

MANDAN WEED BOARD  
MANDAN CITY HALL BUILDING  
VETERANS CONFERENCE ROOM  
October 29, 2015

The Mandan Weed Board met in the Veterans Conference Room on October 29, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. In attendance: Joe Camisa, Steve Nardello, Jeff Wright, Mike Zerr & Nancy Moser.

*Jeff motions to approve the September 24, 2015 minutes. Joe seconds. Upon vote, motion passes unanimously.*

**1. Updated weed ordinance.**

Joe went through the Century Code pertaining to the noxious weed program. He hands out a draft with changes redlined. Joe and Bob Decker, City Planner, made changes to wording and definitions.

The title of Section 16-5-2 was changed from **Control;duty** to **City weed board**. This section says the board shall have a minimum of 3 qualifying voting members. The terms are 4 years staggered. The Secretary need not be a voting member. The board also hears appeals of a notice from the weed control officer.

The title of Section 16-5-3 was changed from **Notice by publication of ordinance** to **Powers and duties of weed board**. Powers of the weed board:

1. Meet at least once each year.
2. Establish the time and place of regular board meetings.
3. Call special meetings as needed.
4. Keep minutes of its meetings and a complete record of all official acts.
5. Implement a program for the control of noxious weeds.
6. Implement a program for the control of tall grasses.
7. Prepare budget recommendations for the use of all moneys received by the city from any source for noxious weed control.

Section 16-5-4 ó Noxious weed list. The weed board shall enforce the noxious weed list maintained by the state. The board may also designate a certain noxious weed that is not on the state list. The board shall review the noxious weed list every 5 years.

The title of Section 16-5-5 was changed from **Costs assessed against property** to **Weed control officer**. Summary of wording added:

1. The weed control officer shall cause a notice of the requirements of this article to be published in the official newspaper.
2. The city weed control officer shall arrange for the nuisance to be abated if the property owner fails to control noxious weeds or tall grasses within 7 days of receipt of notice.
3. Payment and collection of the costs accrued to a property.
4. The notice served by the weed control officer must contain certain items listed in detail in the ordinance.
5. The city may contract with any person or company to perform services for the city in the control of noxious weeds and tall grasses.

## Section 16-5-7 ó Property owner responsibility

This section spells out the responsibilities of the property owner.

*There is a complaint about a gas smell in the auditor's office. Chief Nardello leaves the room to investigate.*

### **2. Board member terms of office.**

The board terms will be staggered as follows:

Joe Camisa, Weed Control Officer ó 4 years

Jeff Wright, Chair ó 3 years

Chief Nardello ó 2 years

Mike Zerr, Vice Chair ó 1 year

The term for Chair, Vice Chair and Weed Control Officer will be served for 1 year, at which time, the position may be reinstated.

*Mike Zerr, Vice Chair motions to approve the terms. Joe Camisa, Weed Control Officer seconds. Upon vote, motion is passed unanimously.*

*Joe Camisa, Weed Control Officer, motions to send the ordinance to the City Commission for recommended approval. Mike Zerr, Vice Chair seconds. Upon vote, the motion passes unanimously.*

### **3. Drafting of proposal to enter a mowing and spraying agreement with Parks and Rec.**

There is discussion on possibly entering an agreement. Joe spoke with Cole Higlin, Park and Recreation. The city has parcels and right of ways including lift stations and around Memorial Bridge where cutting and spraying is needed.

Mike Zerr, Vice Chair, is representing Park and Recreation. Their time and resources are null and void. The Park's properties are not consistently sprayed. The City's properties would have to be fertilized as well. Mike offers the City use of some of Park's equipment.

The City will have to bid out the cutting and spraying. All area companies should be contacted to let them know it is out for bid. There were only 2 bids last year.

Mike suggests contacting Turfworks. Parks uses them and he highly recommends their services.

### **4. Review weed list.**

Joe reads the state's noxious weed list.

- Absinth Wormwood
- Canada Thistle
- Dalmatian Toadflax
- Diffuse Knapweed

- Leafy Spurge
- Musk Thistle
- Purple Loosestrife
- Russian Knapweed
- Saltcedar
- Spotted Knapweed
- Yellow Toadflax

*Joe motions to accept the state weed list. Jeff seconds. Upon vote, motion passes unanimously.*

**5. Joe's weed certification from the ND State Ag Commissioner.**

Certification is needed for spraying, but not for mowing. Joe has been trying to contact Jackie Buckley with the extension office to get certified. He thinks this will be done this spring.

Joe would like to get more in the weed cutting and spraying budget and the cost for his certification could come out of this budget.

**The next meeting is scheduled for the first half of February to discuss bids and updates on spraying.**

Joe motions to adjourn. Mike seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourns at 10:59 p.m.