

October 21, 2019

NFMAD Board of Directors Meeting, Minutes

Rain Klepper's home, 39293 Pitkin Rd., Paonia, CO

Call to Order: 7:07pm

Review of previous minutes, March 2019, Operations Reports
over the season

Treasurer's Report:

As of September 30, 2019, cash on hand totals \$35,423.56, including the Tabor savings amounts. There are outstanding bills including payroll, reimbursements for materials, accounting monthlies, equipment repairs, completion of shed office buildout payments, 2020 insurance payments (early January before mill levy payments begin), and some shed and truck winterizing. Estimates will drop reserve funds to \$16,000, give or take.

Draft 2020 Budget Discussion and Calculations:

A 2-hour comprehensive discussion of 2019 completion, and 2020 budget issues occurred. Despite increased amounts of property taxes collected, NFMAD will not receive over \$10,000 in mill levy funds due to Tabor

In order to access these funds, NFMAD would have to Debruce officially through an election. Robyn Reinhard spent a lot

of time consulting with the election representative for Delta County regarding this issue, and learned that of 3976 registered voters in the District, there are only 3400 actively voting in elections, according to historical data. It would cost approximately \$2/voter, so minimum \$7500 to put the Debrucing of the mill levy on the ballot, plus the costs of educating the public and promoting the increase of the mill levy...estimated at an additional \$10,000. North Fork Ambulance became a special district in 2018, and had spent over \$100,000 and 3 years to pass the measure on the ballot.

Obviously NFMAD cannot commit the funds to Debruce at this time! It would cost twice or more the amount possibly realized, IF the proposed DeBruce passed. This is unlikely given the current climate in Delta County, and the many ballot issues that will raise property taxes already on the ballot for November 2019.

This unfortunate reality informed the Budget 2020 discussion, as NFMAD will continue to be severely underfunded. Attempting to increase the mill levy at this time, or in 2020 presidential election cycle is impossible without a substantial financial grant. There are none at this time.

Every board member expressed frustration with this situation, but without a resolution...the Board of County Commissioners has not made NFMAD a line item despite numerous yearly requests, zero funds come from the Department of Health, and despite the high level of WNV cases in humans in 2019, there isn't an indication of this changing for 2020.

The Board reviewed every category to squeeze as much as possible from every dollar coming into the District. Several ideas about a subscription program for those on the western edges of Hotchkiss were discussed. More information will be needed.

Inventory was analyzed for 2018 and 2019, with an estimate of purchases that will be necessary for the 2020 season to keep the District under control as much as possible.

Truck and equipment repairs were also discussed, then minimized wherever possible.

Further economizing for carwashes, equipment purchases, etc., were discussed.

Glenn will talk to Ken Nordstrom to see if we can receive some funding from the Department of Health, and also possibly Mark Roeber, to see if funding for the Delta County Fairgrounds and Volunteer park in Paonia would be available to help.

At present, NFMAD crew keeps schools, parks, rodeo grounds, etc., in tight control, however zero funds come through mill levy. Special Districts are setup for private property owners to fund public spaces, and over 55% of the NFMAD budget goes to public areas.

Most Districts do not treat private property at all, and NFMAD is doing as much as possible within the confines of the budget for product and payroll.

Rain will write an FAQ to address these issues for the website, as well as the over 1/3 of Delta county not within the

District or Delta #1. The majority of WNV cases were in the unserved areas, especially Crawford, Surface Creek, the Grand Mesa, Lazear, and Orchard City. Sadly, a large amount of Hotchkiss is not within the District borders.

The budget obviously cannot extend further to serve these residents of Delta county.

The Draft budget 2020 will be posted in the DCI newspaper, open for public scrutiny, questions, and comments, then will be adopted either as written or amended by December 31, 2019.

Ongoing Business:

-The Shed office construction is complete other than some weather stripping. Payments for construction and painting will be completed by the end of the year.

-WNV Department of Health update

Delta County has the dubious label of the highest number of WNV cases, confirmed by laboratory testing...35. This is twice as high as the second highest county number. The North Fork District had one human case in the unserved area of Hotchkiss (western side), a man with uncomplicated fever. Another human case, male, 26 years old, had severe meningitis and encephalitis

from WNV infection, living on the property of Root and Vine restaurant. It is unknown where he was bitten, but possibly the front range, or Crawford.

Many of the DOH updates referred to, “The North Fork region” in the newspapers and online. The majority of these cases were in Crawford, and despite repeated requests to be more specific, the DOH corrected some, but not others.

Within the District, there was one late season (mid-September) possible RAMP positive. In contrast, Delta #1 had all traps go positive for WNV in June 2019, and discontinued trapping in mid-August. Ken Nordstrom freely admits on the telephone that he files our trap tables with the state and federal governments because they “look so much better”. This has not translated into financial help, but we will continue to ask.

-Inventory

Inventory will be reviewed again at the March 2020 Board of Directors meeting, to determine if NFMAD can take advantage of larvicide sales that end 3/31.

New Business

-Equipment purchases for 2020

A time clock will be purchases second-hand if possible to make tracking of payroll easier.

Various board members have truck boxes that can be purchased and/or repaired for the remaining crew trucks to carry dry product. 5 gallon buckets with pre-measured amounts of larval products will be used in each truck to make inventory control on FieldSeeker more accurate.

A trap room charging station for the Ipads will be created for next year.

An exhaust fan will be installed in the chemical room

Glenn will look into the possibility of purchasing a hand pump for BVA oil dispensing, and Pursuit adulticide.

Zach will check in with car wash to see if we can decrease the amount spent on washing trucks by using a prepaid debit card.

-City Market “lake”

The standoff continues between the county and the town public works of Hotchkiss over the “lake” of water between City Market and Farm Runners...this has continued over the season, and NFMAD crew has dispensed estimated \$750 in product to prevent adult mosquito breeding and hatching.

Despite repeated phone calls to Mike Owens, town public works, Water commissioner, etc., no action has been taken. NFMAD will not and cannot touch this area attempting to open the culvert, as we do not have the legal right to do so. It would

also constitute a liability issue. Apparently, Monument oil owns the water? Unknown, but ?!!?

2020 Truck Maintenance requests from Mike Clawson

Mike presented a list of repairs and maintenance needed for 2020 season:

Truck #5: shift tower, top of transmission \$100

Truck #9: Blower motor assembly: \$220

Truck #11: Clutch replacement \$800

Front Brake Rotors and Bearings: \$450

Truck #12: Rear Main Seal/Clutch + flywheel \$950

ATV: Oil change, air filter

Supplies needed: washer fluids, paper towels, disposable gloves, wipes

Operations Design for 2020

A variety of options were discussed to make management of product and payroll easier for 2020, implementation of FieldSeeker and increased mapping, and the ever-present need to economize.

We will reconvene this discussion in March 2020

Announcements

None

Public Comment

No public attended the meeting

Adjournment

10:05pm

Respectfully submitted by Rain Klepper, October 29, 2019