

Weed Department Report
Weed Board Meeting
September 7th,2023

- We recently completed and billed our United States Forest Service Bipartisan Infrastructure Law grant. This grant provided an additional \$24,000 in revenue for our department this year. We will continue to look for any and all sources of grant funding that are available to us.
- I have documented and either sent a letter or contacted 16 different land owners in the county with noxious weed issues. I have received commitment to spray for 4 of these properties. I have a list of additional properties that I will inspect and follow up with additional letters.
- We will receive \$2000.00 from the city of Monticello to cover the cost of herbicides to spray both the golf course and airport runway and aprons. We have recently sprayed the airport with a treatment of Tordon and a follow-up treatment of Glyphosate. The golf course was sprayed early this year and has shown huge improvements in the amount of noxious weeds present.
- We have made significant improvements in the vegetation control at the various county facilities this year. I believe the fairgrounds are looking particularly weed free this year. Each year we see a decrease in the amount of weeds at the county properties thereby making it less expensive and time consuming each year.
- We recently had to have a new clutch put in our Dodge 400 gallon spray truck. This old dodge workhorse currently has nearly 200,000 rough miles on it and I believe it is time to start looking into replacing it. I will begin looking into whether there are any available grants that may help with the purchase of a new truck and spray system. I believe it is imperative that whatever we purchase has to be more capable in loose dirt and sand than our 2019 Ford 450 dually which has proven to get stuck very easily. I also believe that switching to a centrifugal pump configuration will serve us better than the diaphragm pump we currently run on the old Dodge.