

**Fremont County
Weed Advisory Board**

November 15, 2023
**Fremont County Garden Park Bldg.
Garden Park Conference Room**
*201 N. 6th Street
Canon City, CO 81212*

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Ed Norden

Board Members Present (in Person):

Ed Norden, Chairman	12/31/2024
Tony Telck, Vice Chairman	12/31/2023
Rick Romano	12/31/2024
Justin Kurth	12/31/2024
Donna Landrum	12/31/2026

Board Members Absent:

Roy Roper	Life
Jay Adamic	12/31/2025
Paul Telck	12/31/2025
Ralph Kunselman	12/31/2023
Fred Smith	12/31/2023
Paul Garrett	12/31/2025

Others Present (in Person):

Brittany Pierce, Weed Management Director
Tony Carochi, County Manager
Jessie Young, City of Canon City
Debbie Mitchell, Fremont Conservation District
Kathy Lutz, Recording Secretary

Minutes:

The minutes from the May 17, 2023 meeting were distributed via email. The minutes were approved as circulated.

Chairman's Report:

Bud Chess has passed so his name has been removed as a Life Member of the Weeds Advisory Board
Nothing else to report.

Agency Reports:

- **Commissioner's Comments**

Not present

- **BLM**

Not present

- **CSU Extension/NRCS Small Acreage**

Not present

- **NRCS**

Not present

- **Fremont Conservation District**

Debbie Mitchell reported that her workshop on October 27th went well

The Upper Arkansas Cooperative Annual informational weed meeting will be February 8th – more information is available via the Fremont Conservation website

- **City of Cañon City**

Jessie Young stated they are doing lots of leaf and fall cleanup

Ed noted that he noticed lots of people allowed their weeds to grow quite tall following spring rains. Jessie noted that it is a common issue.

- **City of Florence**

No representative from the City of Florence at this point since Tom is gone.

Ed inquired if anybody got a hold of Amy Nasta, Florence City Manager – Brittany stated that she emailed a meeting invite to her.

Ed suggested that Tony Carochi ask the Mayor of Florence for a recommendation for a representative to the Fremont County Weed Advisory Board meetings at their next regularly scheduled City, City, County meeting

- **Canon City Metropolitan Area Rec District**

Not present

Weed Director's Report:

Brittany's Year End Summary Presentation – Summary of 2023

Please see her report

Highlights:

During her "Future Thoughts" report, Brittany stated that a drone with herbicide in it is a potential option for treating areas that are more difficult to access

The drone operator has to be licensed and the drone itself has specific guidelines as well.

Brittany has been speaking with a contractor with Rise Drone Services in Penrose, Colorado.

Brittany discussed the success of the Biocontrol activities they have been doing

Puncturevine Weevil
Field Bindweed Mites
10,000 each of

Leafy Spurge Beetle
Russian Knapweed Gall Wasp
Northern Tamarisk Beetle

Ed asked about effectiveness of past releases and Brittany stated that on the Weed Walk in September they witnessed the migration of the Tamarisk beetle

Weed Walk in September had 27 people in attendance

Canon City High School Welding Club continues working on three Boot Brush Kiosks including pictures, information, and a boot brush

New Additions of vehicles for the Weed Management Department:
2013 Ford Pickup Truck
Two Can-Am Outlander Pro ATV's with sprayers on them
Paid for with ARPA funding

Spraying Coverage included 281 acres in an area of 16569 Acres

Expecting to hire 2 seasonals again in 2024

Brittany is considering discontinuing use of State Land Board

Ed asked about delinquent payments from private property owners and Brittany stated that she only has one delinquent

Plans for 2024
Elongated Mustard through aerial application

Weed Board Member and Guest Roundtable:

Jessie Young asked about a list of people who do weed spraying in Pueblo County – Brittany stated that the State should have a list but she would try to get one to him

Old Business:

Board Members Term Expiration - Opportunity to reinstate with Fremont County Weed Advisory Board.
Donna Landrum – new expiration date 12/31/2026
Tony Telck will be reappointed at the November 30, 2023 BOCC Meeting
Brittany has informed Fred Smith and Ralph Kunselman that they are up for reappointment

New Business:

Brittany discussed treating the BLM land out by the Parkdale Quarry – the permit states Fremont County Weed Management will control ... but Brittany has NOT been out there – leafy spurge is spreading like crazy

Ed suggested that Brittany get with P&Z and Commissioners – Brittany stated that she contacted P&Z and will be joining them on their site visit in February.

Ed also suggested that Brittany modify the wording on the permit to make it very clear that it is the responsibility of Fremont County Weed Department to perform the weed treatment on the land.

Debbie stated that she would send Brittany the link to look at the documents online.

Ed stated that Tony Carochi should confirm that everything is in order and determine whether or not an amendment to the Resolution from 2021 is needed.

Ed said to put it on the Weed Advisory Board Agenda for the January 17, 2024 meeting for a report on this topic.

Adjournment / Next Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. in the Garden Park Conference Room.