

## NDWCA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Ramkota Inn & Conference Center, Bismarck

January 4<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### **Board Approved**

President Travis Jepson called the meeting to order at 5:08 pm. Introductions. Members present were: Travis Jepson, Roger Gunderson, Rick Schmidt, Richard Weisz, NDDA, Bill Walker, Ron Manson, Derrill Fick, Cody Schnabel, Jim Hennessy, Stan Wolf, Joan Lorge, Kent Luttschwager, and Merlin Leithold, executive secretary.

Guests present: Chelsey Penuel, NDDA, Eric Delzer, NDDA, Cliff Ferebee, Dunn County, Dustin Polesek, Nutrien, and Tom Leo, Williams County.

**Additional agenda items were:** None

Richard stated that Commissioner Goehring and Deputy Tom Bodine had requested to attend the meeting. But both are out sick, and will be unable to attend tonight and also tomorrow's weed forum. The commissioner had planned on bringing the board up to date on the upcoming task force 13 meeting that he has planned. The idea of having such a meeting came after the commissioner had met with several commodity groups concerning noxious weeds. Among the questions were where the authority lies with noxious weeds.

Is it Palmer Amaranth driven? Possibly, but the commissioner wants the group to focus on all noxious weeds.

**EPA Ruling:** Eric Delzer Pesticide and Fertilizer director, NDDA. With EPA reviewing certain chemical labels, Eric brought the board up to date on what he has seen.

The pyridine and pyrimidine classes are herbicides with selective toxicity to broadleaf weeds. These herbicides are used to control weeds in both agricultural and non-agricultural settings. Use sites vary from herbicide to herbicide.

### **Human Health**

There are no human health risks of concern for any registered uses of aminopyralid, Copyralid, dithiopyr, Fluroxypyr, Picloram and tricolpyr. **EPA has not yet completed the human health risk assessment for Aminocyclopyrachlor in registration review.**

### **Ecological Health**

Ecological risks are primarily for non-target terrestrial plants through spray drift and runoff. Certain herbicides in the pyridine/pyrimidine class can persist in treated plant materials, and when treated materials are recycled into compost, can cause harm to plants in gardens and ornamental plots where the compost is applied. Pathways into compost include residues in treated turf clippings, hay from treated pastures, straw from treated wheat and other cereal grains, and manure from animals that have grazed in treated areas.

### **Compost Restrictions**

EPA is working to address compost contamination concerns for certain persistent herbicides during registration review.

Copyralid, aminopyralid, and Picloram are more persistent compared to the other herbicides in this group. Through the interim decisions for aminopyralid, Copyralid, and Picloram, the following mitigation measures are required to address potential residues in compost:

- Prohibition of off-site use of treated plant materials and manure from grazing animals for compost and animal bedding/feed until 18 months after application to allow for residues to decline.
- Requirement that livestock be grazed on forage that haven't been treated for three days before moving to a site where manure is collected, or sensitive crops are grown.
- Removal of use on residential turf from all labels (Copyralid only).
- Notification by applicators to landowners/operators of compost restrictions for pasture (all three chemicals) and turf sites (Copyralid only). Applicators must keep records of the notification for two years.
- Updating compost pictogram on pesticide labels showing growers/operators how to manage treated materials.
- Requirement for registrants to participate in a stewardship program and provide educational outreach for applicators, growers, land managers/operators, and others affected by herbicide residues in compost.

For tricolpyr and Fluroxypyr (the less persistent herbicides), the following measures are required:

- Prohibition of the use of treated plant materials or manure from animals that have grazed or consumed forage from treated areas for composting until 30 days after application.
- Requirement that livestock be grazed on forage that haven't been treated with the pesticides for three days before moving to a site where manure is collected, or sensitive crops are grown.

EPA is preparing additional educational resources for land managers and others affected by herbicide residues in compost.

### **Fluroxypyr**

- Increased drift reduction requirements
- Label language for increased herbicide resistance management
- Compost Persistence Mitigation
  - **REQUIRE 30 DAY HOLDING OF PLANT MATERIAL AND MANURE CONTAINING FLUROXYPYR**
  - **REQUIRE A 3 DAY PERIOD OF GRAZING UNTREATED MATERIAL BEFORE MOVING TO AN UNTREATED AREA**

### **Aminopyralid**

- Do not sell or transport treated plant materials or manure from animals that have grazed on treated plant materials off-site for compost distribution or for use as animal bedding/feed for 18 months after application. Treated plant materials can be recycled onsite or left in the field to decompose
- Animals that have been fed aminopyralid-treated forage must be fed forage free of aminopyralid for at least 3 days before movement to an area where manure may be collected, or sensitive crops are grown.

- Animals that have been fed aminopyralid-treated forage must be fed forage free of aminopyralid for at least 3 days before movement to an area where manure may be collected, or sensitive crops are grown.
- Applicators applying aminopyralid to pasture sites must retain a record describing how the property owner/operator was notified of compost restrictions. The following information is to be retained as part of the recordkeeping requirement:
  - The name of the applicator,
  - The date of application,
  - The area(s) treated,
  - The EPA registration number of the product applied,
  - A copy of the written notification provided to the property owner/operator, and
  - The date that notification of the property owner/operator occurred.
- These records are to be retained by the applicator for two years.
- Applications to pasture by property owners/operators on their own property are exempt from this notification and record keeping requirement.
- Applications to pasture on public land (i.e., lands managed directly by state, tribal, or local authorities) are exempt from this notification requirement.”
- Removal of Supplemental Label Instructions Which Allow the Movement of Grass Harvested for Hay Off the Farm or Ranch
- New Spray Drift mitigation language

## **Copyralid**

- Removal of all residential lawn uses
- For all products, except those that only allow application to turf:
  - This product is persistent and may be present in treated plant materials for months to years after application. Do not sell or transport treated plant materials or manure from animals that have grazed on treated plant materials off-site for compost distribution or for use as animal bedding/feed for 18 months after application.
- “Manure from animals that have grazed or eaten forage or hay harvested from treated areas within the previous three days may only be applied to the fields where the following crops will be grown: pasture grasses, grass grown for seed, wheat and corn.
- Animals that have been fed Copyralid-treated forage must be fed forage free of Copyralid for at least 3 days before movement to an area where manure may be collected or sensitive crops are grown.
- For products with only turf uses:
  - This product is persistent and may be present in treated plant materials for months to years after application. Do not sell or transport treated plant materials for compost distribution or for use as animal bedding/feed for 18 months after application
- Additional labeling for products with turf and pasture uses:
  - “The applicator must document that they have notified property owners/operators, or customers, in writing, of the compost and animal bedding/feed prohibitions before application of the product occurs. Applicators must keep the records of notification for two years. This record must include date of application, the name of the applicator, and the EPA registration number of the product applied, the area treated, and a copy of the written notification provided to the property owner/operator. Notification may be made via email, via mail, via paper handout, or by any other written communication method. Records must be made available to State Pesticide Regulatory

Official(s), and to EPA upon request. If this information is already being retained, duplicate records are not needed.

- Applications by property owners/operators on their own property are exempt from this notification and record keeping requirement.”
- Applications to public land are exempt from this notification requirement.
- Spray drift mitigation language

### **Picloram**

- Updated glove statement
- Crop rotation instructions
- 18 month compost restriction for treated plant materials or manure from animals that have grazed treated forage
- Applicators applying Picloram to pasture sites notify property owners/operators in writing that Picloram is a persistent pesticide and that plant material and manure exposed to Picloram is not allowed to be sold or transported off-site for compost distribution or for use as animal bedding/feed for 18 months after application.
  - Must occur within 14 days of application
  - Information to be communicated to the property owner/operator, in writing, by applicators are as follows: the name of the applicator, the date of application, the area(s) treated, the name and EPA registration number of the product applied, information on the persistence of picloram, and information on any label restrictions affecting hay, manure, and plant materials that might be recycled into compost
- Applicators applying picloram to pasture use sites must retain a record describing how the property owner/operator was notified of compost restrictions. The following information is to be retained as part of the recordkeeping requirement:
  - the name of the applicator,
  - the date of application,
  - the area(s) treated,
  - the EPA registration number of the product applied,
  - a copy of the written notification provided to the property owner/operator, and
  - The date that notification of the property owner/operator occurred.
- These records are to be retained by the applicator for two years.
- Applications to pastures on public land are exempt from the notification requirement
- Applications made by property owners/operators on their pastures are also exempt from the notification requirement as all users/applicators are already required to follow any label requirements and it is impractical for land managers to notify themselves.
- All other non-pasture use sites do not require notification of the property owner/operator.
- animals that have been fed Picloram-treated forage must be fed forage free of Picloram for at least three days before movement to an area where manure may be collected, or sensitive crops are grown

Eric discussed the ruling on Method. When the NDDA issues the 24C, it became valid. But the EPA has the right to deny it. They have 90 days to respond. They may not respond, which would allow Method's 24C to be in effect. Corteva has sent a letter to EPA asking that they deny it.

Very good discussion took place. A lot of stuff is being looked at on the federal level, from waters of the US to other issues.

The NDDA had a very good year as far as number of pesticide complaints. They were done considerably from the year before. Travis and the board thanked Eric for the very good update.

**Minutes:** The September meeting, board zoom meeting, and executive board meeting minutes were reviewed. Merlin mentioned that there was some questions raised on the wording some motions. The meetings are recorded and Merlin uses the recording to assist in the accuracy of the minutes. The recorder picks up a lot of chatter. When a motion is made, it needs to be repeated even by Merlin to make sure it is accurate. Merlin apologized if a motion was not accurate as intended. Derrill moved to approve the minutes as presented. Joan seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Financial Report:** Merlin gave the financial report. Jim questioned the amount of newsletters we are sending out. Stan asked if every county contact is on the e mail list. Answer: no. Some of those counties rely on their extension office. Jim moved to approve the financial report. Stan seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Budget:** The proposed budget for 2022. Discussion. Jim moved to approve the budget as is and send it to the annual meeting for final approval. Ron seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Resolutions:** None brought up at the area meetings

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Education Committee Report:** Derrill Fick, chairman. Poster Contest. Derrill has numerous posters this year. Will put all of them on the table for folks to vote for them. Still working on a training session for next summer.

**Newsletter:** Rick said that if we end the newsletter it should be in the minutes stating it. Jim moved that we discontinue the paper copy of the newsletter after the final newsletter in 2022. Roger seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Convention Report:** Merlin went over the convention booklet, times and schedules. Has all time slots filled with speakers. Preregistrations are around 100 people. Some regular attendees have not signed up, but numerous new people. We have all breaks covered this year. We will have continuous coffee. Thanks to those sponsors. Mayor Steve Bakken will be back again this year on Thursday morning. Corteva is our social sponsor and Little Blue Stems, sponsored by Nutrien is our entertainment at Thursday's banquet. Vendors are down from 2 years ago.

#### **Agency Reports:**

**Government:** Kent said that Saltcedar is a concern along the Missouri & Yellowstone Rivers in the northwestern part of the state. Due to low water levels, no Saltcedar work could be done. Working on budgets, and the costs going up is a concern.

**NDDA:** Richard: Annual noxious weed survey is due March 1<sup>st</sup>. It is part of the requirements to continue to receive funding. Some LAP & TAG NOGAS have still not been turned in. There will be reallocations of LAP but not TAG. LAP ends June 30<sup>th</sup>, where TAG is a 2 year program. Forest Service Grants are also available.

Palmer Amaranth, four counties reported new infestations this last year. Nine counties in total still have infestations. Fourteen counties have now found Palmer in their counties. New law books are available. Chelsey also has various brochures available at our booth.

**Industry:** Bill Walker, Industry representative gave the report.

As we leave 2021 and now move into 2022 the supply issues and product price increases have not yet stabled off, we are still seeing product shortages in our industry (as well as most all other industries) continue and all of these are expected to last right through 2022.

**Glyphosate products** will continue to be a major shortage problem, this will affect the agriculture community much worse than our side but will affect us all the same, larger users especially those spraying cattails with aquatic glyphosates will see product supply issues and all will see drastic price increases when product does come available, glyphosate prices since the start of the 2021 year have risen between 65% to as much as 80% on some products and are expected to take another large increase in mid-January 2022.

Generic glyphosate products have been extremely hard to get and supply this year as well and will continue to be even harder to get as we move into 2022 with pricing on generic glyphosates following the same pattern as the branded products.

**Glyphosate Lawsuit Update** – Bayer has announced a 5-point plan in May of 2021 which they hope will provide a clear path to closure of the U.S. glyphosate litigation.

1. Seek positive ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court
2. Active claims program to manage future cases
3. Continue to manage current cases
4. Introduce new U.S. Lawn and Garden formulations
5. Promote new safety study webpage

Email link to look at Bayer's plan and additional information

<https://www.bayer.com/en/roundup-litigation-five-point-plan>

**2,4-D products** are showing larger price increases as well, amines have risen about 30% in costs from the beginning of this year and have just recently taken another increase, we are looking at 2,4-D amine getting too or exceeding the \$22.00 to \$24.00 plus per gallon cost and esters have taken even greater cost increases with costs in the low \$30.00's to almost \$40.00 per gallon at this time, supply of 2,4-D esters has gotten tighter as the year as gone, and again, this is expected to last well into 2022 and will affect the ag markets larger than ours but will affect ours as well.

**Manufacturers** have had difficulty in securing raw materials to formulate products and with many of the raw materials coming out of China, we will continue to see rising prices.

**China** is under a carbon neutralization plan and each province in China has a target on energy consumption and carbon emissions.

Many of the provinces are either shut down or only running at 50 to 60% capacity for production because they have reached or exceeded the YTD targets, this again, is affecting raw materials coming from China to produce and manufacture products in this country (USA).

China is not expected to ramp up production until after the Olympics and even then, it will take several months to ramp up, get the products made and even more time to get what our manufacturers need for raw materials to finish products here.

We are already seeing price increases on other products not mentioned above, many manufacturers took unprecedented mid-season price increases due to many different issues as well, these all vary from COVID 19 issues (yet) to the recent hurricane event in Louisiana damaging needed plants, slowing barging, rising raw materials costs, shipping and trucking, packaging materials (lids, containers, boxes), etc., etc., etc.

**Bayer** has announced that its Luling, LA plant (it makes one of the major components for glyphosate) is back up and running (October 15, 2021) but it will still take about 4 to 8 weeks to get materials produced and then get to other locations for finish production another 8 to 12 weeks or so.

**\*BASF** – Took price increases across the board in October 2021, normally these are taken January 1 of this year (2022), increases include Plateau 1.6%, Arsenal 2%, Overdrive 4%, and BASF says we may see additional price increases now that we are in 2022.

**\*Bayer** - has taken price increases effective October 1, 2021 (normally these are January 1, 2022), Esplanade 200 SC about 4%, Plainview SC about 1%, **Method 240 SL has remained the same at \$322.56 per gallon (so far)** and other Bayer products range from 2% to 8% plus and, they also cite jugs, labeling, packaging, shipping, labor rates, active ingredients of the products as reasons for early increases and again, we may possibly see 2022 increases if packaging for goods, raw materials for production, labor, and shipping keeps rising.

**\*\*\*Method 240 SL Herbicide** - labeling for a 24c Special Local Need Label was submitted to the North Dakota Department of Ag for consideration, this label is specific for Leafy Spurge control in privately owned non-hayed rangeland and non-hayed perennial grasslands.

There would be no grazing restrictions on this as well in those sites.

**\*\*\*It would “NOT” be for use on any “Hayed” sites or Range, Pasture or Grass sites that might be hayed, it would only be for non-hayed sites.**

**Update on the 24C Label – North Dakota Departments of Agriculture has approved the request for a 24 C label on Method 240 SL Herbicide, this is the State approval, they have submitted to EPA for their approval, in about 90 days North Dakota should have an answer from EPA on the final. (Thank you all for your help on this one and a special thanks goes out to the North Dakota Department of Agriculture for their help to improve Noxious Weed Control in ND and see the value in this product to help with that).**

**One Special Note:** North Dakota Department of Agriculture did request this use of Method 240 SL Herbicide as a “Restricted Use Product” for this application, this should not be a major problem, many of your landowners/Producers are already using Tordon 22K which is Restricted Use as well so really no difference.

**Copies of this 24C Method 240 SL label are now available and can be picked up at this meeting, this is the North Dakota Approval, and label is in effect unless EPA denies the final.**

**Bayer** - glyphosates (the Roundup Brands), have all taken regular price increases with the largest taken in September 2021 and was 28% to 35% depending upon glyphosate product, these are on products we would use, ag market has already taken substantial increases earlier in September and will be taking another substantial price increase in mid-January 2022.

**CORTEVA** - Did announce price increases in late September 2021, those price increases ranged from about 2% to 9% on many products, we have seen spot outages from CORTEVA this year on Tordon 22K, Vastlan, Freelexx, GrazonNext HL, Graslan L and others to a lesser degree, many of the range and pasture products are now on an allocation basis to the distributors until sometime in 2022.

CORTEVA has also announced that we will see additional price increases in early 2022 on their Range and Pasture products and Ag products as well, these are expected to be from 4% to 7% at this time, how much on each product has not been determined to this date.

**CORTEVA** has also announced that they are exiting the Rodeo Herbicide (aquatic glyphosate) business, will no longer make and supply this product at this time.

**Freelexx Herbicide**- November 2021 pricing now \$25.50 per gallon (\$20.50) (\$21.50 October 2021)

**Milestone Herbicide** - \$270.00 per gallon (\$265.00) and \$67.50 per quart (\$66.25) (government pricing program)

**Opensight Herbicide** - \$89.40 per pound (\$84.00)

**Vastlan Herbicide** - \$92.00 per gallon (\$89.60)

**TerraVue Herbicide** - \$94.00 per pound (\$92.00)

**DuraCor Herbicide** - \$85.50 per gallon (\$83.00) and is now supposed to be available in 2.5-gallon containers

**Tordon 22K Herbicide** - did take approximately a 7% price increase early in October and is expected to possibly take another price increase in early 2022.

**Transline Herbicide** – is up 8.8%

All CORTEVA price increases have taken effect October 1, 2021, purchases now will be at the new pricing on all manufacturer price set products and many of the non-priced set products as well, **if new price increases in 2022 affect any of these than “NEW” pricing will have to be followed as well.**

**NuFarm** – has already been raising prices on 2,4-D products and we are expecting possibly another raise by the end of the year (and this has already come) on their amines and esters, large price increases on these.

**NuFarm** had exited marketing AquaNeat Herbicide (aquatic glyphosate) market but now have re-entered this market with AquaNeat Herbicide again, but supply is short and spotty and pricing is following the rest of the glyphosate market.

**E-2 Herbicide** has taken a drastic price increase and new pricing is in effect (product is price set by NuFarm) E-2 Herbicide \$52.40 per gallon in 2.5-gallon containers (was \$43.50 per gallon) a 16% increase.

Aqua Sweep Herbicide also increased 11% to \$54.50 per gallon.

**NuFarm** has stated that Dicamba pricing is also now on the rise and expect any products with Dicamba in them or straight Dicamba to be much higher as 2022 progresses.

**Once again, you should consider the minimal use of dicamba products with all the current issues faced with the dicamba trait crops.**

**Other manufacturers, SEPRO** (many aquatic products), **UPL** (many aquatic products), **Alligare** (many alternative/generic products) have all taken mid-season price increases and, all have stated, we may well see increases as we move through 2022 (and we are seeing these already on some products).

**Bids** – Many of you may have questions on these, in almost all cases now, distributors will bid on your requested products at that time, none are offering any season long bids on many products, in many cases



it is what they have in their warehouses or on the floor at the time of your bids and you will need to take once awarded, **most are not honoring prices much beyond 2 to 4 weeks now.**

If you are looking at not needing products until April or May, you might consider doing your bid requests at that time, if you do them too early, pricing on some products may have increased by then and most distributors are going to charge you the new price because they are being charged a new price by the manufacturers because, they (the distributors) have possibly already sold what you bid on and have now had to replace the products with higher cost products.

**The moral of this story – be prepared in 2022 to have to spend some extra dollars on the chemicals/products needed to perform and complete your work, your cost share programs, and if farming as well.**

**Also be prepared for possible shortages on certain products “again” and, possibly even more products as 2022 progresses.**

Very good discussion on the bidding process for 2022 and what counties can and cannot do for 2022.

Our industry has not seen this for many years, if we all plan a little ahead, make some adjustments, consider some possible alternatives in our weed management programs and, have some understanding that we are all doing what we can, we can all get through this and hopefully move on to better times in the near future.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Proposed Policy Manual:** Travis stated that the manual was changed as voted on at the zoom meeting. The changes have been made to the manual. Bill gave an overview of each portion of the manual. Derrill moved to approve the policy manual as presented. Joan seconded the motion. **M/C**

**National Travel/NoDak Fund:** Merlin drew up a form for a NoDak fund if the board so desires. Bill and Merlin took the discussion to all the area meetings. Do we want to cap the National Travel Fund, and transfer to a new fund, the NoDak Fund? At the area meetings, there was good discussion, but no one really opposed it. It would have to be voted on at the annual meeting. After good discussion, Jim moved to ask the members cap the Travel Fund at \$12,000, and then transfer the rest of the funds to the new NoDak fund, and to keep the Travel Fund reimbursed at \$12,000 if funds are used from it. Bill seconded the motion. **M/C**

This proposal will be taken to the annual meeting for discussion and to be voted on.

**SBARE:** Stan and Rick went over what SBARE is, and what our letter would be for. We have until tomorrow to send in a letter. After a lot of discussion, it was decided to remove Quincy’s name from the proposal and replace it with noxious research weed specialist. Bill then moved to send the revised letter to SBARE. Joan seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Website:** Travis has visited with Consolidated Phone Company, the phone company in the Dickinson area. They could take over the hosting of the site. The cost would be \$14.95/month switching over would be easy. Joan said that she had a complaint from a county that information is not on the website. She also stated it is difficult to be on it. Rick moved to switch to consolidated as soon as possible, and have Merlin

Jamen thanked everyone for the support this past year. He learned a lot, and hopefully he leaves the association in a better position than when he started.

**Method:** Bill – the 24C label is approved in ND, sent to EPA, waiting for final approval. Rick asked who knows about it, and who will know about it this season. Bill said that Bayer wants to have meetings across the state to inform the public.

**Being no other old business, Travis transitioned the presidency to Jim.**

Jim recessed the meeting until Friday at noon.

**Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.**

Jim Hennessy, 2022 President, called the meeting back to order at 12:05 pm.

Those present were: Bill, Joan, Roger, Jim, Cliff Freebee, Derrill, Ron, Travis, Richard, Stan, Kent, Rick and Merlin.

Guests: Tom Leo, Williams County

**Additional agenda items:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Executive Secretary's contract for 2022.** Merlin left the room for a time. Discussion was held. After a consensus, Merlin was invited back into the room. Rick moved to approve the secretary contract for Merlin at \$8,100 annually. Roger seconded the motion. Bill then amended the motion to increase the salary to \$8,400. Derrill seconded the amendment. Discussion. Proceeded to vote on amended motion. **M/C** Contracts were signed.

**National Travel to NoDak Fund:** Bill moved that we go forward with the proposal, capping the National Travel at \$12,000. Ron seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Corteva Money:** They gave us \$10,000, out of which their share of the conference comes out, leaving approximately \$6,400 remaining. Jim at that time asked for the wishes of the board. Merlin received an e mail from Corteva late morning stating their wishes for using the remaining money. Jim read the following e mail:

{Merlin, Claire and I both agree and decided to move the remainder of the check you received to the NoDak Fund. These funds are to be used to help promote our product DuraCor. Any idea or project being proposed for use of these funds will need our stamp of approval before being spent. Claire and I are brainstorming ideas of ways to use these funds for our efforts of driving demand of DuraCor, but are open to ideas as well. We look forward to working with the board to promote weed control, grass safety and DuraCor Herbicide. Thanks, Matt Morten, Corteva.}

**Convention Follow-up:** Merlin will meet with the staff of the hotel to follow-up problems. Cliff and Travis will also meet with them. Comments from the board, general feeling was a definite step above from where we were before. Had some complaints on Wednesday with the little traffic that came to the vendors. By Friday, those complaints were no longer a concern. Some complaints with the heat and cooling, but with the weather outside, it could be understood. Brats

were cool. Merlin takes some of the blame, with timing. Bill thanked the board for following the protocol with being dressed up for the banquet.

**Task Force 13:** Jim is the NDWCA representative on the committee. Bill has been asked to be on the committee representing industry. Ron has been asked to speak on weed officer's duties. Jamen Windish, Barnes County has been invited. The Barnes County landowner has been invited as well. Derrill will also be there as a weed officer. Stan asked whether we need an alternate in case Jim can't make it. Rick said that he will be there representing lamb and wool. Consensus was not to have an alternate.

**Board meetings set for 2022** – the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday again, March 29, June 28, and September 27, at the Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck. All three meetings will start at 10:00 am., central time. Then on Monday, January 2 at 5:00 pm. Cliff moved to have them at the above dates and times. Stan seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Sprayer schools:** Have them in May. 3 schools. May 24, 25 & 26. Carrington, the 24<sup>th</sup>, Minot the 25<sup>th</sup>, and Dickinson on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Registrations to begin at 8:30 local time. Joan moved to have the sprayer schools at the above dates, times and locations. Roger seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Summer Spray Symposium:** Costs could be approximately \$1,500/day. Ron mentioned a site near Lake Ashtabula as well. Rick will check into the Washburn site. Derrill will put together a committee to work on it.

**Area Meetings:** After some discussion, dates will be October 24 – Jamestown or Valley City, October 25 – Devils Lake, October 26 – Minot, October 27 – Mandan, October 28 – Amidon. 9:00 start time. Ron moved to have the area meetings at the above dates and locations. Derrill seconded the motion. **M/C**

**2024 Annual Conference Site:** 2023 is set for the Ramkota already, January 2-5. Merlin said that the hotel has Tuesday through Friday open. On Monday, the hotel has a poker tournament. After good discussion, Ron moved to have the 2024 Conference at the Ramkota in Bismarck, January 2-5. Bill seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Trade Booths:** Minot, Valley City, Jamestown, Fargo, Bismarck, Stockmen's Association is in December. Cost of booths only, no per diem. Stan mentioned that the corn and soybeans have a show. Stan will check on it. Derrill mentioned about insurance. His county covers the insurance as it is under their umbrella. Joan said that we will pay for Minot and Valley City. But they need to send in an invoice after the trade show. Roger seconded the motion. **M/C**

**Committee Appointments:** Jim set the following committee appointments for 2022:

**Education:** Derrill is chair. Bill, Joan, and Richard

**Audit:** Stan will set it according to the by-laws

**Policy and By- laws:** Bill, Derrill, Travis, Jim, Richard

**Legislative:** Executive Board, ex secretary

**Awards:** Area 1<sup>st</sup> alternates – Area I – Joel Anderson, Area II – Al Ulmer, Area III – Tom Leo, Area IV – Laverne Laib, Area V – Josh Hetland

**Website:** Travis, Stan and Roger

**Annual Meeting** – Cliff – Overall Chair and Merlin

Booths – Roger and Jim

Food – Stan, Cliff, Ron

Speakers – Bill, Kent, Richard, Derrill

Auction – Rick, Joan and Ron

Sponsors – Executive Committee and Merlin

IT Person – Richard

**Other?** - Tom Leo – Thanked the board for allowing him to be at the meeting. He thanked Merlin for his work during the conference. Montana usually has over 300 at their conference. We should invite applicators to the conference. He feels welcome coming to the conference.

Rick asked whether we should go to the ND Association of Counties Conference and speak about the noxious weed programs that are required by counties. Jim asked Cliff about having a booth at the conference. Cliff said a lot of commissioners have no clue on what a weed board is about. Cliff will check with them.

**Weed Officer Award:** Merlin said that during the annual meeting, awards were given for longest serving weed officer. At the meeting, he was awarded the mug for the longest serving weed officer. Since that time, he has learned that the person who finished second, actually has served a month longer. That person is Joan Lorge. Jim awarded the mug to Joan. Congratulations Joan.

**USDA Research Partner's Meeting:** January 26. Stan asked permission to attend by zoom. He has been representing the association for many years. Bill moved to have Stan attend the meeting. Ron seconded the motion. **M/C** Stan will give a report in March. With conflict of interest, Jim asked that all correspondence should have NDWCA on it.

Being no further business,

Bill moved to adjourn the meeting. Rick seconded the motion. **M/C**

Meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Merlin Leithold  
Executive secretary