

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
WASHINGTON STATE NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL BOARD

March 16, 2011

Webinar Teleconference, hosted at the Chelan City Council Chambers  
135 E. Johnson, Chelan, WA 98816

**Board Members Present** (\* indicates present at Chelan location)

Butch Klaveano	Joe Coombs
Joe Coombs	Tony Stadelman
Ken Bajema*	Sarah Spear Cooke
Jim DeTro*	Tim Miller*
Kathy Hamel	

**Others Present in Person**

Alison Halpern	Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
Wendy DesCamp	Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
Greg Haubrich	Washington State Department of Agriculture
Marc Stairer	Benton County Noxious Weed Control Board
Sonny Gohrman	Snohomish County Noxious Weed Control Board
Geri Saw	Snohomish County Noxious Weed Control Board
Sue Sackmann	Adams County Noxious Weed Control Board
Marilyn Sielaff	Adams County Noxious Weed Control Board
Beki Shoemaker	Pierce County Noxious Weed Control Board
Debbie Ringler	Pierce County Noxious Weed Control Board
Anna Lyon	Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board
Janet Nelson	Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board
Mike Mackey	Chelan County Noxious Weed Control Board
Mary Fee	Ferry County Noxious Weed Control Board
Dick Jacobson	Yakima County Noxious Weed Control Board

**Others Present by Phone**

Steve Burke	King County Noxious Weed Control Board
Glenn Lebsack	Clark County Vegetation Management

**Handouts Distributed**

- Draft of January 11, 2011 WSNWCB meeting minutes
- Draft of January 26, 2011 WSNWCB special meeting minutes
- Office reports for January and February
- Budget Summary through February, 2011
- Pierce County special project proposal
- Pierce County NWCB/CD knotweed proposal
- Ethical Guidelines for Board Members primer
- Code of Ethics samples

**Meeting called to order around 9:00am by Chairman Butch Klaveano (the meeting started a few minutes late due to technical difficulties)**

Roll Call and Introductions

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

<b>VOTE</b>	Tony Stadelman	Moved to accept the minutes of the regular January 11 board meeting as presented.
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	Voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

<b>VOTE</b>	Tony Stadelman	Moved to accept the minutes of the special January 26 board meeting as presented.
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	Voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**UPDATES FROM STATE WEED BOARD MEMBERS**

Board members discussed:

- Tony Stadelman: Noxious Weed sign put up on county road overlooking I-90 eastbound in Grant County
- Ken Bajema: cold, wet weather slowing weed growth, Title II money and seasonal staff, requested for draft minutes to be distributed sooner for review
- Sarah Cooke: was busy meeting with Westside legislators to discuss weed board and HB1169
- Tim Miller: busy meeting/conference season
- Butch Klaveano: cold and wet spring, so not much spraying yet in Garfield County

**OFFICE REPORT**

The Board reviewed:

- Office reports for January and February

Alison Halpern:

- Legislative session has been top priority; has received numerous calls from coordinators, state agencies, general public, etc. who are concerned with HB 1169; has testified at three committee hearings on that bill
- Working with Tom Wessels to seamlessly transition the WWHAM program to WSDA
- Still unpacking after January move

Wendy DesCamp:

- Focusing on the new website as her main project, developing user-friendly content for the public.
- Has given several presentations
- The NW Flower and Garden Show went very well, despite the snowstorm

## **WSDA UPDATE**

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 \$45K available, and the proposals they received totaled \$155K
- Working on WWHAM program; there will be a meeting scheduled for staff training
- Crupina project: Mike Mackey and Brigitte Ranne preparing to send WCC crews to sites
- No information yet on general fund appropriations for knotweed or Spartina programs

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Board reviewed the documents Budget Summary;

The Board discussed:

- Alison adjusted projections due to changes in benefit expenditures and is working with fiscal to understand adjustments.
- Alison drafted and sent out all Class A and special project interagency contracts.
- Next budget forecast due out Thursday; gas prices have likely had a negative impact on budget forecast. Alison will keep everyone apprised if there are any further reductions to the next biennial budget or any reductions this fiscal year.
- Butch asked Alison to arrange budget committee meeting in response to specific questions about budget.

The Board reviewed and discussed two proposals that had been submitted by the Pierce County NWCB after the Class A eradication/special projects RFP deadline.

The Board discussed:

- The solicitation of the proposals and why these two arrived after the RFP cycle. Beki noted that she was at the Olympia Board meeting [in January] and the audience there wanted knotweed projects to be funded.
- Sonny Gohrman asked whether all Class A projects were funded and at their requested amounts. His proposal was not funded for the amount requested, and he asked that the Board contact proposal submitters before deciding on funding levels that differ from the asking amount.
- The Nisqually Watershed knotweed project was started by the Pierce County NWCB in 2007. The Pierce County Conservation District then took the lead last year. The requested survey money would be a big help to their efforts this year. The Pierce County NWCB has an MOU with the Pierce County CD.
- Pierce County has had a few coordinators over the years, and since they've focused on 8-10 noxious weeds, they don't have a complete survey of noxious weeds. GPS data collected in the survey would be shared with the State Weed Board and WSDA for mapping.
- Pierce County submitted the knotweed proposal; other counties were not asked for knotweed proposals. Alison explained that WSDA's knotweed coordinator had ranked knotweed proposals and had originally recommended a Snohomish County project to the Board in January. Sonny Gohrman did not need this funding for the project this year. The Pierce County CD was another top-ranking project that lost funding this year.
- Mike Mackey from the Chelan County NWCB stressed the importance of surveying all land with drainage for knotweed.

<b>VOTE</b>	Sarah Cooke	Moved to fund the Pierce County NWCB special project to conduct noxious weed survey for \$4,224.78, with the understanding that they will submit survey data to the weed board.
	Ken Bajema	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	Voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

<b>VOTE</b>	Sarah Cooke	Moved to fund the knotweed proposal presented by the Pierce County NWCB with the Pierce County CD for \$10K.
		The motion was not seconded.

<b>VOTE</b>	Tony Stadelman	Moved to fund the Pierce County knotweed project \$5K to control the knotweed they found.
		The motion was withdrawn, since the proposal was to survey and not to control knotweed.

- The Board discussed holding a special meeting in late March to discuss and vote on this project and asked that a revised proposal be submitted by the Pierce County CD. Wendy DesCamp will initiate the GoToMeeting if Alison is not available the week of the meeting.
- Alison will provide all Board members with final reports from the Class A and special projects.

### **INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONER DETRO**

Commissioner DeTro arrived during the financial update and Butch thanked him for attending the meeting and welcomed him to the State Weed Board. He also asked Commissioner DeTro to tell everyone about him. Commissioner DeTro is a newly elected commissioner and is new to politics. He is a lifelong resident of Okanogan County and has worked as a fire fighter and smoke jumper, has worked in the logging industry, and in the sales of heavy machinery.

### **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Bylaws Committee: Ken has gathered bylaws from different organizations and will give to Alison to distribute to the Board.

The Board reviewed the documents Ethical Guidelines for Board Members, a suggested Code of Ethics policy sample, and the current Code of Ethics policy in the board's current manual.

The Board discussed:

- Whether the bylaws committee has met yet. Ken indicated that the bylaws committee has not held a meeting.
- The purpose of the bylaws committee. Butch said that the full Board should be working on possible changes to the bylaws together.
- Butch asked Board members to read the handouts on ethical guidelines for discussion at a later date, such as the May meeting.

Survey Standards Committee: Greg Haubrich is inventorying the GPS units and has received the GPS unit from Sarah Cooke.

Noxious Weed Committee: Tim Miller indicated that the NWC would hold their first meeting of the year in May.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:**

Alison gave updates on relevant bills.

- HB1371 regarding boards and commissions – Would have eliminated the State Weed Board as originally written; amended version removed most boards and commissions from the bill. Alison attended the public hearing but they ran out of time for everyone to testify, but letter was submitted to the committee. The substitute bill did not make it out of the Rules Committee, so it is no longer active; however, emergency measures could still be proposed that affect State Weed Board funds, given the budget situation.
- SB 5087 regarding noxious weed lists – Did not make it out of Rules Committee and no longer active.
- SHB 1169 – regarding noxious weed lists: This version of the bill mandates that the State Weed Board codify its listing guidelines and allows counties and cities to educate about unlisted species of concern. There was a public hearing yesterday in the senate agricultural committee, in which a striking amendment was introduced that would have exempted English holly from being listed as a noxious weed. Alison testified on behalf of Butch in support of the bill but in opposition to the striking amendment. The committee voted against the striking amendment and voted in favor of SHB 1169 as written. The bill will be sent to the Rules Committee and may be voted on by the full senate. It is identical to the bill passed by the House.

The Board discussed:

- Alison confirmed that the substitute bill allows a cultivated crop to be potentially listed as a noxious weed.
- The unlikelihood of any additional changes to the bill.

### **COORDINATORS' FORUM**

Anna Lyon from Okanogan County thanked the State Weed Board for allowing Wendy to give a talk at their recertification meeting.

Sonny Gohrman asked about Sarah Cooke's talking to representatives and about the Survey Standards Committee. For clarification, Sarah spoke to legislators about the State Weed Board and the noxious weed listing bill, not to county weed board members. The survey standards committee has not met in the last year. She would like to see GPS training, but with budget cuts there does not seem to be funding for these trainings.

### **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

State and federal lands and noxious weeds - Commissioner DeTro brought up the problem of land acquisition by state agencies that lack the funds for noxious weed control. Mike Mackey in Chelan County surveys federal lands using Title II funding. Tony Stadelman remarked that he posts on public lands with noxious weeds in his weed district; county weed boards need to post on public lands. Anna Lyon noted that she surveys on state and federal land. They will do enforcements for mandated control of noxious weeds, such as Class A's and B-designates. Alison remarked that Representative Kretz has introduced a bill before that requires state agencies to have a weed control plan and funding for weed control before acquiring land. Anna would like to see that bill moved forward again.

Noxious weed law enforcement – Tony Stadelman encouraged county coordinators to write infractions on state lands. Anna noted that her county is adamant that they will not write infractions unless there is a cap imposed that limits how much a landowner can be fined. Ken stated that a county can still recommend that the monetary fine is; a judge can modify that amount. Mary Fee from Ferry County NWCB asked about the suggestion of a state fund to loan money to counties for enforcements, which the State Weed Board had discussed in 2009. Alison noted that the idea was well received but was tabled until the economic climate improves.

**MEETING EVALUATION**

There was no meeting evaluation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

<b>VOTE</b>	Tony Stadelman	Moved to adjourn the meeting.
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion

The Board adjourned about 10:30 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