Project was awarded \$200,000.00 for year 2 continuation, making this grant a total \$1.8 million dollars over three years. Nine Mile Creek Invasive Species Control and Habitat Restoration was awarded \$9,900.00 for year 2. Verlin Bruns moved to approve Jeff Schledewitz, Dennis Beyer and Paul Beaver to attend the workshop and ceremony in North Platte, seconded by Emily Munter. ROLL CALL: AYES: Verlin Bruns, Kay Grote, Chris Kaiser, Robin Lapaseotes, Terry McCord, Emily Munter, Jeff Schledewitz. NAYS: None. Motion carried

c. Weed Watch Articles – These articles are due by April 15, 2009 and that if anyone from the Board wants to write an article to make sure they are turned into Dennis Beyer by the due date.

d. Star Herald Ads – The Going Green ad would cost \$640.00 for ½ page ad and was recommended by Dennis Beyer that we do not do this. The internet ad for seven days for \$69.00 for continuation was discussed and that this is just every day business and that Dennis Beyer should handle this. Dennis Beyer reported that the Business Farmer goes into Wyoming and since we are not doing anything in Wyoming, we don't need to advertise with them.

e. KNEB Advertising - KNEB advertising has been successful in the past for advertising and getting projects and is a good way to get landowners attention. Need to keep in



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mind when advertising about certain objectives. Discussion was held on getting more applications and to tell the landowner that we don't have enough monies available as of now, but will put them on the list. This will also help when we apply for another grant to show the need for this project.

f. Insurance Audit-Essential Insurance Services – Dennis Beyer reported to the Council that we are having an insurance audit done and there are ten items that we need to get all the information pulled together for it.

g. Migratory Bird Act – Emily Munter informed the Board that she has eight people to do the inspections and they are qualified to do the inspections and that there are two acts to follow: (1) Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and that we cannot go within 660 feet from that tree; (2) Migratory Bird Treaty Act and that we have to leave the tree standing until nesting is done, even if there is just a nest we have to leave the tree alone. These sites need to be inspected twice and will be marked with florescent tape and flagged and marked on the map with the aid of GPS. The contractors are to look before they start the project and if they find one to let Dennis or Paul know. The reason for these acts is to try and benefit the wildlife. The birder's will charge High Plains and will fall under contract labor and Emily Munter has a list of prices what to pay. A questions came up with the board members are covered for O & M and they are.

8. New Business

a. Mailing list update – Dennis Beyer reported that we had some emails come back and if anyone has a new email address to let us know.

b. Cap on Project Costs – Dennis Beyer reported in the past there has been different prices of \$350.00 - \$900.00 per acre and anything above this will be paid by landowner. A guideline for this is needed as to when we run into this. The contractors are running into a lot of junk piles and they are to tell the landowners first before they start a project that they will move around it or have it cleaned up before they start the project. It was suggested that between the contractor and the landowner to collect the pay difference. The contractors asked that the smaller jobs be combined with the bigger jobs for the convience of moving the equipment. There have been complaints about landowners being put ahead of another job in line. Jeorgette Jordening mentioned that Equip will help pay on the bigger project and to check it out. Emily Munter moved to set the cap on project costs of \$650.00 and if it goes above that amount will have to get Executive Committee approval. Robin Lapaseotes called for the question to the motion and asked if we could add acres. Motion stands as setting the cap on project costs of \$650.00 and if it goes above that amount will have to get Executive Committee approval. Seconded by Robin Lapaseotes. ROLL CALL: AYES: Verlin Bruns, Kay Grote, Chris Kaiser,



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Robin Lapaseotes, Terry McCord, Emily Munter, Jeff Schledewitz. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

9. Executive Session – Contractor Discussion – Terry McCord moved to enter into executive session at 2:45 p.m., seconded by Kay Grote. ROLL CALL: AYES: Verlin Bruns, Kay Grote, Chris Kaiser, Robin Lapaseotes, Terry McCord, Emily Munter, Jeff Schledewitz. NAYS: None. Motion carried. Emily Munter moved to exit out of executive session at 4:42 p.m. ROLL CALL: AYES: Kay Grote, Chris Kaiser, Robin Lapaseotes, Terry McCord, Emily Munter, Jeff Schledewitz, Verlin Bruns. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

10. Next Meeting time and date – The next meeting will be held May 14, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. at the Bluffs Business Center.

11. Adjournment – With no further business to discuss, President Schledewitz declared the meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.