

FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD

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Minutes Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting Monday September 21, 2020 7:00 PM

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

OLD BUSINESS

The virtual teleconference meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Marv Grassl. Additional 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 and Luis Esquivel, Inspector. Minutes from the August 17, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved as presented with a motion from Martin Pierret and a second by Paul Herrman. Motion passed.

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

NEW BUSINESS

WSDA – Todd reported the contract for Tree-of-Heaven control had been received. Work under this project will begin this fall. The contract runs through December 31, 2021 and is funded for \$5000.00. The goal is to see what methods control Tree-of-Heaven and to work on it before it becomes a larger problem.

FC Roadside – Staff surveyed roads to look at "Owner Will Maintain" areas. A list of owners not following through with their agreements has been sent to Public Works. Public Works will follow up with a letter to the individuals with a reminder of what is expected of landowners who opt out of the roadside spray program. Todd has been in conversation with John White, Road Supervisor, Connell and Craig Erdman, County Engineer. It has been decided that a fall application on specified roads will be made to use up remaining chemical. Approximately 250-300 acres of roadside mix remains in the inventory for fall residual. Roads to be sprayed include R-170, Glade North, Taylor Flats, Sagehill and Pasco Kahlotus. A meeting between FCWB and Public Works will take place in the fall to discuss the chemical package for 2021. Todd mentioned there is a new dryland mix that will be presented at the meeting. We have also been informed that there will be a push by road supervisor John White to increase the roadside spray budget.

FC Information Services – Todd reported payment in the amount of \$273.56 was received for spraying the Kahlotus cell tower. FC Information Services informs us they will be charging additional fees for archival of our website and text messages between employees. Todd and Marcus have opted out of participating in the text message archiving stating it is redundant to archive messages when phones would most likely be subpoenaed if there was a records request.

Weeds of Focus- Todd stated payment in the amount of \$831.25 for noxious weed work performed for Nina Lundgren had been received. Todd provided an update on the staffs weeds of focus during the past month. There has been saltcedar work at Sacajawea Park. There is a sizeable infestation of saltcedar at American Rock. The responsible parties have been contacted and will get back to us on who will pay for the work. FCWB will help with controlling the saltcedar. Staff has also been surveying and notifying landowners with Ravenna grass. Some assistance has been provided in digging it out and disposing of it. There are also plans to spray Dalmatian toadflax beginning in October.

M.D.G.

2021 Budget – Todd presented a first look at the 2021 budget. Salaries were reviewed. Todd proposed a 2% cost of living increase for all staff. Todd mentioned he had Carlee Nave, Human Resources Director evaluate salary increases prior to presenting them to the Board. Carlee stated she is in support of the proposed increases because they fall in line with the cost of living allowance. It was noted that there were no plans to hire a 5th full time employee because of the uncertainty of the times. Other changes to the budget included an increase to fuel, office and operating supplies, communications, shop rent and research and biocontrol. Todd proposed a decrease in professional services to offset the unusually high increase in communications. Discussion on staff driving company vehicles to and from work followed. The consensus of the Board was that the proposed budget sounded reasonable.

Upcoming Meetings & Events – None

Voucher #'s 20-112 through 20-122 signed in the amount of \$3,206.59
August payroll in the amount of \$25,529.00

Next Board meeting Monday 10/19/2020 @ 1:00 p.m. (public hearing for 2021 budget), note time change
Discussion on the location for the public hearing and Board meeting followed.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned by Chairman Marv Grassl at 7:44 p.m.

These are the Board of Director proceedings for September 21, 2020

Mario D. Grassl
Chairman

10/19/2020
Date

Paul J. Sklar
Clerk of the Board

10-19-2020
Date

