

CWMA Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 30, 2008 at the Hot Springs Lodge & Pool, Glenwood Springs

Call to Order:

The regular quarterly meeting of the Colorado Weed Management Association (CMWA) was called to order at 11:06 am, Wednesday, July 30, 2008 in the Ute Mountain room, in Hot Springs Lodge & Pool, Glenwood Springs, 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, Jonathan Rife, Cathy Shelton, Elizabeth Brown, Kelly Uhing, (ex officio)

Absent:

Others present:

Alicia Doran, Donna Ralston, Judith Sirota, James Johnson, Lisa Taylor

Reading, correction and approval of minutes:

4/9/08 BOD minutes from Ft. Collins –Sheila Grother moved and Jonathan Rife seconded a motion to accept the minutes. Passed.

4/22/08 BOD Minutes from teleconference-Kevin Gallagher moved and JR Phillips seconded a motion to accept the minutes. Passed.

Correspondence:

A letter was received from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation rejecting our request for P4C grant. A letter from the Gates Foundation also rejected our request for funding for P4C.

Officer's Report:

Committee packets including minutes from April BOD meeting and a teleconference call, committee reports, financials, budget update were distributed to all attending.

President's report:

By-Laws-Steve Anthony suggested clarification needed to be made on three issues: Eligibility for office, what ex-officio means, and annual meeting location. Sheila Grother & Steve Anthony will bring a report in October. There was discussion about affiliate organizations allowed as board members or ex-officio members.

Executive Director's Report: Donna Ralston

Printed report was handed out.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: Stephen Elzinga

The incomplete financial statements for July 08 (tentative since bank statements and final July bills are still outstanding) were distributed. Discussion about CD's maturing-one Permanent Association reserve came due and was deposited into the checking account on 7/1/08 for \$15,358.72, one Book Reserve CD matured on 7/15/08 and deposited into checking account for \$15,416.03 and a second Book Reserve CD matured on 6/9/08 and deposited into checking for \$8725.68. This leaves one book reserve CD to mature on 8/10/08 for \$15,000 plus interest, and 2 Permanent Association reserve CD's to mature on 3/9/09 for \$15,235.77 plus interest and on 2/14/09 for \$7739.09 plus interest. After discussion about a MMKT savings account, it was decided that Steven Elzinga and Donna Ralston should find a reasonable safe method to earn some interest on some of the funds in the checking account that would still be available for projects if needed until CD's are again available at a higher rate for less than 13 months.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Conference- Elizabeth Brown

The theme is to be “New Places and New Faces”. The Sheraton West Hotel on 6th & Simms in Lakewood has been secured and deposit paid. Casino night is arranged with a deposit made. Speakers are nearly all confirmed-waiting on 4 more. **JR Phillips moved and Sheila Grother seconded a motion to approve the speaker agenda for the two day event. Passed.** Exhibitors are in progress. An additional request for \$4500 was heard to pay for professional speaker (\$2000 plus air, hotel & food) and \$1500 for additional publicity/marketing. **Jonathan Rife moved and JR Phillips seconded a motion to increase the Annual Conference budget by \$4500. Passed.** See attached notes for more details. It was pointed out that the Col. Conservation Districts Association conference is at the same time.

Education: Crystal Andrews & James Johnson

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

- weed articles for Col. Green Magazine are nearing completion and will also be posted to the website and/or used in local newspapers.

- Bio Control book is nearing completion and a mock up should be ready for fall conference with printing done in winter. Partnerships from CSU Extension and Boulder County for \$500-1000 each have been secured. Printing quotes are being sought.

- Russian Olive booklet only needs a few images and 20,000 copies will be printed. It is still to be decided about distribution, cost, and charging for shipping.

- Weed Playing Cards- one small error about a weed with photo & description being wrong but it is not consistent in either the Playing cards or the ID Flash cards orders. A small note indicating this possible error should be included in orders as they are sent out.

- Day Planner-quality issues were expressed with the prototype, and a printer is being sought who can make necessary changes. It was suggested that a pre-sale order form be made so we have an idea of how many to order and then to order a few more that could be sold at the conference. **Elizabeth Brown moved and Judy Noel seconded a motion to print as many as can be done for \$2500 and then determine the price each. Passed.** Price should be between \$8 and 15.

- Horse Brochure-all of those delivered to CWMA at STS have been distributed. Crystal has a few more and will deliver to Donna.

- Native Thistle booklet-This will highlight good thistles and be started after the bug book is completed. Co-Partners with the Native Plant Society, and others will be sought.

Executive/Finance Steve Anthony

Intern/Scholarship Jude Sirota

Two scholarships of \$1000 each have been awarded to Sarah Wagner and David Schott.

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

Many hits continue to occur daily. The Field Day flier/registration is now loaded and committee meetings can be posted if sent to Alicia.

Legislative Fred Raish

Kelly Uhing has met with a potential lobbyist and this process will be done slowly as to secure buy-in from various potential support groups. Again the question of legality concerning the IRS status of each organization was posed.

Marketing J.R. Phillips

Donations of materials/books/hats to some schools and P4C have been made. The billboard proposal is still in discussion (Weld County did 3 very successfully and ANS has 16 around the state).

Newsletter Tina Booton

A written report was submitted in Tina's absence. The first 2 issues were fairly successful in getting out of time and within budget. Tina submitted her resignation effective at the annual meeting. Everyone was encouraged to ask others who might be interested in filling this position. Elizabeth Brown offered to assist with the January issue if no one was found before then.

Nominations/Awards Lisa Taylor

This committee is on target for a separate mailing to go out early fall with earlier deadlines. Two new awards will be "retirees" and "new comers".

Ornamental Committee Judy Noel

The 2009 Calendar was slightly delayed waiting on the Governor's signature but they have been printed and mailed. It looks like a nice profit will be made. 1000 are available for purchase at same rates plus shipping and will be sold at Annual Conference if still left over.

Look-A-Likes will have 17 groups and be a web-based brochure-progress is speeding up and the same info will be used for the 2010 calendar.

Weed Tours-10 tours took place this summer as well as several in support of the P4C events. It will be discussed in committee about dropping these separate tours and just combining them all with P4C and a proposal brought in October.

Professional Applicator Mike Wilkinson

The joint CWMA & CALCP Field Day event will be Sept. 4 at Chatfield Reservoir. 11 sponsors have been secured and fee will be \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members with no returned checks. 6 credits from CDA have been granted and 100 people may attend. Postcard announcements were mailed to both groups. This might be a possible source of funds for the future lobbyist?

Special Projects Cathy Shelton

Rocky Mountain Weed Summit-Kevin Gallagher reported that the event was attended by folks from 8 states with some legislative involvement and very professionally done due to sponsorship from DuPont. One presentation in particular by Roger Batt is on the website and he encouraged everyone to view it. Three major focus issues were presented: Awareness level of noxious weeds, raising funds for weed programs, and seamless boundaries for eradication programs. It will likely be repeated every other year.

Partnership policy- proposed guidelines were presented having been developed and commented on previously. These were accepted as committee operating procedures.

P4C-210 attendees and 80 volunteers assisted with this major event on July 12. Kids activities, t-shirts, a band, display booths, food, etc. were included. 15 other events were conducted as well. CDA grants were used.

Booth refurbishing-2 displays are almost ready to go. CWMA will pay for shipping to locations both ways via UPS.

Noxious Weed updates-the next version is almost ready and will be done late fall. A small section about EDRR will be included and the county names will be updated.

Spring Training School Jonathan Rife

Kevin announced that a committee will begin work next week and a full proposal/agenda will be presented in October. Dates are April 7, 8 & 9, 2009 at the Hilton Hotel in Ft. Collins. He suggested that \$40 gift certificates be given to all speakers.

Colorado Dept. of AG: Kelly Uhing & Crystal Andrews

San Luis Valley-thanks for the lunch support for this event.

State Fair-when the state fair is paid off, grants may be available for weed projects.

State Weed Fund Update: This bill passed the legislative process 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.

DuPont rolling tour- in NW Colorado in August.

EDRR-many reports of new List A sites are coming in: Yellow starthistle invasion in Pueblo County just outside of the town of Beulah, Yellow Star Thistle in Paonia, African rue in Las Animas County south of the Pinon Canyon Manuever Site. Please keep the reports coming in for List A sightings as well as other suspicious new invaders. Japanese knotweed has been added to the Alert List based on score that it received from the Plant Assessment Form. Scott Nissen of CSU did this Assessment. Mapping of J. knotweed will help assess distribution.

Conservation Districts-a goal is to have CD to work on weed programs in cooperation with other agencies.

BASF has a grant available (due end of Sept.) for private applicators.

CWCB is offering a grant for \$1M for tamarisk-RFP's due early Sept.

CDA Proposed Rule hearing will be 7/31 at Lakewood offices at 10:00 a.m. and final approval will come at the Weed Advisory Council on 8/12. This will involve some changes in the A, B & C lists. A support letter to CDA for these rule changes will be sent.

Old Business:

Sheila Grother attended and reported about the Oil & Gas draft regulations hearing was held in Grand Junction –it was somewhat contentious.

New Business:

CDW Invasive Species Program – This is a new program that combines Robin Knox's old position as the State ANS Coordinator with Dave Weber's old position as Terrestrial Weed Manager for CDOW and adds an exotic forest pest component. Elizabeth Brown started on July 1st. Her main duties to date have revolved around implementation of the ANS Act (SB08-226 - signed in May by Governor Ritter). The ANS Act covers both plant and animal aquatic nuisance species and gives authority to state peace officers and authorized agents to inspect and decontaminate watercraft, including trailers, that have exotic plants or animals attached to them. There is a large statewide educational campaign being implemented, such as signage at boat ramps and parks, educators at popular recreational areas and 14 new billboards being posted around the state mid-August. There is a reporting hotline (1-877-STOP-ANS) which is answered 24/7 by a human being to help identify new infestations early. Sampling and monitoring efforts for 25 aquatic weed species and 6 aquatic nuisance animals, which have been underway for 3 years, have been ramped up significantly this past year. The new discovery of quagga mussels at Lake Granby is presently a main focus of the program. Currently, Elizabeth is writing the Statewide Rapid Response Plan to Zebra and Quagga Mussels and continuing to serve as Chair of the State ANS Steering Committee, which is working to conclude writing the State ANS Management Plan. Elizabeth will also continue to serve on the State Noxious Weed Management Team and EDRR Task Force representing CDOW. Once a replacement at State Parks is hired, they will join those Teams to represent State Parks. Over the fall and winter months, Elizabeth will be performing an evaluation of CDOW's invasive species management efforts, looking for ways to highlight the positive efforts and improve operations.

Board of Director Policies & Procedures: The 2004 version was updated by Elizabeth Brown and passed out at the meeting. Directors should send comments to Elizabeth via email (Elizabeth.Brown@state.co.us). A final draft will be presented for a vote at the October meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.