

**Fremont County
Weed Advisory Board**

March 13, 2024
**Fremont County Garden Park Bldg.
Garden Park Conference Room**
*201 N. 6th Street
Canon City, CO 81212*

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m. by Rick Romano

Board Members Present (in Person):

Rick Romano, Chairman	12/31/2024
Jay Adamic, Vice Chairman	12/31/2025
Tony Telck	12/31/2026
Donna Landrum	12/31/2026
Paul Garrett	12/31/2025
Justin Kurth	12/31/2024
Paul Telck	12/31/2025

Board Members Absent:

Ed Norden	12/31/2024
Ralph Kunselman	12/31/2026
Tom Grette	12/31/2026
Roy Roper	Life

Others Present (in Person):

Brittany Pierce, Weed Management Director
Tony Carochi, Fremont County Administrator
Bonface Manono, CSU / NRCS
Greg Langer, NRCS
Jesse Young, City of Canon City
Debbie Mitchell, Fremont Conservation District
Daniel Morse, Fremont Conservation District
Aaron Rictor, BLM
Reggie Foster, Custer County Extension
Kathy Lutz, Recording Secretary

Approval of Agenda:

Tony Telck moved to approve the agenda. Donna Landrum seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous consent of all present.

Minutes:

The minutes from the January 17, 2024, meeting were distributed via email. One correction - NRCS change “Stuart ship” to “stewardship”

Donna Landrum moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Tony Telck seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous consent of all present.

Chairman’s Report:

Rick Romano stated the By-Laws would be discussed later in the meeting.

Agency Reports:

- **Commissioner’s Comments**

Commissioner Dwayne McFall was not present. Tony Carochi presented on his behalf. House Bill 1178 regarding local governments regulating pesticide sales is being opposed by CCI.

The House Bill would allow local governments to determine what pesticides are allowed in their area. This would put more burden on applicators to know boundaries relevant with different guidelines.

Rick asked if the intent of the bill would be to ban certain pesticides. Brittany stated that she is not aware of this.

Tony also stated that the Fremont County Cleanup Campaign with Twin Enviro Landfill is coming up. Dates will be April 8th, 2024—May 17th 2024. Vouchers will be issued to residents of Unincorporated Fremont County and a limit of 1 voucher per address. No Televisions, Microwaves or Electronic Appliances. Vouchers can be picked up at the Fremont County Administration Building, Room 106 beginning April 8th.

We will also be partnering with 3R Technologies to provide an Electronic Recycling Event on May 25th from 9am-12pm at the Department of Human Services Parking Lot.

- **BLM**

Aaron – No specific report initially – but later in the meeting he mentioned

He met with Brittany Pierce and renewed agreement with Fremont County for weed treatment (see Weed Director Report below for additional details)

Field Manager, Keith Berger is retiring and a new selection may have been made

BLM signed a new EIS allowing new chemicals to be used on BLM land – such as Indaziflam (Rejuvra) and a few others – which will require work from local BLM to incorporate

Working on Pest Proposals with Brittany

Otherwise, business as usual

- **CSU Extension/NRCS Small Acreage**

Bonface – expanding work with farmers and getting information out

- **NRCS**

Greg –

80 applications last time he checked waiting to be funded

Showed maps for drought monitor.

Snow pack for Arkansas Basin is at 88%

- **Fremont Conservation District**

Debbie Mitchell introduced Daniel Morse who is being trained as her replacement.

They will be at the Home & Garden Show on March 22nd & March 23rd

The local workgroup meeting will be on April 12th at Pathfinder Park

The Annual Banquet is on April 19th at Pathfinder Park – Fremont Conservation District

By-Laws will be amended at this event. A petition is available to sign.

Noxious Weed Fund Grant for Cooperative Area Weed Management was approved for \$114,850

Rick stated the Rocky Mountain Times newsletter had a section on weeds and Debbie stated Bonface gave her information

- **City of Cañon City**

Jesse Young stated preemergence are down.

Drone spraying demonstration completed with Aaron / BLM, Brittany / Fremont County Weed, and the drone spraying technician, Dustin, with Nutrien. He has been hired by City of Canon City and should begin working in next week or two. Dustin is mapping city-owned property starting at East Ridge camp ground. He can map about 6 acres every 4 minutes. He maps at about 400 feet and records plant identification, topography, trails, etc.

Switching gears into fertilization and sprinkler systems

- **City of Florence**

No representative from the City of Florence present.

- **Canon City Metropolitan Area Rec District**

No representative present

Aaron Richter opened discussion regarding 30 year snow pack averages. Calculations change due to utilizing 30 year averages which change every year.

Tony mentioned that Snow Tell will be adding additional monitors – readings will be done via satellite

Greg mentioned that manual readings are still completed as well

Tony stated that USGS is also doing physical testing

Weed Director's Report:

- UACWMA NWF Grant was approved for almost \$115k and we submitted for \$128 k. Fremont County asked for \$47K but will likely have to make some cuts.

Custer County assistance will be provided to bring Custer County up to speed??

- CCHS has completed all 3 kiosk frames. We have submitted logos and details for signs to be designed for print. Once we have those, we can look at installation. June 1st through June 8th is PlayCleanGo's Invasive Species Awareness Week hosted by NAISMA (North American Invasive Species Management Association) I am looking at having these installed around that timeline so we can submit it into their newsletter.
- A new 5-year agreement for BLM was submitted on February 28th. That agreement will start in September of this year when the previous agreement expires.
- Fremont County and Custer County are discussing obtaining a new Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to have Fremont treat Custer owned properties. This was initially started back in 2017 but had been removed after a point in time. Through the State Noxious Weed Grant, Fremont County will hire a seasonal for Custer County applications. This seasonal applicator also serves as a potential starting base for Custer County's Weed Manager moving forward after the season has ended.
- Fremont County Created useful brochures for the County Noxious Weed Program. Also, a handout flyer for List A species local to our area, and a brochure about information on the Elongated Mustard Project in Fremont/Chaffee County.
- It hasn't been officially confirmed, but Fremont County is on the top of the list as a candidate site for the hoary cress biocontrol testing. A few sites have been submitted based off a few factors. It is still too soon to set a date and details, but if approved testing could start as soon as May of this year.
Rick Romano asked about how they determine sites
Brittany mentioned that a mite will be used and not sure how they determine where the mites come from
- Japanese Mountain weed is best treated with a special type of gun which Brittany is acquiring
glyphosate works the best – Tony Telck mentioned another option

Weed Board Member and Guest Roundtable:

Donna Landrum stated she hasn't seen any weeds yet – but coming soon with recent moisture

Tony Telck – sheep grass has arrived

Paul Telck will be joining the Fremont County extension to put on a grafting mini college beginning next week

Old Business:

Weed Advisory Board vacancy has been filled by Tom Grette

Parkdale Quarry Update – Brittany Pierce stated that Fremont County and Bureau of Land Management (Aaron) met with Phillip Courtney from Martin Marietta at the Parkdale Quarry in

February to discuss the noxious weed management plan in place for the site. It was understood that weed management in the specific areas would need to be monitored and controlled annually. A brief site inspection along cottonwood creek and Tallahassee creek was briefly examined. At this time there was nothing seen in those locations. This is majorly due to the season. In future BLM applications we will notify the quarry at least a week prior to the visit to decide if an application on the Quarry side is required or needed as well.

Aaron mentioned that the inspectors from Division of Reclamation and Mining don't pay much attention to weeds

New Business:

Weed Advisory Board By Laws

Brittany handed out a copy of the By-Laws with edits by Ed Norden to each of the board members. Tony made a motion to table the By-Laws changes until the May meeting at which time a vote will be taken to approve the changes submitted by Ed Norden.

The By-Laws were not read or discussed in any detail at this meeting.

Adjournment / Next Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. in the Garden Park Conference Room.