

CWMA Board Meeting
Wednesday April 9, 2008 at the Hilton Hotel, Ft. Collins.

Call to Order:

The regular quarterly meeting of the Colorado Weed Management Association (CWMA) was called to order at 6:07 pm, Wednesday, April 9 2008 in the Montana State Room of the Hilton Fort Collins, Fort Collins Colorado. The presiding officer was Steve Anthony. A quorum was present, including the following:

Crystal Andrews, Steve Anthony, Stephen Elzinga, Kevin Gallagher, Sheila Grother, Judy Noel, J R Phillips, Fred Raish, Jonathan Rife, Cathy Shelton, Kelly Uhing, (ex officio)

Absent: Elizabeth Brown (excused)

Others present:

Alicia Doran, Donna Ralston, Judith Sirota,

Reading, correction and approval of minutes:

1/8 08 and 2/22/08

Judy Noel moved and JR Philips seconded a motion to accept the minutes from these two meeting with minor corrections. Passed.

Correspondance:

A letter was received form the White River National Forest asking for comments on the commercial use of forest land. A letter from Lisa Taylor expressed concern for spreading of weed seeds via various methods.

Officer's Report:

Insurance Teleconference: Elzinga, Anthony & Ralston

Two quotes for general liability insurance were received but the two insurance companies questioned "the indication of doing regulatory direction" by our members and decided not to issue the coverage. So new quotes were secured from CANPO (Colorado Assoc. for Non-Profit Organizations) and general liability insurance coverage was bound with the Alliance of Nonprofits Insurance on 4/5/08 for a total cost of \$1100.

Directors & Officers Insurance: A discussion was also held about Directors & Officers insurance and **Kevin Gallagher moved and Jonathan Rife seconded a motion to bind this coverage immediatly with the same company (Alliance of Nonprofits Insurance) for \$780. Passed.**

President's report:

3 teleconferences were held:

-1/15/08 Exec. Committee concerning sending George Beck to Wash. DC for NIWAW conference. **Cathy Shelton moved and Jonathan Rife seconded a motion to approve the Exec. Committee decision to pay up to \$2000 for Dr. Beck to attend. Passed.**

-2/15/08 Executive Committee concerning the Biocontrol Booklet and partnering with the CDA Insectary. **Sheila Grother moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded a motion to fund this project if a 100% matching partnership of cash for \$1000 from the Insectary and CWMA and a complete project task list / timeline / print bids / booklet content / production timeline for completion was established. (the CWMA \$1000 was moved from the Russian Olive project that was reduced.) The funds are to be paid directly to the publisher from CWMA. Passed.**

-2/22/08 full board concerning the Rocky Mountain Weed Summit support. All were present except JR Phillips and Jonathan Rife. It was moved and seconded that CWMA would accept co-sponsorship of the WEED Summit event on June 3-5, 2008 at the Hilton Hotel in Ft. Collins. **Passed.**

Special Projects-Cathy Shelton was appointed chair of this new committee and will include:

- P4C (events, materials & services and Exec. Director services)
- Weed Summit
- Display booth refurbishing
- Weed Book 10th edition & Committee/Planning

Executive Director's Report: Donna Ralston
Printed report was handed out.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: Stephen Elzinga

The financial statements for March 08 were distributed. **Judy Noel moved and JR Phillips seconded a motion to file these for end of year review. Passed.**

Executive Director's contract was disbursed for all to have a copy.

ID Playing Cards- the playing cards that were ordered came in without the suits and numbers on the card faces. So the company reprinted the order and shipped them overnight to the Hilton Hotel in time for the conference. The boxes were reused so the "old" cards had to be taken out of the boxes and replaced with the "new" decks. This was done by volunteers at the STS. The "old" cards would make great ID flash cards and **JR Phillips moved and Jud Sirota seconded a motion to sell these "Old" ID cards for \$12 for a box of 13 and to give them to educational schools who would pay shipping. Passed.** It was further moved by **J.R. Phillips and seconded by Kevin Gallagher to give away any left over by Dec. conference. Passed.**

Annual Report- Stephen Elzinga pulled together an annual report for the P4C grant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Conference- Elizabeth Brown

The theme is to be "New Places and New Faces". Some topic suggestions and speakers have been made. Suggested dates are Nov. 11-12, 18-19, 19-20, Dec. 2, 3 or 3, 4. A partial summary of 5 locations including Estes Park, Grand Junction, Omni Hotel in Boulder, and two Sheraton hotels in the metro with available dates, room costs and extra offers from the hotels was distributed. Some discussion took place about moving the location from Grand Junction when the pattern and tradition had been set to return there every other year and also about changing the dates into November when the traditional dates were in early Dec. It was decided that the committee would have a conference call the week of April 14 and then a board conference call scheduled for April 22, 2008 11am to make the final decision of location and dates.

Education: Crystal Andrews & James Johnson

A written report was sent ahead of time and included the following topics:

- weed articles were done and some are to be posted to the website
- Home & Garden Show display looked good
- Bio Control book is to be worked on and partnerships secured.
- Russian Olive booklet only needs a few images and 20,000 copies will be printed
- Display boards has been moved to the Special Projects Committee and they are being worked on
- Weed Playing Cards are printed, boxed and ready to sell at \$5.00 per box
- Day Planner prototype was presented at the STS conference and everyone thought it was a great idea, with some folks indicating they would order copies in small quantities. This project will need further committee study and approval to proceed for 2009 with payment for pre-orders made upfront.
- Horse Brochure was delivered to Donna in quantity of 2000 (cost \$1000). CDA has 4000 to give away. It was decided to give these away in bundles of 25 Thursday at the conference, and charge for shipping if people ordered them in groups of up to 100 per member.
- Native Thistle booklet is on the future agenda.

Executive/Finance Steve Anthony

Some minor by-laws revisions are needed.

Intern/Scholarship Jude Sirota

There were 2 excellent applicants who got \$1000 each.

Job descriptions were emailed to everyone with few responses. Workers can apply for the scholarship the following spring with deadlines in Feb. 09, decisions made in May, Awardees notified in June and payments made in August 09. They must be residents of Colorado but could go out of state to school. Their work experience can be done anywhere.

Internet Alicia Doran

Number of hits indicate the site is well used and new things continue to be added including Federal and state legislation, the Look-A-Likes project will be web-based. Native Thistle will be on line.

Legislative Fred Raish

J.R. Philips & Stephen Elzinga each thanked the board for the experience in Wash. DC and reported that they had a forceful and verbal team. Kelly Uhing was well organized to do visits to the capital and meetings with agency heads went well. Fred reported an outline for CWMA to do NIWAW next year in July. Quality (not quantity) time is important to make progress on issues and legislator's staffing personnel are very good to get info to the legislators.

There was some discussion about County Weed Managers Group and CWMA joining forces to hire a lobbyist to create a presence at the capitol and train volunteers, to lobby for weed fund, influence contacts, etc. We should hold sessions when other meetings are happening (like the Weed Summit). An attorney should be consulted on the legal effect of the 501c3 organization status.

Marketing J.R.Phillips

A sub-committee meeting was held and indicated that the products will sell themselves if people/groups know about them. Should CWMA put up a billboard to promote CWMA? A program and costs will be submitted in July.

Newsletter Tina Booton

A written report was submitted in Tina's absence. The first issue went fairly smoothly and was sent out in January. A committee meeting was held 4/8 to determine topics, articles for the next issue to come out early May. It appears that the 3 issues will stay in budget and each is posted on the website.

Nominations/Awards Lisa Taylor

NO report now as it is too soon before the Fall annual conference.

Ornamental Committee Judy Noel

The 2009 Calendar will be to the graphics artist by May 1 and to the printer June 1 and distributed to those who made bulk orders by July 1.

Look-A-Likes will have 17 groups and be a web-based brochure.

Weed Tours-10 tours are planned this summer separate from the P4C

The 2010 calendar will be the Look-A-Likes.

Professional Applicator Mike Wilkinson

Absent however their field day event will be Sept. 4 at Chatfield Reservoir jointly with CALCP.

Special Projects **Cathy Shelton**

Weed Summit-plans are moving quickly and specific leaders are being invited. Funds are basically an in/out expense with DuPont reimbursing for Donna's time on this project.

Partnership policy-Cathy Shelton will send a proposal and sample for this so it can be discussed and approved at the July meeting. It will include guidelines on how to work with partnerships and expectations and have some administrative costs covered in the agreements.

P4C-Alicia reported that a micro grant from CDA Forestry money for \$6600 will fund 12 of the 17 projects reviewed. A media campaign will begin June 1st. Lots of projects are happening.

Booth refurbishing-Alicia reported that 2 are on hand and 1 is being used. They are 3 panel displays –two panels will have statewide info and one can be customized for local projects. The exhibits are being worked on and procedures developed for sending/returning them to the CWMA office with CWMA paying for shipping. The borrower will pay for supplies/brochures. A proposal for a 3rd matching display will be submitted in 2009. It was **moved by JR Phillips and seconded by Judy Noel to give the oldest one to Montezuma County and have it stay there permanently. Passed.**

Look-A-Likes on Thistles-it was suggested that this go to the Ornamental committee.

Noxious Weed updates-the next version is almost ready and will be done in the Aug./Sept. timeframe.

Rocky Mountain Weed Summit-Kevin Gallagher reported it is moving fast and a great blended partnership with 8 states participating. CWMA mission statement and the goal of the Weed Summit are the same. Final invitations will be sent out the week of April 14. No federal legislators can participate but state personnel and heads of departments will attend.

Spring Training School **Jonathan Rife**

Jonathan reported that lots of cooperation has made the conference successful and the Hilton hotel is good to work with. We have 3 year contract with them and Kevin Gallagher will chair in 2009.

Special Reports **Kelly Uhing**

State Weed Fund Update: This bill is to be heard next Tuesday or Wednesday to use unclaimed property funds to be divided up among several groups including weeds. CDA is asking to add 2 FTE in July plus \$300,000 for projects.

High Plains-there are 14 applicants for the position to be interviewed on April 18. There is \$100,000 for this project.

Early Detection Rapid Response – new information up on website

New Business:

Legislator contacts and sample letters will be placed on the website.

San Luis Valley Cooperative Weed Management Area various partners in the San Luis valley will be meeting on 4/24 and Kelly asked for \$200 to provide food for this meeting. **JR Phillips moved and Cathy Shelton seconded a motion to do so. Passed.**

Laptop & Software-a request to purchase a laptop and software to produce the newsletters (and to have at the conferences) was discussed with costs around \$3300. After discussion it was decided to continue status quo for the May issue and to get bids from graphic artists for producing 3 issues a year and compare the costs for adding to the budget in 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.