



WEED BOARD MEETING

**117 South Main Street, Monticello, Utah 84535. Commission Chambers
November 04, 2021 at 7:00 AM**

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consideration and Approval of Weed Board Minutes from September 2nd, 2021

CITIZEN COMMENTS

BUSINESS/ACTION

2. Consideration, Approval and Signature of letter of Recommendation for Zach Johnson to the County Board of Commissioners for Appointment to the Weed Board.

WEED SUPERVISORS REPORT

3. Consideration and Approval of November Weed Supervisors Report

ADJOURN

NEXT MEETING

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing auxiliary communicative aids and services for this meeting should contact the San Juan County Clerk's Office: 117 South Main, Monticello or telephone 435-587-3223, giving reasonable notice



Weed Board
Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2021

1) Call To Order

Blake Peterson began the meeting of the San Juan County Weed Board at 7:16 am on September 2nd, 2021.

2) Roll Call

The following people were present: Dennis Gines, Cade Lewis, Blake Peterson, Blaine Nebeker, Todd Adair and Frank Smith

3) Approval of Agenda

Dennis Gines made a motion to approve the agenda. Blake Peterson seconded the motion and the motion was approved by all board members.

4) Approval of Minutes

Blake Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes. Cade Lewis seconded the motion and the motion was approved by all board members.

5) Citizens Comments

Several board members said they had been contacted about the control letter they received but response do not sound overly harsh.

6) Supervisor Report

It was reported that the proposed budget modification has been approved. It was reported that the weed crew plans to spend 8 to 10 additional days spraying along the San Juan River. It was reported that the second spray day event was successful. It was reported that the weed crew will begin vegetation control spraying on ROW's. Frank reported that ROW weeds have returned with the recent rains. It was reported that 15 weed control letters have been sent to landowners.

7) Business/Action

It was reported that Zach Johnson may be interested in joining the weed board. Frank said he would call Zach and invite him to join.

8) Next Meeting

Thursday, October 2nd, 2021

9) Adjourn

Blake Peterson made a motion to adjourn and Dennis Gines seconded and the board adjourned with approval from all members.

SAN JUAN COUNTY WEED BOARD



Blake Peterson
Cade Lewis
Charlie Tracy
Dennis Gines
Blaine Nebeker

Chairman
Vice-Chair
Member
Member
Member

San Juan County Commissioners
117 South Main Street
PO BOX 9
Monticello, UT 84535

Re: Appointment of Zach Johnson to County Weed Board

Dear Commission,

The San Juan County weed board would like to recommend local farmer Zach Johnson be appointed to the weed board. Zach would fill the position of Blaine Nebeker who has decided to retire from the board after over 13 years of dedicated service. Zach has the support of all board members including outgoing member Blaine Nebeker.

Earlier this year Mack McDonald advertised this weed board position in the San Juan Record. He did not receive any applications at that time. Since then weed board members have reached out to local farmers and ranchers. Zach Johnson was contacted by a board member and expressed an interest in the position. As a local agricultural producer Zach has direct knowledge of noxious weed issues in San Juan County.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and we look forward to continuing the counties long standing fulfillment of the requirements of the Utah Noxious Weed Act (Utah Code Chapter 4-17). This act requires that all counties form a weed board that is responsible for noxious weed control in the county, and oversight of the county weed department.

Thank You,

Blake Peterson, Chairman
San Juan County Weed Board

Weed Department Report Weed Board Meeting 11/02/21

- Our seasonal employees finished for the year on October 15th. I hope to have Don Andrews return again next year and will encourage him. Rianna Shumway intends to find a full time year round position but I will keep in touch with her and if she has not found something I am sure she would return next year.
- We have spent a total of twenty, 10 hour days spraying the various riparian areas on the North shore of the San Juan River in support of our San Juan River Grant. We applied nearly 13000 gallons of herbicide in these areas this year. At most of the locations we have seen significant decreases in the prevalence of large concentrations of both Russian Knapweed and Camelthorn. I intend to continue this project next year but I believe we could reach full eradication in at least half of our spray sites over the next few years.
- We have spent a total of fifty, 10 hour days spraying Right-of ways this year. We applied nearly 14000 gallons of herbicide during these days. We had a significant impact on control of noxious weed on right-of-ways this year and currently the roadsides are as free of Bindweed, Russian Knapweed, Canada Thistle and puncture vine as I have ever observed.
- As long as the weather permits I will continue applying Tordon and Glyphosate in support of Right-of-way vegetation control. The focus of this spraying is delineators, guardrails and cattle guards. The target of most of these treatments is rabbit brush and we have found that both high concentrations of Glyphosate or Tordon have a decent kill rate, especially with multiple applications. The goal is to kill off enough of this rabbit brush to cut down on the amount of weed eater work the road crew has to do every year.
- During the off season I hope to enter into a spray agreement with the cities of Blanding, Monticello and Bluff. Monticello has significant weed issues at the Hideout Golf Course and the Airport. As they are required by law to address these issues I believe we have the leverage to convince them to allocate some budget to this issue. We have been spraying Blanding's airport and Right-of-ways for years without any compensation. Hopefully I can convince them that it is in their best interest to allocate some budget to see this service continue. Bluff is likely very limited in budget but even a few hundred dollars would help them to cover their right-of-ways and airport. Before Bluff incorporated the county was spraying these areas as it was considered a county entity.
- With a few exceptions most persons I sent a control letter have made either a commitment to treat their weeds or have moved to treat them. I am sending out a second notice to JH Ranch as I have not heard from them and no weed spraying has taken place on the heavily infested plot in question.