

**BURLEIGH COUNTY WEED BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

**5:00 PM**

Chairman Bakken called the Burleigh County Weed Board meeting to order.

A roll call of members: Commissioners Munson, Woodcox, Bitner, Schwab, and Chairman Bakken present.

Motion by Comm. Bitner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Munson to approve the agenda. All present voted "AYE". Motion carried.

Motion by Comm. Schwab, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Munson to approve the October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting minutes. All members present voted, "AYE." Motion carried.

County Weed Officer Johnson came forward to discuss the chemical application bids for the 2025 season. Johnson explained that there were some details & parameters in previous contracts that he felt weren't specific enough and wished to clarify in future bids. Johnson also mentioned that he planned to remove details in future bids that no longer apply/aren't necessary moving forward. A consensus was reached among the board members to some language changes. No further action was taken.

Johnson also informed/updated the Board about having a generator for the distribution center, saying that after checked in with an electrical inspector, an outside generator with an extension cord and temporary heater is fine as long as the county uses its better judgement . A consensus was reached among the board members to allow Johnson to move forward with purchasing a generator from the TAG program. No further action was taken.

Meeting adjourned.

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Mark Splonskowski, Auditor/Treasurer

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Steve Bakken, Chairman

**BURLEIGH COUNTY WEED BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 4, 2024**

**11:30 A.M**

Chairman Bakken called the Burleigh County Weed Board meeting to order.

A roll call of members: Commissioners Munson, Bitner, Schwab, and Chairman Bakken present.

Motion by Comm. Bitner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Munson to approve the agenda. All present voted “aye” motion carried.

Moton by Comm. Munson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Schwab to approve the August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting minutes. All members present voted, “AYE.” Motion carried.

County Weed officer Johnson went over the website setup and discussed format ideas. The Commissioners added ideas for the website to better serve the public.

Johnson then gave a Township roadway spraying report. He stated that they have managed to spray 39 out of 47 Townships but would try to keep running sprayers as long as possible.

Johnson gave an update on the Soil Conservation, he said that there tends to be issues with new tree rows that the plant and weeds taking over the areas.

Johnson then updated on the amounts of chemicals. He stated they sold mostly Milestone, however he also sold the other chemicals as well.

Johnson gave the board an update on the insurance for the distribution center. He stated that he spoke with Donna and said that the coverage is for the spraying or transporting chemicals only. He stated that he was unsure of the amount of coverage they should have for the Chemicals themselves in case of a power outage and the chemicals freeze. He suggested possibly purchasing a backup generator. They spoke about a grant that could possibly help pay for the generator. The Commission agreed by consensus to look further into the generator grant.

Johnson then gave the board an update on the proposed 2025 Chemical applicators contract. He asked if it would be beneficial to have more than 1 contractor. They also discussed how many times chemicals should be applied and set the dates for the Notice of Bids and removal of stipend from contract and talked about drone application. The Board agreed by consensus to remove the stipend from contract application and accept bidding dates accepting bids from December 1 through January 6 with an award date of January 20.

Johnson discussed that the conferences he attended were educational and he met the sales reps from Nutrien and Van Diest. He also mentioned upcoming meetings in Fargo, Mandan, and Bismarck. As well as getting Apps for his County phone as well as the possibility of a beetle program.

Meeting adjourned.

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Mark Splonskowski, Auditor/Treasurer

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Steve Bakken, Chairman

**BURLEIGH COUNTY WEED BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 19, 2024**

**5:00 P.M**

Chairman Bakken called the Burleigh County Weed Board meeting to order.

A roll call of members: Commissioners Munson, Woodcox, Bitner, Schwab, and Chairman Bakken present.

Motion by Comm. Munson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Bitner to approve the agenda. All members present voted, "AYE."  
Motion carried.

Motion by Comm. Schwab, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Munson to approve the August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 minutes and bills. All members present voted, "AYE." Motion carried.

Comm. Schwab began a discussion about the Board's minute approval process, given how tonight's meeting was simply to approve previous meeting minutes and nothing else. Comm. Munson suggested that the Weed Board could take inspiration from the Burleigh County Park Board, as instead of meeting every couple of weeks just to approve minutes, it waits until it has other important items to discuss and then approves all previous board meeting minutes then. A consensus was reached by the Board to hold its meetings in a similar fashion to the Burleigh County Park Board.

Meeting adjourned.

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Mark Splonskowski, Auditor/Treasurer

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Steve Bakken, Chairman

**BURLEIGH COUNTY WEED BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 1, 2024**

**6:06 P.M**

Chairman Bakken called the Burleigh County Weed Board meeting to order.

A roll call of members: Commissioners Munson, Woodcox, Bitner, Schwab, and Chairman Bakken present.

Motion by Comm. Schwab, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Munson to approve the June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 minutes. All members present voted, "AYE." Motion carried.

Comm. Schwab brought to the Board's attention that a couple of companies expressed interest in doing some spraying for the county. Comm. Schwab said he'll be helping Weed Officer Johnson with negotiations so that some spraying can be done as soon as possible. Comm. Schwab warned that due to the circumstances they're in, the county won't have time to do the state highway rights-of-ways, which includes the interstate. No further action was taken.

Meeting adjourned.

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Mark Splonskowski, Auditor/Treasurer

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Steve Bakken, Chairman

**BURLEIGH COUNTY WEED BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 17, 2024**

**6:34 P.M**

Chairman Bakken called the Burleigh County Weed Board meeting to order.

A roll call of members: Commissioners Munson, Woodcox, Bitner, Schwab, and Chairman Bakken present.

Auditor/Treasurer Splonskowski presented to the Board three bids for herbicide and one bid for a chemical applicator, and asked the Board for direction on where to move forward. Comm. Schwab brought to the attention of the Board that one of the bids for herbicide was received electronically, and asked if the Board can still accept an electronic bid. After some discussion, motion by Comm. Woodcox, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Munson to allow the electronic bid for consideration. All member present voted "AYE". Motion carried. Motion by Comm. Munson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Schwab to accept the low bid per chemical basis and to split the order on any chemical that they are the same. All member present voted "AYE". Motion carried. In terms of the applicator bid, Splonskowski expressed that the sole bid received did not fulfill all the requirements the Board desires. Motion by Comm. Bitner, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Schwab to reject the bid for chemical applicator. All member present voted "AYE". Motion carried. Some discussion ensued afterwards regarding how spraying is going to happen this year. Comm. Schwab explained that they have a weed officer now, but that they still need to be trained in order to be licensed. Comm. Schwab offered to continue calling other counties to see they could spare some manpower over to Burleigh County for work opportunities. After some more discussion, it was agreed that Auditor/Treasurer Splonskowski with Comm. Schwab would rework the bid while the Board pursued other paths and options

Meeting adjourned.

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Mark Splonskowski, Auditor/Treasurer

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Steve Bakken, Chairman

**BURLEIGH COUNTY PARK BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 6, 2024**

**8:30 P.M**

Chairman Bakken called the Burleigh County Weed Board meeting to order.

A roll call of members: Commissioners Munson, Bitner, Schwab, and Chairman Bakken present; Comm. Woodcox absent.

Motion by Comm. Bitner 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Munson to approve the January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 minutes. All members present voted, "AYE." Motion carried.

The Board discussed the weed officer position and contracted applicator services. Comm. Schwab stated that the past two weed officers lasted five and five-and-a-half days respectively; Comm. Schwab then expressed that the county should train new weed officer hires themselves. The problem for chemical storage has been resolved but there remains a problem regarding one weed killer chemical, as someone has to be licensed in order to wield and use it. Comm. Schwab suggested that he himself could take the test so that weeds can be killed in order to not waste another day trying to get a weed officer. Chairman Bakken inquired if there was any possibility of subcontracting with an adjacent county or counties, or by any other avenues; Comm. Schwab said they could try but he personally thinks it won't be successful. Comm. Munson mentioned that six months ago Morton County inquired if Burleigh County was interested at the time in sharing and/or hiring their services as needed and proposed exploring that prospect more seriously. After some deliberation, the Board came to a consensus that Comm. Schwab applying to take the test to spray weed killer did not pose a conflict of interest, and the Board would see if any of the adjacent counties would be open to help.

Meeting adjourned.

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Mark Splonskowski, Auditor/Treasurer

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Steve Bakken, Chairman

**BURLEIGH COUNTY WEED BOARD  
MEETING**

**JANUARY 17TH, 2024**

Chairman Bakken called the meeting of the Burleigh County Weed Board to order.

Roll call of the members: Commissioners Woodcox, Munson, Schwab, Bitner, and Chairman Bakken were present.

There was a review of Rod Backman's Weed bill that had been outstanding for some time. Mr. Backman wondered how much he should pay. Comm. Bitner felt it was a single project and Chairman Bakken concurred. Comm. Munson wondered if there was a policy written down and a precedent set with the Weed Board on how people are billed. Comm. Schwab felt the new Weed Board would need to establish a policy as he didn't think there was one. Motion by Comm. Schwab, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Bitner to accept the cost sharing price of \$135.02. All members present voted "AYE". Motion carried. Chairman Bakken then discussed future meeting locations and recordings but thought it best to keep things status quo until a Weed Board was officially formed and a Weed Officer was hired. Comm. Schwab suggested having the meetings in the Tom Baker Room and have the Auditor's Office staff take the minutes. Comm. Bitner didn't want the Elections Coordinator burdened with taking minutes of the Weed Board and suggested her back up person do it. Chairman Bakken would like the Auditor to check on availability of the Tom Baker room for these meetings. Motion by Comm. Woodcox, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Munson to table the discussion until a Weed Officer is hired. All members present voted "AYE". Motion carried. Comm. Schwab stated that the chemicals are temporarily being stored at FertiLawn until spring but eventually a building is needed to store them per federal law. He also added that after attending the State Weed Board, a member of the ND Ag Department offered to sit in on Weed Board meetings to help them get started and answer questions.

Meeting Adjourned.

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Mark Splonskowski, Auditor/Treasurer

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Brian Bitner, Chairman