

Regular Meeting of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
9:00 a.m. November 4, 2015
Online/Teleconferenced meeting via GoToWebinar
and hosted at the Confluence Technology Center,
located at 285 Technology Center Way, Wenatchee, WA 98801

Handouts provided for meeting:

- Agenda for meeting
- Draft minutes of the September 2015 board meeting
- Office report for September and October
- Proposed budget allotment spreadsheet
- Summary list of 2016 weed list proposals
- Draft strategic plan for FY16-17

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

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present

Tony Stadelman	Brad White	Tim Miller
Sarah Cooke	Bill Agosta	Jenifer Parsons
Dirk Veleke	Carey Caruso	

Others present:

Alison Halpern, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
Greg Haubrich, Washington State Department of Agriculture
Jennifer Andreas, WSU-IWMP
Dean Caruso, Caruso Honey Co.
Janet Nelson, Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board
Mike Mackey, Chelan County Noxious Weed Control Board

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES:

Bill Agosta noted that San Juan County would be holding a hearing in December to consider amending an ordinance to allow herbicide use for noxious weed control on county ROWs.

Tim Miller had attended an invasive species conference in Alaska. He was impressed with the ability of Alaska agencies to communicate and coordinate efforts to control invasive species, especially with ED/RR.

Jenifer Parson had wrapped up her field season. She had attended a flowering rush meeting on October 29 in Oregon. Efforts to survey and treat flowering rush there were going well, but they still had federal permitting issues that needed to be worked out. Mike Mackey asked if any concessions had been made with the federal agencies with respect to ED/RR. Jenifer explained that the federal agencies still had to go through permitting (such as USFWS, NOAA). For example, they had to make sure that they were not digging up any artifacts when removing flowering rush.

Tony Stadelman noted that with the first good killing frost in eastern Washington, the weed season was over.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for September.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to accept the minutes for the September 2015 Board meeting with the minor edits that Alison had made.
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

OFFICE REPORTS

Alison:

- Had given presentations to the DNR Puget Sound Youth Conservation Corps and for WSU’s Urban Recertification course.
- Helped to coordinate agencies involved in reseeded after the wildfires this year.
- Was still working on the biennial report. She would send a draft of it to the Board before having it printed.
- Met with their AG attorney to discuss issues with RCW 17.10 and possible solutions.
- Was thrilled with the scanning work her temporary office assistant was doing. Kittanya had been organizing, scanning, and file-naming many boxes of old papers that had been sitting around. Alison noted that she would like to hire Kittanya as an administrative assistant when her temporary position ended. Kittanya would help answer the phone and update the website, among other duties.

The Board Discussed:

Greg mentioned that he had several old boxes that he would love to have sorted through and scanned. Alison told him to bring them over to Olympia.

WSDA UPDATE

Greg Haubrich provided the update.

- Knotweed and other grants would be rolling out soon, now that they had their budget numbers.
- He had attended the NAISMA conference in Vancouver, B.C. in October and had met with Harriet Hinz to talk about biocontrol options that would be best for flowering rush.
- They had found a small patch of flowering rush across from the Entiat River confluence in the Columbia River in Douglas County. It was growing in a depth of 22 feet. WSDA had funded a diver to remove the plants as part of ED/RR and they plan to have follow-up meetings with the PUD.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Board reviewed the proposed budget allotment spreadsheet. Alison gave the report. She had received the Board’s budget numbers for FY16-17 in October and had drafted up suggested allotments. For the proposed allotments, she had:

- Based the operational costs based on actual expenditures from the preceding year.
- Reduced the education specialist position to 0.8 FTE (32 hours a week). For now, her plans were to contract out some of the education specialist responsibilities, such as developing a new website, writing website content, and press releases. She would also use the education specialist salary to hire Kittanya Locken as a part-time administrative assistant through August, when Kittanya would be leaving for college. With Kittanya’s help, Alison felt that the office could get much better organized, both with hard-copy and digital files. It would be easier to hire an education specialist around January 2017 when everything was all ship-shape.
- Allotted 4 hours a week for support (purchasing, time-keeping, travel reimbursement, etc.) from the Plant Protection’s administrative assistant.
- Increased travel from \$7.5K to \$10.5K per year, since OFM had approved the Board’s travel to Wenatchee in November to Chelan in March.
- Reduced the printing allotment, since the Board had produced an ample supply of brochures and publications the past two years.

- Increased Special Projects to \$22.5K. Some of this money was already committed, such as the Board’s \$3K contribution towards the invasive species economic impact report and \$7K towards Bee-U-Tify seed packets for 2016. Alison also suggested supporting the WSU-IWM program with \$5K.
- Increased Class A eradication grant money from \$10K to \$15K.

Since the allotments process was so late this year, Alison had not been able to reconcile monthly expenditures and wasn’t sure how much unspent money had accrued since January. The Board discussed the value in revisiting actual budget numbers in January and March to plan ways to utilize additional unspent money, which could be a few thousand dollars more.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to accept the proposed budget allotments for the FY16-17 biennium.
	Dirk Veleke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

The Board went through each proposed change to the 2016 noxious weed list separately.

VOTE ON CHANGES TO 2016 NOXIOUS WEED LIST

VOTE	Dirk Veleke	Moved to undesignate common bugloss, <i>Anchusa vulgaris</i> , in the Entiat River Valley between the Columbia River confluence and Stormy Creek for 2016
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to add ventenata, <i>Ventenata dubia</i> , as a Class C noxious weed for 2016
	Dirk Veleke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried

VOTE	Sarah Cooke	Moved to add medusahead, <i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i> , as a Class C noxious weed for 2016
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to add English hawthorn, <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> , as a Class C noxious weed for 2016
	Dirk Veleke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to remove the Class C noxious weed lepyrodielis, <i>Lepyrodiclis holeostoides</i> , for 2016
	Dirk Veleke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to change the scientific name of spikeweed from <i>Hemizonia pungens</i> to <i>Centromadia pungens</i> for 2016
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The Board had held a special meeting on November 3, following its public hearing, to review the draft strategic plan. Alison had incorporated the Board’s edits and suggestions and presented the new version of the plan for this meeting.

VOTE	Sarah Cooke	Moved to adopt the modified draft of the strategic plan
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried

Bill asked Alison to send the strategic plan to all the county weed coordinators.

COORDINATORS’ FORUM

Mike Mackey mentioned that grants were drying up. They had released 40K biocontrol insects with Dale Whaley. They had obtained a grant through DNR to survey the Columbia River. There were one thousand acres of Eurasian milfoil, and a patch of flowering rush had been detected. WSDA, Ecology, the State Weed Board, and the PUD pulled together to get it treated. It was an example of ED/RR at its best. Mike stressed the value of having more ED/RR funding available.

Mike also thanked Ecology who funded their Eurasian milfoil project in the Columbia. They had been able to treat 26-30 acres with triclopyr in August. This was a project that started in 2011. It was a very successful treatment, based on 3-day-after-treatment (DAT) and 6-DAT observations. Water sampling conducted 12 hours after the treatment did not detect any triclopyr. It had been a costly project, and they had used a Sepro product (Renovate OTF). Two weeks after the triclopyr treatment, the native pondweeds started to die off, but this was due to the plants senescing naturally not because of the herbicide. In addition to herbicide, the PUD had used its mechanical harvester, which removed some native vegetation but primarily removed Eurasian milfoil from the boating and recreational areas.

MEETING EVALUATION AND SCHEDULING OF 2015 MEETINGS

The Board chose the following dates for its 2016 meetings:

- January 28
- March 9
- May 19
- July 21
- September 15
- November 1 and 2

VOTE	Dirk Veleke	Moved to adjourn the meeting
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

The Board adjourned at 10:21 a.m.



Tony Stadelman, Chairman
WSNWCB



Dirk Veleke, Secretary
WSNWCB



Alison Halpern, Executive Secretary
WSNWCB