

FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD

MAILING - 1016 NORTH 4TH OFFICE - 502 BOEING STREET PASCO, WA 99301
OFFICE: (509)-545-3847
EMAIL: fcwb@co.franklin.wa.us

Minutes Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting Monday June 12, 2023 7:00 PM

LOCATION: 502 Boeing St Pasco, WA

OLD BUSINESS

M.S.P.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Martin Pierret at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Vice Chair Dan Voss, Paul Herrman, Jacob DeRuwe and Chance Trainer. Staff included Todd Harris, Program Coordinator and Betsy Crysel, Office Manager. Minutes from the May 11, 2023 meeting were reviewed and approved as written with a motion from Paul Herrman and a second by Chance Trainer. Motion passed.

Monthly Financial – Review of the Treasurers Report, P&L comparison 2022-2023 and Budget update
Meetings & Events – WA State Noxious Weed Control Board 5/25 (Virtual)

NEW BUSINESS

FC Roadside – Todd reported on the meeting with Craig Erdman, County Engineer and the Public Works GIS team. There was confusion on the conversion of acres sprayed to miles. After discussion with Public Works it was decided to bill by the acre going forward. Public Works has been billed in the amount of \$38,945.47 for roadside application and a small amount of chemical. Discussion on nozzle set up and the county's responsibility followed. Todd explained we had been spraying 12 feet in the dryland area. In order to spray more miles, we cut back to 8 feet at the end of the task. In the irrigated areas we have been spraying the main arterial roads per Scott Garberg, Road Supervisor.

BLM – Payment in the amount of \$13,000.00 for contracted spraying in Juniper Dunes on the 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 contracts has been received. There are two smaller areas that were sprayed; an area off of Pederson Rd and the quarter circle by CSS which have been billed separately for an additional \$2000.00.

2023 Cost Share – Todd reported Richard Lathim's acreage has been sprayed by drone. Nick Bunger, Air Trac did the application to approximately 70 acres. FCWB staff were there to observe a portion of the application. Todd explained Nick is learning as he goes. Discussion on some of the shortcomings of drone use followed.

WSDA – Todd and Betsy provided updates on the Scotch thistle and Ravenna grass projects. We have not heard anything from Altitude Agri Services LLC in a while. It is presumed they are busy and that we will delay the Scotch thistle spraying until the fall. Betsy explained the funds available for the Ravenna grass project is intended for use in residential settings. The home owner can request FCWB staff remove the plant/s or the homeowner can remove the plant and receive a voucher for a non-invasive replacement plant from a participating nursery.

BPA – Todd reported line surveying and treatment under the current contract had been completed but not all of the funds had been consumed. We are now expending the remaining funds on problem areas of other lines. We are treating sections of the Lomo Hanford and Connell Tap that we know have high rush skeletonweed infestations. Todd mentioned the funds will be exhausted soon and we would be invoicing for the work. Cozette DeTray, BPA liaison informed us the Benton Scooteny rebuild has been extended. Cozette sent an amended contract which provides for pre-construction treatment in the fall of 2023 and post construction treatment in 2025.

State Parks – Columbia Plateau Trail work has been completed and will be billed at the first opportunity. State Parks has contacted us for the work plan for the next biennium. The proposal has been submitted and includes an aerial application along the trail where terrain is too steep to access.

State Weed Board – Todd provided an update on the Dalmatian toadflax proposal. The submitted proposals will be prioritized with Class A noxious weeds receiving the highest priority. Todd explained there are no Class A noxious weeds in Franklin County. Dalmatian toadflax is a B-designate noxious weed and funding will reflect the designation. Betsy mentioned we had applied for \$3,250.00 and that although we will not receive the full amount we will receive something.

Rush skeletonweed test plots in rangeland – Todd reported Jerry Ellis, Envu had difficulty in procuring the product for the test plots. The work has been postponed until the fall.

Other Weed Board Activities – Payment has been received from a private land owner for chemical used to spray yellow starthistle on his 5-acre parcel. Staff toured with Jerry Ellis and a group from Satalytics out of Michigan to take imaging of Medusahead, bulbous bluegrass and other invasive grasses.

2022 Annual Report – The annual report was submitted on 5/30/2023

Voucher numbers 23-062 through 23-069 signed in the amount of \$3,688.49

May payroll in the amount of \$23,045

Upcoming meetings and events – Vegetation Management Committee Meeting, Ellensburg 7/7

Next Board Meeting July 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

There being no more business meeting was adjourned by Chairman Martin Pierret at 8:00 p.m.

These are the Board of Director proceedings for June 12, 2023


Chairman

7/10/23
Date


Clerk of the Board

7-10-2023
Date

