

Regular Meeting of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
10:00 a.m. May 7th, 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 March 11th, 2020 regular board meeting
- Office reports for March, April, and beginning May
- Budget report
- Kittitas vs WSDOT Court of Appeals Opinion

Meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Chairman Tony Stadleman.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present

Tony Stadleman (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)	Carey Caruso (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
Justin Collell, Clark County Noxious Weed Control Board
Laurel Baldwin, Whatcom County Noxious Weed Control Board
Kristi Turner, Skagit County Noxious Weed Control Board
Jason Ontjes, San Juan County Noxious Weed Control Board
Cathy Lucero, Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

- Jerry reported that Asotin County’s noxious weed coordinator resigned.
- Jenifer Parsons reported that the Lake Roosevelt flowering rush project has been postponed due to Covid-19 and will resume as soon as possible.
- Janet commended Mason and Kitsap County noxious weed control boards for their outreach and Facebook presence.
- Dirk reported that Chelan County’s noxious weed control board has only 1 person in the office for 1 day per week. Otherwise their staff are out in the field.

- Brad reported that the WSDA is open for business with social distancing practices. Spartina and knotweed control efforts are taking place.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for the March 11th, 2020 regular meeting.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to accept the minutes for the March 11 th , 2020 regular meeting.
	Jerry Hendrickson	Seconded the motion
	<i>The Board</i>	Tony abstained; he was not present at the meeting. All else in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

OFFICE REPORTS

Mary reported that:

- She had spent a good amount of time working on supporting the county noxious weed boards as we all navigate Essential Workers definitions and social distancing practices due to Covid-19.
- She has also participated in the planning of the Scotch Broom Symposium scheduled for June 2nd, 3rd, and 4th via webinar.
- She continues to attend the Pollinator Task Force regular and committee meetings.
- Mary stated that she has been working on RCW 17.10 coordination and helped host the Legislative Committee Meeting.
- She has also been working on end-of-year budget items.

Wendy reported that:

- She has been working on social media interactions such as Facebook posts, updates, and photos.
- She also reported that the Beau-tify seed packets are moving. There have been more requests than have been expected, presumably from people staying home due to Covid-19.
- Wendy has been working on Noxious Weed Committee preparation for the 2021 Noxious Weed List updates.
- Wendy reported that she surveyed the county noxious weed control boards pertaining to county budget and salary information. Both Bill and Janet stated that they appreciate the information.
- She continues to offer support to the counties and fill publication requests.

WSDA UPDATE

Brad White reported that the weed world is quiet at this point in time. Gypsy moth and Asian Giant Hornet have been a priority. Brad mentioned that there may be a reduction in budgets due to Covid-19 in the near future. Tony asked about which fiscal year this would affect. Brad thought it would be next fiscal year starting July 1st, 2020.

NOXIOUS WEED COMMITTEE UPDATE

Rod Gilbert reported on the 2021 noxious weed list proposed changes. He spoke briefly about the proposed addition of Siberian elm and English laurel, and the designation change for Ravenna grass

in Chelan County. Four new proposals will be reviewed at the next Noxious Weed Committee meeting along with the third year of Class B designation reviews and potential scientific name changes.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mary reported on the Kittitas vs WSDOT Court of Appeals opinion. She also reported on proposed RCW 17.10 changes including the change to county noxious weed boards, the forestry required control buffer widths, and assessments on state parcels. The board discussed the opinion and assessments on parcels verses right-of-ways. Tony noted that Senator Warnick and Representative Dent have been contacted for language input. Tony noted the letter sent by Steven’s County Commissioner Wes McCart. Mary mentioned other county/weed issues that may be clarified through an Attorney General Opinion.

Tony appointed Todd Davis, as Chair of the Legislative Committee.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- The Board reviewed the June table highlighting expenses and budget items. Mary noted a very minimal buffer at the end of June. The board discussed allowing Mary to make the Executive decision on how to spend any minimal funds by the end of June.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to approve to authorize Mary to spend the minimal funds by the end of June.
	Jerry Hendrickson	Seconded the motion
	<i>The Board</i>	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

- Mary noted that there will be a possible 15% reduction in next year’s budget. This will be compensated for through skipping one year of Class A grants, which will hopefully resume in July 2021, and delaying Bee-U-Tify seed packet orders until the next fiscal year.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

- **Mapping-** Mary commented on a centralized mapping system that would allow each agency to input noxious weed information. Janet thought that the current systems may be fragmented and a centralized system would be beneficial. Wendy described the WDSA mapping systems including EDDMapS and iForms, telling where there was information on our website and WSDA’s website. She also mentioned a brochure that has been put out by WISC that we distribute, which describes ways for the public to record noxious weeds through their App.
- **Glyphosate-** Mary reported that Dave Heimer, WDFW, had concerns about the potential perception of glyphosate use and how that may affect noxious weed control. Tony talked about emails regarding glyphosate usage and why legislators are asking for information. Bill mentioned sending a letter to legislators regarding the true facts and usage of glyphosate. Janet suggested contacting Heather Hanson, Friends of Farm and Forestry. Heather has educational

materials and knowledge on this subject. Steven noted that WSU has been asked about their glyphosate usage. He noted that WSU's glyphosate usage has been primarily for research. Cathy Lucero mentioned the legislative task force for aerial applications. She noted similar products are being used in aerial applications. They board discussed the possibility of such a task force for glyphosate. The consensus was to reach out to other experts for information. Mary will contact Dana Coggon, Allen Felsot, Heather Hanson, and/or others to present at the next board meeting on the glyphosate topic.

- **Biennial report-** Mary asked that board members forward her any input, ideas, or comments for edits or changes that the board would like to include in the next biennial report.
- **Elections-** Mary noted that Tony, Bill, and Ken are up for re-election this year. Ken's positions election will be timed with Tony and Bill's. Rod is up for reappointment. Rod agreed to be reappoint for another term.

COORDINATORS FORUM

- Justin Ontjes, reported that he is still going into the office, utilizing social distancing and masks due to Covid-19. The San Juan Island Council has taken about a 10% loss of sales tax which from lack of tourism. Jason is also working on collecting Scotch broom data.
- Cathy Lucero thanked Mary for the legislative discussion notes and Wendy for her plant identification and support.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

The board discussed having the July meeting as a Webex or in person. The consensus was to hold it via WebEx.

Mary mentioned getting input from the Pollinator Committee for recommendations that the WSDA Pollinator Task Force is writing. Tony agreed to a meeting and asked for a doodle poll to be sent out to schedule it.

The board meeting adjourned at 11:00 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