

Upper Arkansas Cooperative Weed Management Area

October 14, 2022

Pathfinder Regional Park, 6655 State Highway 115, Florence, CO 81226

Quarterly meeting minutes

Brittany Pierce – Fremont County Weed Management; **Donna Landrum** -Fremont County Weed Management, **Marisa Neuzil** – Teller-Park CD; **Debbie Mitchell** – Fremont CD; **Angela Safranek**-USF, **Steve Stultz**- FCD, **Kayla Malone**- Chaffee/Lake County Weed Management, **John Coyle**- Ark Valley Weed Management and Consulting, **Tom Flower**- Custer County Commissioner

Welcome & Introductions: See attendance

Brittany: Call to order at 9:37 A.M.

Approval of Minutes and Financials by acclamation: Debbie made a motion to approve the minutes, Charles seconded. Motion carried.

We currently have \$ 13,083.43 in checking.

Old Business:

- Brittany informed the group that Fremont County had an IT attack, and her email and phone were offline for months. They are getting everything up and running now. She asked that we send her an email so that she has our contact info.
- Angela asked that we set a deadline for t-shirt orders. Brittany will send that out.
- NWF quarterly reports are due to Debbie by October 21st.
- Debbie ordered two boxes of CWMA weed books and received the summer sale discount.
- February 8th is the date for the annual meeting at Pathfinder Park. We will confirm details and start looking for a caterer.

New Business:

- The group voted to continue our NAISMA membership.
- We planned for the upcoming Annual Meeting. The theme will be Planning for the Future.
- Action Items for contacting potential speakers: Angela-Dan T., John-Derek, Sandra, Kayla-CDA, Marisa-Neil K and Teresa Neese.
- Brittany will send out the tentative schedule and speaker plan to the group. We will need to have everything nailed down by December 1st to get the information to CDA for the CEC approval.
- We will have only one level of sponsorship at \$200/table.
- Debbie will send out the "Save the Date" email. People will have the ability to pay online this year.

Round Table:

Brittany: Fremont County wrapped up weed season on Oct 11th. They scheduled the Elongated Mustard treatment which was completed on time and under-budget. Fremont continues to treat Eurasian Water Milfoil. That is looking good. Brittany went out to a wilderness area but had to cut the treatment short when the mule-

handler was injured. Fremont continues to coordinate biocontrol releases with area 4-H and FFA youth groups. They also found some Black Henbane while spraying for CDOT on Highway 24. Teller-Park CD is aware of that population since it had been treated in the past.

USFS: Angela spoke about the process of coming up with an environmental impact statement for arial spraying for the US Forest Service. Wyoming's preliminary plan had no public objections. She will be going to Tajikistan on a rangeland tour.

TPCD: Teller-Park had the most productive season to date. They were able to address large rangeland projects as well as some Denver Water lands. Their cost share program was successful, and they will be asking the group for some extra funding for that endeavor. The district continues to partner with Ark Valley Weed, which has been a productive partnership. Marisa conducted several noxious weed talks aimed at different populations in their area. They have made an agreement with Lucy Bauer, of Bailey, to expand their reach over in the SW part of Park County. TPCD has made strides with the Teller County elected officials and feels like we are beginning a new partnership there.

Fremont Conservation District. Debbie ran the CACD poster contest and Steve has been going on small acreage site visits.

Chaffee County: Kayla had two seasonal employees that were able to take care of roadsides, while she was on maternity leave. They did not spray private property this year. She has returned to work part-time and will be back to full-time in November. She has been communicating with Sarah Hamilton of the Central Colorado Conservancy who is trying to help Lake County get their conservation district up and running with a manager and an actual location. She will put her in touch with Marisa.

Huerfano County: Charles had a long weed season. There was a flush of seed in late June. They did have funding from their conservation district for landowner assistance. They are reaching out to the landowners and building up better voluntary management. They have had some great successes with biocontrol on Tamarisk. It looks like one area has had eight miles of spread. They intend to end their season at the end of October.

John Coyle: Ark Valley Weed had a very busy season with contracts encompassing TPCD, BLM, USFS, and the US Air Force Academy to name a few. It was a very dry spring, but things began to really grow when the monsoon rains hit. He would like everyone to work on "expectation management."

Tom Flower: Custer County Commissioner told the group that there is a new Custer County CSU Extension Agent named Reggie Foster.

Meeting times for 2023:

January 10, 2023

April 11, 2023

July 11, 2023

October 10, 2023

Next Meeting: January 10, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 12:26 PM

Action Items:

Brittany: Will reach out to Merchandise vendor and place an order for tablecloth and screen. She will send out an email the group and will collect our size, style, and color preferences for T-shirts. I am unclear how the payment will be made for these; UACWMA will pay? Members will pay? She will place order for ChapStick. Brittany will arrange with the venue for date and discuss set-up and catering.

Debbie: She will place an order for two cases of Weed I.D. Books when they go on sale in August.

Marisa will reach out to vendors regarding conference sponsorship.