

FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD

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Minutes Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting Monday April 20, 2020 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Weed Board Office, 502 Boeing Street, Port of Pasco

OLD BUSINESS

The teleconference meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Marv Grassl. Board Members present by teleconference were Paul Herrman, Dan Voss and Martin Pierret. A quorum was established. Staff attending by teleconference included Todd Harris, Program Coordinator; Betsy Crysel, Office Manager; Marc Miller, Lead Inspector; Luis Esquivel, Inspector and Wes Smalling, Inspector. Minutes from the February 18, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Paul Herrman and a second by Dan Voss. Motion passed.

Monthly Financial – Review of the February Treasurers Report, P&L comparison 2019-2020 and Budget update
Upcoming Meetings & Events – None

NEW BUSINESS

Covid-19 – Todd reported staff was working primarily in the field while following social distancing guidelines by working independently and taking separate vehicles. Todd mentioned the majority of the state's county weed boards were continuing to survey and spray under these guidelines. Betsy explained the Board of Franklin County Commissioners had authorized emergency closure pay to be used when remote work is not possible. Emergency closure pay has been used to pay staff and will come out of the Weed Board budget. Paul expressed his concern for how Covid-19 might affect the budget down the road. Todd stated he will exercise caution in spending.

Roadside Spray Program – Todd provided an update on the spring residual work noting that public works had been billed in the amount of \$101,795.01 for chemical used in the task. Additional chemical had been ordered for completion of the residual work. Paul mentioned he had driven Warehouse Road which was showing good results from the spray job. Staff expressed their appreciation for the compliment.

BPA – Todd reported the 2020 contract work had been completed. BPA has been billed in the amount of \$10,479.86 for chemical reimbursement, labor and equipment. The invoicing for the work was sent to our new liaison, Cozette Fink, technical representative in charge of servicing our contract.

BLM/ WSDA Assistance Agreement – We have been informed by Greg Haubrich, WSDA, that we will receive our contract for continuing work in Juniper Dunes by the end of the week. Todd explained we will receive \$5,000.00 in funding allowing us to treat approximately 140 acres. We will pick up where we left off spraying in 2019. Greg informed Todd it was not necessary to receive the contract before beginning the work.

Grant Fund Opportunity – Todd reported we should receive funding for tree-of-heaven work that will be performed in the fall. Most of the work will occur from the I-82 in Pasco along the shoreline of the river primarily on agency ground. We hope to learn more about tree-of-heaven control with this funding opportunity.

2020 Cost Share Program – All of the spring participants have been contacted and have confirmed their plans for spraying are going forward. FCWB will place the order for chemical and make sure products are delivered to the aerial applicators.

M.D.G.

Board Member Reappointment- Todd reported Paul Herrman and Martin Pierret had been reappointed by the Commissioner's for another 4 year term expiring March 1st 2024. Todd expressed his appreciation for their willingness to serve, thanking Paul and Martin for the time and effort they have invested in the program.

SE WA CWMA – Todd explained several of the SE WA CWMA members met at the Coordinator's conference in Chelan. Officers were elected and Todd was chosen to serve as Chairman. Todd explained the group discussed touring the strawboard plant in Starbuck and will contact them to inquire of the possibility of scheduling it.

Spring newsletter/New Publications- Betsy reported that the spring newsletter had been available at the Home and Garden Show and emailed to approximately 130 recipients on electronic distribution list. Betsy reminded everyone that Wes had embedded links in the newsletter steering people to the website. In addition, Wes created a tree-of-heaven brochure which was also available at the show.

Upcoming Meetings & Events – None

Vouchers #'s 20-046 through 20-058 signed in the amount of \$63,411.62.
March payroll \$27,726.00

Next Board Meeting Monday 5/18/20 @ 7:00 pm

There being no further business meeting was adjourned by Chairman Marv Grassl at 7:33 p.m.

These are the Board of Director proceedings' for April 20, 2020

Mario D. Scasal
Chairman

May 18, 2020
Date

Ed B. Harris
Clerk of the Board

May 18, 2020
Date

