

IPM Meeting Minutes August 19, 2021

In Attendance: Bruce Wenning , Justin Traxler, Derek Mannion, Kelly Brown

- Minutes –

Review 6/24/2021, 7/22/2021 and 8/5/2021 ipm meeting minutes, no changes needed. All held for approval as we did not have a quorum today.

- Review next steps for IPM –

- Next steps on Proposals to Use Pesticides on Public Property

- DM informed that he has been out to Forte and is happy to report that the Pylex has done what it has supposed to do. It is looking pretty good out there.
- DM has been through the FAQ's and reviewed and updated them. He is in the process of updating the power point regarding results. It has been renamed and called IPM Results. It is not available yet to see. He will post it to the website once he is done updating it. It is very similar to what was a on there before. There is now a brief recap of where we are with IPM and why. It includes the results of 2021 inspections all 5 application locations. All of the 2021 results will be included.
- JT provided an update on Weeks. He met with Tom Irwin and inspected the treatment area. It really did a great job to get rid of all the weeds that were there. The new problem is that the aeration seems to have picked up some of the seed and redeposited some goose grass. I am told this does not normally happen, but it did. We should be able to address this now before next summer so it does not happen again. There are definitely some irrigation problems. The seed took really well in some areas but there were others that were thin near the heads. We are dealing with biology here. JT shared that he is amazed how well the program has worked. It has really cleaned things up. The areas at Weeks that was treated and have adequate irrigation are really making a difference. You can really see the treated versus the untreated area. Cold Springs - has some new germination coming up.
- DM shared that the end of June was very hot and we applied an herbicide. This field at New Cold Springs was built on a dump; the field has an awful root system. It is not a great area for an athletic field. If we have less heat and less rain it should improve. but the center of the field is in tough shape.
- The treated untreated areas are so dramatic. You can see the spray area clearly.
- DM invited JT to walk the area with him on Monday. He has planned to look at Weeks on Monday. We plan to get a contractor out there. He noticed at Forte there are small rocks clogging the small nozzles on the head. Some rocks getting in the heads. The rocks come back since the irrigation system runs of a well. It needs to be addressed. He is looking into it.
- DM reminded JT that this is not going to change in one season. It will take time. He stated that for 2 decades there was limited money to grow grass in the operating budget. The increased money is very helpful but we cannot turn the tide after for 2 decades over the course of one year. In the past 2 decades 2/3rds of that time there was no budget for grass growing. 4 of the 6 years the budget was \$35,000 and for 2 of the years the budget was \$75,000. This year we have \$250,000. This is really going to help, but it will take time. Double mowing in a week should help prevent crabgrass from seeding and growing.
- JT commented that he noticed less clippings sitting on the field which allow seeds to grow. DM informed that the cost of bagging and hauling clippings is just way too much, but the double mowing of athletic fields should help. He informed that the contract was written for this fiscal year based off historical budgets. He did not know the budget would be \$250,000 this year or he would have changed the contractual language. We

could do more but we did not have the budget number when writing the contract. DM feels that we are 3-5 years from seeing what we want to see on these fields.

Next Meeting August 26, 2021

Respectfully submitted by **Kelly Brown**