

Draft Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

9:00 a.m. July 17, 2014

Online/Teleconferenced meeting via GoToWebinar
and hosted at the Natural Resource Building,
Room 269, located at 1111 Washington St., Olympia, WA 98504

Handouts provided for meeting:

- Agenda for meeting
- Draft meeting minutes for May 2014 board meeting
- Office reports for end of May, June, and first half of July
- Budget summary spreadsheet
- Draft Strategic Plan
- New brochures, postcards, and magnets

Meeting called to order at 9:11 a.m. by Chairman Tony Stadelman

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present

Tony Stadelman	Dirk Veleke (WebEx)	Jenifer Parsons (WebEx)
Brad White	Butch Klaveano (WebEx)	
Tim Miller	Bill Agosta (WebEx)	
Sarah Cooke (WebEx)	Bob Roth (WebEx)	

Others present:

Alison Halpern, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
Wendy DesCamp, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
Greg Haubrich, Washington State Department of Agriculture (WebEx)
Glenn Lebsack, Clark County Vegetation Management (WebEx)
Jennifer Andreas, WSU Extension, Integrated Weed Control Project
Glenys Stadelman

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for May.

The minutes were updated to reflect that Jerry Hendrickson had attended the WebEx meeting by phone.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to accept the minutes for the May 2014 Board meeting
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded
	The Board	All in favor, none opposed, motion passed

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES:

- Dirk: There was an infestation of rush skeletonweed in Douglas County on private land. He will follow up to determine if it had been controlled.
- Sarah: She had been working the last two months on a rare plant and noxious weed inventory for BPA from Portland to Castle Rock; she could share the plant list with anyone who is interested.
- Butch didn't have any updates, other than it was just hot and dry in Garfield County.
- Tim: His garden loosestrife herbicide trials looked good. He has a foam applicator for herbicides that he wanted to try to determine whether it would be as effective as a standard backpack

sprayer. Brad mentioned that Animal Services has a similar foaming device used to treat chicken coops.

- Jenifer: She and an ACE Corps biologist were out last week looking for potential native herbivores damaging flowering rush. They observed a lot of herbivory, including rhizome boring, but no significant damage.
- Tony: The noxious weeds were growing rampant in the Basin.

OFFICE REPORTS

Alison:

- Tim, Wendy and Alison had given presentations to the vegetation crew at Mt. Rainier National Park yesterday.
- She had sent part one of a 3-part survey to the county weed board coordinators and had heard back from 15 of the 38 county weed board coordinators.
- She had starting the rule-making process for 2015, and they had already received one proposal for 2016.
- She was working with WSDA to combine the proposed 2015 noxious weed list and the 2015 quarantine list small business survey into one extensive effort that would reach nurseries by mail and online.
- Alison and Wendy were busy with end-of-fiscal year work – Wendy working on publications and Alison working on budget and contracts.
- There have been many county issues this year. Whatcom County Council and some citizens have expressed concern about glyphosate and herbicides.

Wendy:

- She has started the written findings for proposed noxious weed for 2015. It had been helpful to see the Ravenna grass sites in Benton County.
- New brochures were printed: tri-fold brochures on yellow archangel, garlic mustard and bees and noxious weed brochures. There were now 3 new Spanish language postcards on poison hemlock, flowering rush, and garlic mustard.
- Two magnets were created, which focused on agricultural flowers.
- The website updates for the search function and mobile site had been completed by the contractor.
- This week Jennifer Andreas, Greg, Alison, and Wendy had the opportunity to visit the JBLM flowering rush site to collect tissue samples for the biocontrol project. It was a great opportunity to take pictures, which would help with education.

The Board discussed:

- Tim asked about the flowering rush habitat. It was in a wetland area that dried up in late summer, making it easier to treat the flowering rush.

WSDA REPORT

Greg Haubrich provided the update.

- The iForm data collection program was being used by many counties now including Whatcom, San Juan, Island, Mason, Pacific, Klickitat, and Yakima. Whatcom County NWCB had already submitted nearly 600 points. Greg would be setting up Whitman County next. Grays Harbor, Wahkiakum and Thurston were interested as well.
- He had applied for a USFS grant but did not get it this time.

- There were issues importing plants into Switzerland for the flowering rush biocontrol project. Jennifer Andreas and Jenifer Parsons were looking into the possibility of growing plants under controlled conditions.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Alison gave the update.

- The May budget report had been sent out. Based on projections, the Board would probably be within \$3.5K at the end of the year.
- Wendy and Alison had pushed to get as many publications printed as possible.
- A replacement road sign had been created for Thurston County, as their sign had been stolen.
- All of the Class A eradication and special projects had been completed on time. The botanical illustrations the WSNWCB funded for the Flora of the PNW revision looked great.

Jennifer Andreas, Program Director for the WSU Integrated Weed Control Project, thanked the WSNWCB for providing \$3K of funding. It was used to supplement the USFS funding for biocontrol implementation in May, which is the busiest season.

- There had been 125 releases, which was over 36,000 biocontrol agents over 24 counties in Washington and 1 in Idaho; 4 different agents were released including:
 - Scotch broom (*Bruchidius villosus*: 62 releases, 18,800 beetles)
 - purple loosestrife (*Galerucella* spp.: 23 releases, 6750 beetles)
 - Dalmatian toadflax (*Mecinus janthiniformis*: 40 releases, 10,600 beetles)
 - yellow toadflax (*Mecinus janthinus*: 1 release, 200 beetles)

Alison said that she would like to use the FY15 \$5K special projects funding to complement the bee brochure with an outreach campaign. She was checking with local seed companies for non-invasive bee forage packets that could be customized with our logo and information. The packets and brochures could be distributed as a reminder that when people control weeds they could also plant bee friendly plants. The county weed boards and districts could give the packets out as a thank-you for controlling noxious weeds. This project could be a nice avenue of communication with landowners. Alison would like to proceed with quotes if that is okay with the Board

The Board discussed:

- Tony advised her to go ahead and do preliminary work and the Board could discuss more in September.
- Brad noted that the WSDA communication and outreach office would be very interested in this project.

STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

The Board reviewed the latest draft of the strategic plan. Alison said that one of the main, broader goals this biennium was to try to give the county weed boards and districts more support by updating the coordinators' handbook, developing primers for both county weed board members and for WASAC and legislature, and helping to provide training and resources for coordinators. She asked the Board to think about how they wanted to make the WSNWCB better. She would be applying for travel authorization for the November public hearing and meeting and would look into doing the same for the March meeting.

The Board discussed:

- Sarah would be willing to give some presentations if the travel could be reimbursed for longer distances.

- Tony asked about giving a presentation to WASAC. Alison had wanted to give a webinar last year but it fell through the cracks. Maybe there would be an opportunity this November or January.
- Glenys thought that the strategic plan was very reader friendly.

COORDINATORS’ FORUM

Tony mentioned that his mystery plant, *Pennsylvania pellatory*, was native plant but was spreading along ditch banks and beyond. The herbicide was not slowing it down, which was surprising for an annual. He thanked Wendy and Tim for their help identifying it.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION The Board adjourned for an executive session to discuss a personnel matter and re-adjourned at 10:13.

VOTE	Sarah Cooke	Motioned to adjourn the meeting.
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tony Stadelman, Chairman
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

Alison Halpern, Executive Secretary
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

Dirk Veleke, Secretary
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board