

**Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force  
Meeting Minutes  
November 17, 2022  
1:00 p.m. CST  
VIRTUAL**

1. Call to order – Mike Reed called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Reed welcomed all members and guests and asked for introductions.

Task Force members present:

Mike Reed  
Dave Zorn  
Mike Sarchet  
TJ Walker

Brent Meyer  
Rich Tesar  
Ryan Chapman  
Tammy Zimmerman

Task Force members absent:

David Carr  
John Erixson  
Larry Heyen  
Dennis VanWey  
Dr. Shuhai Zheng

James Skavdahl  
Nate Munter  
Kevin Adams  
Dr. Tala Awada

NDA Staff:

Mitch Coffin

2. Review and Approval of June 30, 2022, Minutes:

Zorn moved to approve the minutes, Walker second, motion carried.

3. Updates From the Field

Reed reported on behalf of Lower Platte Weed Management Area. Need to look at splitting the area into two sections to provide for better and timely coverage. Adding Washington County to this Weed management Area. Meyer reported they used an airboat to launch the drone from on the river. Working on a research project with UNL to identify phragmites in the winter months. Also, more work needs to be done in the floodplain.

#### 4. Old Business:

##### a. Statewide Coordinator

It was discussed to meet with Game & Parks and NDA to explore the creation and funding of this position. Would the Noxious Weed Control Act need to recognize this position to help facilitate statewide? Zimmerman will facilitate a meeting with NDA. Walker will discuss with his administration.

##### b. Rules and Regulations Hearing

Reed reported on the hearing held on November 3, 2022, to allow the use of non-native phragmites in wastewater treatment facilities. No one attended in support of these changes and several attended and testified opposing changes allowing the use of non-native phragmites. Zimmerman reported that the Director had not decided as of today.

#### 5. New Business:

##### a. 22/23 Grant Funds Summary

Mitch furnished a handout of the 22/23 grant fund balance. He reported as of today that \$763,287.22 (28.3%) has been spent and \$1,932,507.28 (71.7%) remains.

##### b. Work Groups

Sarchet reported they developed wetlands on Nine Mile Creek including the stocking of fish. Overtime narrowleaf cattails are becoming more problematic in these areas. He also reported that High Plains Weed Management Area are not active.

#### 6. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 15-16. Meyer will contact Southwest Weed Management and see if they can host a meeting and tour. Meeting adjourned.