

NDWCA Education Committee Meeting

April 19, 2007

On April 19, 2007 the Education Committee met at the Carrington Research Center Library at 11:00 a.m. Present were: Shauna Berg, Kadie Herseth, Stan Wolf, Dan Folske, Odin Heim, Ken Eraas, Jim Hennessey, Dan Dew, Chuck Weiser, John Arlien and Derrill Fick. ID clinics are good to go and Shauna sent out a request to ND newspapers asking them if they would put a public notice in their paper informing the public on when and where weed ID clinics would be held across the state. The only county that will have a cost for a building will be Ransom. Shauna & Derrill have made the copies of the weed ID disks and power point handout for all clinics. We would like to thank McKenzie County who took on the expense of the disks, labels and jeweled cases. Kadie is working with Ag in the classroom to get the youth program up and running. A couple of ideas for a mascot were discussed and Stan & Shauna had some materials from Australia's youth program that they shared with the group. Stan reported that the card supply was decreasing and we have on hand 50 pinochle decks and 30 straight. The cost of getting the decks of cards has gone up from \$2.98/deck to \$3.27/deck. The committee agreed that we increase the cost to supply the decks to \$5.00/deck. It was also agreed to order 1000 decks of cards half straight and half pinochle to have on hand. Stan then talked about possibly expanding into other promotional items as educational tools. Shauna then spoke about Terry Volk's idea about possibly having an Education Committee web page to keep everyone in the Association current as to what the committee is doing and what events are on the calendar as well as when meetings are and where. It was agreed as a group to go ahead and work with Terry on this new informational source. Derrill updated the committee with the data logger project and as of right now we are waiting for the Ag Department to put final packets together with a description of the laptops and data logger units with prices. The data loggers are available for all weed boards. At least 40-45 units have agreed to be purchased within the state. Counties will sign off with the Ag Department just like the GPS units and they will need to sign a purchase order with Reds in Montana and with the state for the laptop. The Association of Counties will provide support trainings 2 in the east and 2 in the west. Red's will come back to do another training in the east and west for anyone that is having problems or missed the first training. Jim reported that we did receive the grant from RC& D for the Washburn School. Jim and Dan are having a tough time finding speakers as the original speakers are not available to speak at the Washburn School. Members of the committee brainstormed and came up with other possibilities for speakers to contact as follows: Tom Huff who has a corporate ranch in southwest Nebraska, Lloyd Jones from the US Fish & Wildlife or the federal director, or Randy Westbrooks. Chuck said he'd contact Tom and Randy and Derrill would talk with Lloyd. Ken Eraas said he'd check with other companies that would like to be involved for the positive PR it would have such as REC, Bobcat, Basins and ND tourism. Jim & Dan showed the brochure to the committee and will fine tune it before printing. The committee will send a letter to businesses with an invitation to display their products. We may need tents for outside displays where businesses may want to display their products. Do we have or need liability insurance? Jim will check it out with the camp and Shauna will talk with Randy to see if we have

any sort of liability insurance through the association. Advertising was discussed and possible publicity can be done through local REC, ND Stockmen, Farm & Ranch, Weed Control newsletter, Ag Week, and any other publication anyone can think of. Registration deadline is July 1st with a cap of 40 people plus the committee and speakers. Education resources to hand out would be decks of cards, possibly the weeds of the prairie book, or t-shirts/caps. Meals were discussed and if we should cater or attempt to take on some of the breakfast/lunches ourselves. Jim & Shauna will work on this area together. It was agreed than any other issues with this can be done through email and phone conversations. Next meeting was not set and will be set as needed.