

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
WASHINGTON STATE NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL BOARD

November 2, 2011

Hosted at Yakima City Hall—Council Chambers

Meeting called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chairman Butch Klaveano

Roll Call and Introductions

Board Members Present

Butch Klaveano	Joe Coombs
Jerry Hendrickson	Tony Stadelman
Mary Toohey	Ray Fann
Sarah Cooke	Gary Finkas

Others Present

Alison Halpern	Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
Wendy DesCamp	Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
Greg Haubrich	Washington State Department of Agriculture
Jennifer Andreas	WSU Integrated Weed Control Project
Laurel Baldwin	Whatcom County Noxious Weed Control Board
Dick Sheldon	
Ruth Sheldon	
Brian Sheldon	
Marilynn Sheldon	
Kim Patten	

Handouts Provided:

- Agenda for meeting
- Draft minutes for the September 15 board meeting
- Office reports for September and October
- Budget Summary Oct. 2010
- 2012 calendar

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

VOTE	Sarah Cooke	Motioned to accept the September WSNWCB meeting minutes as written.
	Jerry Hendrickson	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion passed.

OFFICE REPORT

The Board reviewed office reports for September and October

Alison Halpern:

- Spent time on rule-making procedure for 2012 noxious weed list, including the small business economic impact statement (SBEIS) analysis
- Mary Toohey and Alison, along with Greg Haubrich, Brad White, and Jennifer Andreas, attended tour of PGE’s preliminary Arundo crop in Boardman, OR on Sept. 27th, and then met with farmer who is cultivating a test plot Arundo in a dryland area in Touchet, WA.
- Spent time in October preparing for public hearing, and is greatly appreciative of Yakima City staff for their help in providing the council chambers and IT support.

Wendy DesCamp

- Added more information to the website and is currently waiting for DIS to upload the site (any day now), at which point it will go live.

WSDA UPDATE

Mary Toohey: Most knotweed interagency agreement contracts have been signed for FY12. The knotweed program may be impacted by the budgetary shortfall, though it is possible that it will be switched to a different funding source rather than eliminated.

Greg Haubrich: The noxious weed general distribution maps are finished, and he will provide Wendy with links for the website. He will be sending out request for proposals (RFPs) for Forest Health Protection funds - around \$125,000 available for contracts, with a preference for early implementation projects.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board reviewed the documents Budget Summary Oct 2010.

Alison: Sarah Cooke, the new budget committee chair will meet in January to go over the budget reporting process. Overall, Board is on track.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

None (Tony decided to reschedule the strategic planning committee for January.)

ADOPTION OF 2012 NOXIOUS WEED LIST and CHANGES TO WAC 16-750

Adoption of 2012 noxious weed list:

Oriental clematis, *Clematis orientalis*, as a Class A noxious weed

The Board discussed:

- Tony asked about overall size of infestations
- Wendy noted that they weren’t sure of total size, maybe 15 solid acres total in Yakima
- Greg noted that more was found along the river, in patches

VOTE	Ray Fann	Motioned to list oriental clematis (<i>Clematis orientalis</i>) as a Class A noxious weed.
	Tony Stadelman	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion passed.

Tree-of-heaven, *Ailanthus altissima*, as a Class C noxious weed

The Board discussed:

- Tree-of-heaven was originally proposed as a Class B, but the NWC thought it was more appropriate as a Class C since there is not a statewide management plan, and it is present in many counties throughout Washington.

VOTE	Tony Stadelman	Motioned to list tree-of-heaven (<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>) as a Class C noxious weed.
	Joe Coombs	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion passed.

Japanese eelgrass, *Zostera japonica*, as a Class C noxious weed on commercially managed shellfish beds only

The Board discussed:

- Ray felt that a Class C listing [without modification] made sense if this species was “the next Spartina” but understood that more scientific work needed to be done and would like to be updated.
- Sarah asked about distribution of Japanese eelgrass.
- Kim Patten noted that they surveyed Willapa Bay in 2006 and then re-surveyed.
- Ray asked if the Board can require a report on what has taken place.
- Alison replied that the Board can be updated with new developments or findings from UW. Alison mentioned that they held meeting about Japanese eelgrass with many stakeholders in May 2010. UW and SeaGrant held a workshop to discuss what they know and don’t know. It would be good to continue this type of communication.
- Tony expressed concern about listing Japanese eelgrass as a Class C, as it is not a widespread species in Washington. He also expressed concern about making the listing of any noxious weed so specific. He noted that shellfish growers can already control it [without violating the WDFW PSH list], so there was no need to list Japanese eelgrass.
- Alison noted that the practice of the WNWCB has been to list widespread noxious weeds as Class C’s, but technically, widespread distribution was not a criterion in WAC 16-750. When she visited shellfish beds in Willapa Bay, the growers explained that there will be a lot of scrutiny when they use chemical or mechanical measures to control Japanese eelgrass. Having the WSNWCB recognize that Japanese eelgrass has a negative economic impact on shellfish production would provide support. One of the purposes of the noxious weed list is to support natural resource managers and farmers; they can point to the listing to support the concern that a noxious weed is having ecological/economic impacts.
- Tony felt that the necessary support would come through Ecology through an NPDES permit. Whether Japanese eelgrass was listed as a noxious weed was irrelevant so long as an herbicide is available and labeled for use in Washington.

VOTE	Ray Fann	Motioned to list Japanese eelgrass (<i>Zostera japonica</i>) as a Class C noxious weed on commercially managed shellfish beds only.
	Jerry Hendrickson	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All but one in favor, (1 in opposition: Tony Stadelman), motion passed.

Adoption of other changes to WAC 16-750

Un-designate hairy willow-herb in Walla Walla (should not have been designated when hairy willow-herb was changed to a Class B for 2011)

VOTE	Sarah Cooke	Motioned to un-designate hairy willow-herb, <i>Epilobium hirsutum</i> , in Walla Walla County
	Jerry Hendrickson	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion passed.

Clarify Class B designation of hoary alyssum in Okanogan County (This would not change where it is designated for control on the ground.)

VOTE	Mary Toohey	Motioned to Clarify the designation of hoary alyssum, <i>Berteroa incana</i> , in Okanogan County
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion passed.

Correct the scientific name of Bohemian knotweed to reflect it is a hybrid

VOTE	Sarah Cooke	Motioned to correct the scientific name of Bohemian knotweed by changing it from " <i>Polygonum bohemicum</i> " to " <i>Polygonum x bohemicum</i> "
	Tony Stadelman	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion passed.

Adopt new section 16-750-022 - Noxious weed listing process

Note: the wording does have one grammatical correction (plural nature of verb and noun) that the WSNWCB has recently corrected.

VOTE	Ray Fann	Motioned to adopt the section WAC 16-750-022 and accept the correction
	Gary Finkas	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion passed.

Changing dates for committee members and officers, to follow the calendar year rather than the fiscal year.

The Board discussed:

- Tony asked for clarification about the dates and the election being in January.
- Alison explained that state weed board member elections will happen in fall/winter in for the January meeting, instead of during the spring/summer for the July meeting. She will provide a chart to summarize the changes to the different election processes (e.g., state weed board, board officers).

VOTE	Jerry Hendrickson	Motioned to change committee terms of office and officer election dates to begin and end in January rather than July
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion passed.

Alison noted that the Board had voted on all changes and thanked Board members for doing all their homework. There was a lot of documents to read through.

Alison provided overview of the presentation she would be giving that afternoon at the Yakima Weed Conference about the state noxious weed list and possible new directions the WSNWCB could consider. The Board expressed interest in discussing further at their January meeting.

COORDINATORS' FORUM

Joe Coombs noted that general fund budgets of three counties in his district are getting reduced to the extent that the coordinators will have a hard time running their programs. He wondered if there was any way for the WSNWCB to help them financially. He also expressed concern about railroads not complying with RCW 17.10 and that the Board needs to recognize that problem.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Ray Fann announced that, due to some business decisions, he was in process of moving into another county weed district and needed to resign from county weed board and thus the state weed board, too. He hoped he could serve on the WSNWCB through the January meeting.

Butch expressed the Board's appreciation for all of Ray's time and commitment all these years. He presented Ray with a handmade card full of candy bars that Butch's wife had made, and an engraved frame with a picture of Ray.

2012 WEED BOARD MEETINGS

After discussing different days of the week and potential scheduling conflicts, the Board decided to schedule 2012 meetings on Monday. The Board agreed on the following meeting dates:

- January 23rd in Olympia
- March: March 12th (Go to meeting)
- May: May 14th (Monday); Go to meeting
- July: July 9th (Monday) Go To meeting

- September: Sept. 10th (Go to meeting)
- November: Public hearing: the 6th and then the meeting the Nov. 7th (Yakima)

Alison will emailed travel vouchers for the Board to fill out for attending the public hearing. She will also provide a summary of special project final reports and will provide Tony with the strategic plan reduced to 8x11” format.

VOTE	Tony Stadelman	Moved to adjourn
	Joe Coombs	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

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