

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT OF NIOBRARA COUNTY
Minutes of January Meeting
5:00 pm January 18, 2024
Courthouse

Members and Staff Present:

Royce Thompson, President	Justen Miller
Kitson Boldon, Secretary-Treasurer	Gary Bayne
Arleen York, Vice President	Richard Edwards
Shannon Bruegger	Dale Greenough, Trapper
Dave Birch	John Graham, Trapper
Dan Tadewald	

Members and Staff Absent

Terry Allbright

President Roye Thompson called the regular January meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

Consent Agenda

Tadewald moved to accept the previously mailed/emailed financial report, bill list, and minutes of the December 21, 2023, meeting. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Reports

County Trappers Report: Greenough reported he took 18 coyotes on the ground, 61 coyotes aurally with Kelly and 13 coyotes with Shannon. He had flown with Shannon the 2nd and 3rd of January and took 9 coyotes the first day and 10 coyotes the next. Graham reported that he had taken 22 coyotes on the ground so far for January. The conditions to get around were tough north, due to snow the end of December, but south didn't get as much snow.

John Graham brought to the boards attention that him and Dale Greenough were not on speaking terms, and nobody let him know there was a regular meeting in December and that he was upset with the fact that rumor has it that people were calling him a fur trapper which he assured us he was not because he throws a lot of the coyote furs away.

Chairman Thompson told him and Dale that they needed to work it out and that the whole point of the predator board is to kill coyotes and they needed to be on speaking terms to accomplish this. Secretary/Treasurer Boldon apologized to John and thought since he was on the operations and personnel committee, to conduct hiring the seasonal trapper, that he would have been informed of the meeting in which they were to bring to the board something to present to an interested seasonal trapper in terms of requirements and pay. Kitson assured John she would make sure to not assume and bring it upon herself to inform everyone including the trappers of upcoming meetings.

Operations and Personnel Committee: Bruegger reported that the committee did meet. They only received one resume, from Matty Chobanian, in which they had conducted a phone interview with one hour prior to today's meeting. Shannon reported that he was impressed with his resume and that he would recommend him to the board. Gary would also recommend the interviewee for the board to offer a contract to. Justen was impressed with his resume but for lack of him pursuing his time to learning how to help himself trap since knowing he might apply for this position since May of 2023 was unappealing as well as his appearance, he would not

recommend the board offer him a contract. Richard thought he was sincere, enthusiastic, would be good at reading people and seemed very willing to adapt so he would recommend the board offer him a contract. John did not have any comments. Dale said that when Matty came out and shadowed him for a few days in December he seemed very nice and willing to learn.

Old Business

Annual Deer Count: Bruegger reported that overall numbers were up slightly. Overall doe to fawn ratio was down slightly. The Rawhide control area total deer numbers were up 90%.

John brought to the boards attention that maybe we should change our areas of conducting the deer count due to change of owners of some of the land that is on our deer count report and those landowners will not let us do predator control on their land. Royce said we would entertain that idea when we went to do the deer count this next year.

Hiring Part Time Trapper: After discussion and questions amongst the board on the person interviewed for the seasonal trapping job, Richard Edwards moved we offer Matty Chobanian a seasonal trapping contract from February thru June. Motion was seconded. With Gary, Richard, Shannon, and Kitson voting for it, Arleen refusing to vote and Justen, Danny and Dave voting against it, motion carried. Kitson would put together a seasonal contract in which all members of the board would receive a copy and would approve before offering it to Matty. Shannon would also work on getting him a radio whether it be a new or used radio.

New Business


Kitson brought to the board's attention Dale Greenough needed his gunners permit signed by a board member. Bruegger moved that Kitson sign Dale's permit. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Justen brought to the boards attention that he visited with Steve Schrader, manager of Lone Crow, who said planes have been flying over BLM and they need to stop, or he will be turning them in. Shannon was at the meeting so he is aware of it and Dale said he would also let Kelley know.

Justen also brought up if we were going to pursue the special district grant with Game and Fish. Boldon let the board know that she would be in contact with Matt Huizenga to get more information on it and delegated Gary to work with Matt on possibly applying for that grant if the board decided we should pursue it.

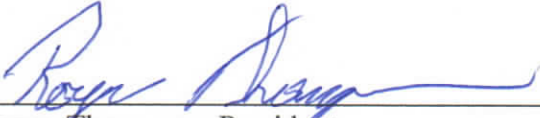
Adjournment: There being no further business, President Thompson adjourned the meeting at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kitson Boldon, Secretary-Treasurer

Accepted by:



Royce Thompson, President

Predator Management District of Niobrara county

3/21/24

Bill List

Bills Paid, To be approved

1/16/24	Kelly Huseby	February Aerial Services	\$6,435.00
1/31/24	Dale Greenough	January Contract	\$6,000.00
1/31/24	John Graham	January Contract	\$6,000.00
2/6/24	Lusk Herald	Change in Meeting Advertisement	\$62.00
2/29/24	John Graham	February Contract	\$6,000.00
2/29/24	Dale Greenough	February Contract	\$6,000.00
2/29/24	Matty Chobanian	February Contract	\$3,050.00

Bills Payable

3/21/24	Dale Greenough	Reimbursement for shotgun shells	\$580.00
3/21/24	Niobrara Cnty Weed & Pest	Denning Cartridges	\$726.19

Cash on hand less bills outstanding

Funds set aside	\$198,751.00
Funds to operate on	\$193,954.55
Less outstanding bills	<u>-\$1,306.19</u>
Total	\$391,399.36

Submitted by:


Secretary-Treasurer

Accepted by:


President

