

Disclaimer: This document is a draft, and is provided as a courtesy. This document is not to be considered the final minutes, and all information contained herein is subject to change upon further review and approval by the State Weed Board.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
WASHINGTON STATE NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL BOARD**

January 11, 2011

Natural Resource Building – Room 172
1111 Washington Street; Olympia, WA 98504

Board Members Present

Butch Klaveano	Mary Toohey
Jerry Hendrickson	Tony Stadelman
Ray Fann	Kathy Hamel
Ken Bajema	Tim Miller
Sarah Spear-Cooke	Steven Link

Others Present in Person

Alison Halpern	Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
Wendy DesCamp	Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
Ray Willard	Washington State Department of Transportation
Bill Wamsley	Lewis County Noxious Weed Control Board
Rick Johnson	Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board
Angelica Velazquez	Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board
Greg Haubrich	Washington State Department of Agriculture
Beki Shoemaker	Pierce County Noxious Weed Control Board

Others Present by Phone

Anna Lyon	Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board
Cathy Lucero	Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board

Handouts Distributed

- Draft of November 3, 2010 WA State Noxious Weed Control Board minutes
- Office reports for November and December and letter excerpts from Ilwaco Middle School Students
- Budget Summary from July 2010 to June 2011 with estimated variance in budget
- Class A eradication funding requests FY11
- County special projects requests FY11
- Bill Request from the Code Reviser's Office of RCW 17.10, amending RCW 17.10.007, RCW 17.10.080 and RCW 17.10.090.

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Butch Klaveano, followed by roll call and introductions.

Disclaimer: This document is a draft, and is provided as a courtesy. This document is not to be considered the final minutes, and all information contained herein is subject to change upon further review and approval by the State Weed Board.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING

VOTE	Jerry Hendrickson	Moved to accept the minutes as presented.
	Tony Stadelman	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	Voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

The Board discussed:

- Tony Stadelman raised the question of whether the Board should be signing the minutes after they are approved.
- The Board agreed that the Board Chairman would sign meeting minutes after Board approval.

STATE AGENCY UPDATES

Ray Willard gave an update about the Washington State Department of Transportation's vegetation management program. Topics discussed:

- Maintenance areas plans address safety and other issues, including noxious weed control. The plans prioritize designated noxious weeds and outline where the weeds are and the control work being done.
- Maintenance and management of wetlands and wetland mitigation projects.
- Discovery of parrotfeather in the Nisqually delta between I-5 lanes and treatment options.
- Decontamination and prevention of weeds and the benefit of having a weed-free gravel certification program.
- Scotch broom on scenic roads such as Chuckanut Drive in Skagit County and its impact on tourist attractions.

Wendy Brown (read by Alison Halpern): Washington Invasive Species Council (WISC) update
Projects WISC is working on:

- Completing the baseline assessment project for Puget Sound—involves compiling known data and information on invasive species (15 species—plants, animals and insects) locations, management efforts, pathways of spread, and resources at risk and then conducting a gap analysis.
- Creating an online information clearinghouse—to be called the Washington Invasive Species Education (WISE) website—that targets information on identifying and preventing the spread of invasive species to the general public.
- Continuing the 'Don't Move Firewood' outreach project with Oregon and Idaho.
- Update on the WISC bill SB 5090/ HB 1413, which would extend WISC to 2017. WISC was included in the Governor's budget, but with no general funds. The council is raising funds through grants and member agency contributions.

OFFICE REPORT

The board reviewed:

- Office reports for November and December
- 2011 noxious weed lists (two versions)
- educational handout about the state weed board that board members could share with legislators

Disclaimer: This document is a draft, and is provided as a courtesy. This document is not to be considered the final minutes, and all information contained herein is subject to change upon further review and approval by the State Weed Board.

Alison Halpern:

- Will be filling a vacancy on the Washington State Weed Association's board that runs until November. She will be helping with the development of the next Yakima weed conference;
- Submitted testimony on behalf of the State Weed Board to the Kitsap County BOC public hearing to raise the Kitsap County noxious weed assessment. Not only was the increase approved, but the evening was one of recognition of for Dana Coggon and all her hard work;
- Appreciated the SOP that Cindy developed before moving on to a new full-time job;
- Waiting for update about a memorial service for Mike Braun. Alison will attend on behalf of the Weed Board. She suggested that the State Weed Board might partner with the county weed coordinators to give a gift in memory of Mike, such as a tree planting in a park or contribution towards a restoration area.

Wendy DesCamp:

- Focusing on the new website as her main project, developing user-friendly content for the public.
- Gave a presentation to Ilwaco Middle School science classes and will be leaving for Grant County today to present at their county noxious weed conference.
- Learning details of the program from Alison
- Developed two printed weed lists for this year, one arranged by scientific names and one by common names.

WSDA UPDATE

Mary Toohey:

- WSDA finishing up year-end reports. Current best estimate is that there are about 17 solid acres of *Spartina* spp. left in the state (in all three locations of Puget Sound, Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor). This is down from over 9,000 acres in 2003. It will be labor intensive to treat these last acres. Chad Phillips and the cooperating agencies are doing a great job.
- The annual knotweed report is near completion. Money for the knotweed program will be reduced in the next biennium. The Governor's proposed budget would fund about 3 projects, rather than the 12 to 15 projects in FY11. WSDA has a prioritization process for projects to determine what will be funded. Marshall Udo has also been working with some useful predictive modeling on knotweed that could be used with other species.
- WWHAM transition is underway from the Weed Board to WSDA. They will do their best to make sure transition is as seamless as possible and that the program will continue to offer good service.

Greg Haubrich:

- Sent out RFP's for noxious weed control for funds from an agreement between the US Forest Service PNW Region and WSDA. There is about \$45,000 available for competitive contracts.
- Sent spreadsheet to counties for mapping information, received about half back for SWAP (State Weeds and Pests) mapping

Disclaimer: This document is a draft, and is provided as a courtesy. This document is not to be considered the final minutes, and all information contained herein is subject to change upon further review and approval by the State Weed Board.

- Discussed Crupina with Weed Board--control was ongoing and had money from NFWF grant, which will be the last year of funding from that grant. Chelan County Weed Board has secured funding for water transport by helicopter up to sites. The overall acreage of Crupina is being reduced but some still exists.

Mary Toohey: presented Alison Halpern with a certificate and lapel pin for her 5 years of employment with WSDA.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board reviewed the documents Budget Summary;

The Board discussed:

- Providing the one-page budget summary to the full board and having the full budget report sent to the budget committee
- The estimated \$55.6K in unspent money at the end of the fiscal year primary due to staff vacancies and the suspension of board travel. Alison would like the board to decide on how the unspent money should be used as early as possible.
- Holding a special meeting later in January to vote on Class A eradication and special project proposals. If the Board supports all proposals submitted, there will still be about \$11K remaining that can go towards additional projects or towards equipment such as additional GPS units.
- Different GPS units
- Funding some WSDA knotweed projects that had been terminated early due to budget reductions this fiscal year. Members of the audience noted the importance supporting knotweed projects.
- Concerns about giant reed, *Arundo donax*. There is a population in Walla Walla County and PGE in Oregon is considering using *Arundo* as biofuel production.

Break

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Motor Pool car

The Board discussed the returning of the long-term rental Prius from Motor Pool. Alison noted it was cheaper now to rent cars from Motor Pool at the daily rate since there is less travel now by staff. WSDA might have cars that can be borrowed at no charge other than gas.

House Bill 1169

Bill would change intent of Chapter 17.10 RCW and preclude the listing of cultivated species known to be commercially grown in Washington. Draft of the bill was sent to Alison from Farm Bureau for feedback. The Board discussed:

- The proposed legislation would have unintended consequences such as negative impacts to farmers.
- The weed law has done its job and worked well over the years with other commercially grown crops such as babysbreath, St. Johnswort, and reed canarygrass.

Disclaimer: This document is a draft, and is provided as a courtesy. This document is not to be considered the final minutes, and all information contained herein is subject to change upon further review and approval by the State Weed Board.

- Steven Link brought up the example of Arundo and how in Oregon, PGE is willing to create a bond fund to mitigate potential risk of escaping plants.
- The current listing process works. It worked with holly.
- The Board is opposed to the Bill as it is written.

Action Item: Alison will work with Butch to write a list of concerns of the Weed Board about this Bill and Butch will write a letter that Alison can present to the committee on his behalf. A copy of the letter will be provided to the Board.

Distribution of audio CDs of meetings

The Board decided it is not necessary to make and distribute an audio recording of every meeting to each board member. Go To Meeting makes an audio recording of each meeting that Board members can listen to or an audio recording can be made upon request for any board member.

Boards and Commissions bill:

Alison Halpern: It is currently not known if there is a bill yet on eliminating boards and commissions, including the Weed Board, but one has been rumored to exist. There are packets available about the Noxious Weed Control Board for Board Members to give their legislators to educate them about the State Weed Board and its program.

COORDINATOR'S FORUM

Pierce County: Beki Shoemaker reported that Pierce County received an assessment increase to \$1.64 (up from \$1.38). This is the first increase of their assessment in 7 years. She thanked Rick Johnson for his mentorship and support. She suggested that having an experienced coordinator being available to a new coordinator to ask questions to could be very helpful.

Okanogan County: Anna Lyon reported that they did not receive a raise in their assessment but they will keep trying.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Board and Committee membership

Tony Stadelman asked about Mary Lou's replacement. Chairman Klaveano responded that the member is appointed. The Board will wait until its status is known (with this legislative session) and also give new commissioners time to acclimate in their new roles before contacting WSAC.

Jeanne McNeil's replacement on the Noxious Weed Committee, Bob Buzzo, will start when the Noxious Weed Committee convenes in the Spring.

2012 noxious weed list

Greg Haubrich asked on behalf of Dick Jacobson if Oriental clematis was being considered for listing now that a proposal had been submitted. Alison Halpern indicated that the proposal to add this species as a Class A had been received. Japanese eelgrass proposal has been resubmitted for 2012.

Budget

Disclaimer: This document is a draft, and is provided as a courtesy. This document is not to be considered the final minutes, and all information contained herein is subject to change upon further review and approval by the State Weed Board.

Alison Halpern thanked Tony Stadelman for his help in finding an error in a spreadsheet formula from last year.

Weed-Free Gravel certification program

The Board can put the NAWMA guidelines online so that gravel pits can decide if they want to follow the standards and then advertise if they do. The Weed Board doesn't have the resources currently to have this as a certification program.

Action Item: Post the NWMA gravel pit weed free certification standards on website

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel matters (Executive Secretary annual evaluation)

MEETING EVALUATION

There was no meeting evaluation.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board reconvened after the evaluation and with nothing more to discuss, adjourned about 11:30 a.m.

Minutes prepared by

Wendy DesCamp, Outreach Specialist and Alison Halpern, Executive Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

Butch Klaveano, Chairman
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

Alison Halpern, Executive Secretary
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

Tony Stadelman, Secretary
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board