

High Plains Weed Management Association
Board of Directors
November 13, 2008

1. Call to order - The November 13, 2008 meeting of the High Plains Weed Management Association was called to order by President Jeff Schledewitz at 10:05 a.m. Board members in attendance included: Jeff Schledewitz, Terry McCord, Gerald Davis, Verlin Bruns, Mike Marker, Kay Grote, and Owen Walker. Technical Advisors in attendance included: Georgette Jordening, Dallas Johannsen, Curtis Cloud, and Richard McGowan. Staff in attendance included: Dennis Beyer, Project Manager; and Roy Lyles, Field Coordinator; and Jennifer Rogers, Program Assistant. Guests: Kim and Jennifer Erickson, XL Enterprises (contractor).

2. Approval of Minutes -- A review of the minutes of the October 9 minutes was conducted by the board. Moved by Kay Grote, seconded by Gerald Davis, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried – Unanimous.

3. Treasurer's Report – Jennifer Rogers presented the treasurer's report dated 11/13/2008. Moved by Owen Walker, seconded by Mike Marker, to accept the November 13, 2008 Treasurer's Report. Motion carried – Unanimous.

4. Bills to be paid – Jennifer Rogers presented the bills to be paid. Moved by Emily Munter, second by Kay Grote, to approve the Bills-to-be-Paid. Motion carried – Unanimous.

5. Reports

a. Project Manager Report – Dennis Beyer reported on a visit from Western Surety Company regarding the organization's insurance and the operations involved. The representative suggested keeping fire extinguishers and first aid kits in all of the vehicles. Dennis also received a phone call from the Scotts Bluff County Fire Chief Dana Miller regarding High Plains' position on burning the trees that are removed. He would like to set up a meeting in the future to discuss it. Dennis is also going to be meeting sometime soon with Senator Harms and Senator Carlson.

The Department of Agriculture has requested that High Plains return any funds for the 2008-2009 grant funding that hasn't been spent to date. They would like to transfer the funds to different projects across the state. Moved by Emily Munter, seconded by Mike Marker, to keep the additional Department of Agriculture funds at this time in order to complete project work in the area prior to the end of the grant period. Motion carried – Unanimous.

Dennis has also been making a couple of presentations in the area and the new promotional banner is going over very well and generating interest in the organization.

b. Field Coordinator – Roy Lyles reported that at this time, Garden County work is basically shut down due to the hunting season, but work in Morrill County and Scotts Bluff county is continuing.

c. Communications report – Emily Munter reported that there has been limited activity because the members of the committee have been unable to meet since the last meeting. However, the promotional items are all in and the rest of the board is encouraged to get some of

those items and begin distributing them. Details on the newsletter and landowner workshops are still being ironed out at this time.

d. Legislative Committee Report – No report.

e. By-product Committee Report – Jennifer Rogers explained a grant possibility in order to get grinding under way through the Department of Environmental Quality. The grant is due February 1st and could cover either equipment purchasing or contractor work regarding the chipping. Moved by Mike Marker, seconded by Verlin Bruns, to submit an application for the DEQ recycling grant regarding chipping of the removed trees. Motion carried – Unanimous.

6. Old business

a. Environmental Trust/Re-growth Update – Members of the group met with Lisa Beethe the last week in October as part of her tour out in the Western part of the state. They did some site touring and also went through the projects list and changes to forms / guidelines that High Plains will need to address.

7. New Business

a. Revised Treatment Contract/Cost Share Procedures – The Nebraska Environmental Trust would like High Plains to make some changes to their cost share procedures and the treatment contract. Dennis Beyer went through the forms with the changes. Moved by Kay Grote, seconded by Mike Marker to adopt the proposed changes in the Program Description and Treatment Contract as presented. Motion carried – Unanimously.

b. Follow-up grant budget allocation: tabled

c. Contractor's Agreement: tabled

d. Byproduct Grant: See By-product Committee Report

Contractor Kim Erickson of XL Enterprises attended the meeting in order to bring up the idea of increasing the range on contractor's payments in order to reflect the actual costs that they are experiencing. A contractor's meeting will be held to discuss this idea further.

8. Next Meeting time and date – The next meeting of the High Plains Weed Management Association will be held Thursday, December 11, 2008 at 1:30 p.m at the Bluffs Business Center Board Room.

9. Adjournment – With no further business to be discussed, it was moved by Owen Walker, second by Emily Munter, to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m. Motion carried – Unanimous.