

## **Custer County Weed Advisory 2-24-16 Minutes**

### 1. 2015 year end updates –

The 2015 Grant reports were submitted and the money's have been received.

Grant writing and reporting are looking a lot different in 2016. Cecily Mui from the CDA spoke to our Upper Ark group about how we are writing our grants and each county is going to get a more specific and detailed grant proposal. I spoke to Cecily about Custer County and she gave me great ideas on how to move forward on our projects. She even said that I could hire someone to do the mapping through the grant! This has been a challenge for me, but now I can get some help. The grants were due on January 11<sup>th</sup> (there are 5 counties that participate in the grant).

Goat project – I spoke to Lani Malberg (aka – the goat lady) and she sent me an estimate on the Leafy spurge project at Sierra Mojada. It is a very unreasonable cost. I asked about her coming to talk to our community about her business, but again she wants to charge \$2500 just to speak. I did put livestock in the grants, I think we could check into local people to do this.

Leafy Spurge project – As you know, Larry Walker with Chaffee County was able to get out and spray the VB property. I went out a few weeks after it was sprayed and it looks good. There is more work to be done, but that will come. Now that we have the nucleus being managed, we should see better results in future seasons. We do need to decide what the cost share will be for the VB's and for Sierra Mojada, but I would like to discuss this in person.

CWSA – Colorado Weed Supervisor's Association meeting was at the end of October. I was impressed with the conversations that were had with about 14 other weed supervisors around the state. We talked about the noxious weed act and law compliance in other counties. The answers ranged from "we do nothing" to "we turn them over to the county attorney and collections".

### 2. Budget

#### 2016 CUSTER COUNTY APPROVED WEED BUDGET

County right of ways (CROWS)	\$4800
Biological/mechanical supplies	\$200
Education; brochures, tours, classes	\$1000
Meetings and Dues	\$600
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Total	\$6600

3. Update brochures – There are a number of brochures that Robin is working on to update and improve for the 2016 year.
4. Grant splits/Cost Share – Robin will have these splits at the next meeting. Robin introduced a 2016 Cost Share application with the group. All agreed this is a good form to use.
5. 2016 Tour – June 25<sup>th</sup> - George Beck has agreed to speak. We will need a location to tour. Robin will get a facility for the presentation part. Robin will secure transportation, lunch, and any other logistics for the tour.
6. CDOT/R&B Training - Robin and Jana will host a training on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
7. Weed classes – Spring Training/ WIWSC – Robin will be attending both.
8. Healthy Landscapes – Jana – this is a tax checkoff. Colorado for Healthy Landscapes. Please donate on your State Income Tax Return! The Colorado for Healthy Landscapes Initiative supports non-partisan projects and approaches to improve landscape health and adaptability. Donating to Colorado for Healthy Landscapes (line item 60 on your state income tax form) supports locally-driven stewardship programs and education efforts. These programs promote effective land-management solutions that fit Colorado's diverse landscapes and lifestyles. Please think about Colorado's landscapes this tax season. Your donation has a lasting impact.
9. Chemical Collection – Bill Asked about this program. Robin said she is still working on it and it will probably take place in the fall. The concerns were: how do you transport restricted pesticides, what kind of products will they take, how many need to be involved, where will the collection be?

Announcements:

Native Plant Masters Classes – May 14, 21, 27. Botany Class on April 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Next Meeting – date/time April 7<sup>th</sup> 2pm at the NRCS/USFS office.**

Agenda items: CC bylaws, Tour, Priority areas for 2016, gravel pit plan