

Regular Meeting of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
9:00 a.m. July 23rd, 2020
WebEx hosted at the Natural Resources Building,
1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia WA, 98504

Handouts provided for meeting:

- Agenda for meeting
- Draft minutes of the May 7th, 2020 regular board meeting
- Office reports for May, June, and beginning July
- Budget report
- WA Without Noxious Weeds Magnet

Meeting called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chairman Tony Stadelman.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present

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|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Tony Stadelman (WebEx) | Janet Spingath (WebEx) | Randy Johnson (WebEx) |
| Bill Agosta (WebEx) | Jerry Hendrickson (WebEx) | Jenifer Parsons (WebEx) |
| Brad White (WebEx) | Dirk Veleke (WebEx) | Steven Seefeldt (WebEx) |
| Ken Bajema (WebEx) | | Rod Gilbert (WebEx) |

Others present:

Mary Fee, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
 Wendy DesCamp, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
 Justin Bush, WA Invasive Species Council
 Katie Buckley, WSDA Pollinator Health Coordinator
 Naedene Shearer, Columbia County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Beth Tanner, Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Anna Lyon, Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Patricia Grover, Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Effie Shinn, Yakima County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Greg Haubrich, WSDA Pest Program Manager

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for the May 7th, 2020 regular meeting.

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| VOTE | Bill Agosta | Moved to accept the minutes for the May 7 th , 2020 regular meeting. |
| | Jerry Hendrickson | Seconded the motion |
| | <i>The Board</i> | All in favor, no opposition, motion carried. |

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

- Jennifer reported on the variable leaf milfoil treatment of the new herbicide, procellacor, which received approval about a year ago. It is good on milfoils but does not kill many other plants. It has been tested at Hall Lake.
- Janet applied procellacor to American Lake in Pierce County and it looks good so far. Janet reported that Bill Agosta nominated another weed warrior, Joyce Nigreto. Janet read the letter about her and will forward to Mary.
- Ken reported that locally they have had rain and tansy ragwort is exceptionally bad this year.
- Brad reported that state agencies are going through furloughs and budget reductions starting in July. Work is being done in the field and still on going. WSDA is leaving Greg Haubrich's old position vacant until January to help with budget cuts. Greg will fill in the gaps from the vacant position as much as possible.
- Tony reported on the weather in the basin and how everything is progressing pretty much as normal. He did mention the die down of potatoes and a spoke to the toxicity of tansy. He asked about the cinnabar moth. Ken said he had not seen many this year.

OFFICE REPORTS

Mary reported that:

- She thought with Covid-19, things might slow down, but it has been the opposite.
- Mary reported on the Pollinator Task force.
- She has been working on the end of year budget.
- She has been working with counties on Covid policy and procedure and county MOU's.
- Mary participated in the Scotch Broom Symposium held via Webinar and moderated the 3rd day.
- She has been attending the WA Vegetation Management meetings along with many other county and agency meetings throughout May, June, and July.
- Mary participated in the RCW 17.10 legislative process and continues to offer support.

Wendy reported that:

- She has been working on the end of fiscal year printings, which included minor updates to *Bees and Noxious Weeds* and *Noxious Weed Disposal*.
- She also created a new 'Washington without noxious weeds is a wonderful sight' magnet with a picture of Rattle Snake Mountain taken by Konrad Kauer, Benton County's Noxious Weed Control Board Coordinator.
- Wendy has prepped for two Noxious Weed Committee meetings.
- Wendy's Bee-u-tify Seed Packet Facebook posts reached 150,000 people, shared 1,000 times, and had over 120 comments.
- She has also filled approximately 9000 individual requests for Bee-u-tify Seed packets with the help of Susie Allen. She has also sent bulk seed orders to teachers and garden groups.
- Wendy presented on Noxious Weeds to Mt. Rainer and other NPS staff online with Tim Miller.

- She has responded to an increase in noxious weed phone calls and emails from the public.

NOXIOUS WEED COMMITTEE UPDATE

Rod reported that the Noxious Weed Committee has met twice this year. Two new proposals were submitted. A Okanogan County resident proposed Siberian elm. A Kitsap County resident proposed cherry laurel. Chelan County proposed to designate Ravenna grass. Snohomish County undesignated the hawkweeds.

Monitor list additions include hanging sedge, Turkish thistle, and pokeweed.

Yesterday’s Noxious Weed Committee meeting reviewed the last 17 species of Class B designations.

Wendy has follow up questions with coordinators.

Scientific name updates include *Rubus brifrons*, *R. armeniacus*.

Tony mentioned that the Noxious Weed Committee recommendations will be presented at the September board meeting.

WISC UPDATE

Justin Bush reported that the Recreation and Conservation office is beginning the process to reauthorize the Washington Invasive Species Council (WISC), which currently has a sunset date of June 30, 2022. The reauthorization would extend the council for a period of another 10 years until June 30, 2030. Justin reported that in this 10-year period, the council would continue interagency activities to prevent and stop invasive species. In the past 5 years, WISC has successfully increased funding to WDFW for invasive muscle prevention and monitoring, facilitated the first invasive mussel containment and eradication training, created a regional cooperative weed management area to address flowering rush, and advocated for federal funding. WISC has reached over 500,000 people a year through education and outreach. WISC has provided for invasive data collection and review. WISC has provided education to the salmon recovery community on the importance of noxious weed control and again advocated for funding. Justin asked the board to consider supporting the reauthorization of the Washington Invasive Species Council.

Mary asked what exactly does RCO need to show support. Justin explained the process for reauthorization and that a letter of support would be helpful. Janet asked about a motion to support WISC. Tony agreed that a motion and/or letter of support would be good.

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| VOTE | Dirk Veleke | Moved to approve to submit a letter of support for reauthorizing WISC for the next 10 year period. |
| | Randy Johnson | Seconded the motion |
| | <i>The Board</i> | All in favor, no opposition, motion carried. |
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WSDA UPDATE

Brad White reported that field season is underway. Social distancing has not been a problem for fieldwork. Funding for weed control is fine for now; however, Greg's old position will be vacant until January.

Tony asked about the future budget after January. Brad has no information at this time. He said that it will depend on state revenue and economy.

Tony asked about the Asian giant hornet. Brad reported that over 1,000 traps were placed and monitored by the public. None have been caught yet. Four dead queens were intercepted this spring. They were sent to USDA for dissection. Tony asked about tracking the hornets. Brad said they are testing out thermal cameras on bald-face hornets. The process may then be used on Asian giant hornets.

POLLINATOR TASK FORCE UPDATE

Katie reported that recommendations will be finalized in about one and half months. Katie explained the history of the Pollinator Task Force and how SB 5552 outlined the structure and purpose of the task force. There are 5 main categories that the task force will review including pesticides, habitat, managed pollinators, research, education and outreach.

Tony spoke about the Pollinator Committee meeting. He asked about the wording in the Pesticide Recommendation 2.4. Mary said she is working on the verbiage and revision of language.

Bill asked about the recommendation for a pollinator position on the weed board. Katie explained the need for representation of an expert to give advice pertaining to pollinators and noxious weed control efforts. Bill asked if there was a reason similar presentations such as Katie's would not work to inform the board of pollinator issues and give advice.

Katie thought similar reports or presentations should work. Bill agreed. Ken also agreed with Bill. Bill suggested that a pollinator report be given at least annually. Dirk also agreed. Tony reiterated that groups are always welcome to attend the board meetings and time is given for public input.

Janet mentioned that it is also appropriate for the board's Pollinator Committee to get input to bring to the meetings.

Mary asked if this would suffice for the recommendation. Katie said she could write into her job description that her position will give an annual pollinator report to the noxious weed board. Bill mentioned that meetings are always open and you are welcome to attend.

Tony appointed Katie to the Pollinator Committee.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dana reported on the legislative process. She gave suggestions on how to get involved including education and outreach to legislators. She expressed the importance of thinking beyond noxious weeds and getting involved with groups and the public. Dana spoke about the different ways to communicate with the public and how to successfully have difficult conversations. Dana suggested starting with facts,

then educate about stigmas. Provide education based on success control and eradications of noxious weed infestations.

Janet asked about an educational brochure. Dana and Mary will work together to create a brochure. Steve also volunteered to help.

Randy stated that Dana did a good job. He reiterated the importance of saying the good that we are doing and showing the public the need for noxious weed control. Tony encouraged county noxious weed boards to contact their legislators.

Mary gave a brief update regarding RCW 17.10 and stated that Representative Dent has scheduled a meeting.

Tony appointed Steve Burke to the Legislative Committee.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- The Board reviewed the end-fiscal-year budget table. Mary and Wendy reviewed the office reports. Mary noted that the buffer at the end of the year was a little more than expected due to furloughs starting the end of June.
- Mary spoke about the Flowering Rush Grant. The grant is for a total of \$30,000 over a two-year period. Jenifer said that Okanogan County is providing most of the match for this grant. The match can be in-kind. Mary talked about contracting for fall surveying of flowering rush and bid packets for contractors.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

- **Biennial report:** Mary reminded board that if they have anything they would like her to include let her know. She has gotten reports from the class A grants. Tony would like a rough draft sent out for comments.
- **Handbook:** Jerry and Mary met and discussed minor updates. Mary will finish the WSDA protocols sections of the handbook. Janet asked if the will be in a folder or binder. Mary described the binders on hand. Janet asked that the title be clear and visible from the shelf. Jerry mentioned having the capability to three hole punch and add additional documents.

COORDINATORS FORUM

- Greg asked if the \$7,000 in the budget included \$5,000 for Jennifer's program. Mary said yes.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

The board meeting adjourned at 10:58 am by a motion by Bill Agosta and seconded by Jerry Hendrickson.

All in favor.

Tony Stadelman, Chairman
WSNWCB

Dirk Veleke, Secretary
WSNWCB

Mary Fee, Executive Secretary WSNWCB