

# FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD

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## Minutes Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting Monday April 16, 2018 7:00 PM

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

### OLD BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Marv Grassl at 7:04 pm; Board Members present were Vice Chair Terry Utecht, Paul Herrman and Martin Pierret. Staff included Todd Harris; Program Coordinator, Betsy Crysel; Office Manager, Marc Miller; Lead Inspector, and Luis Esquivel; Field Inspector. Minutes from the March 19, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion by Terry Utecht and a second from Martin Pierret. Motion passed.

**Monthly Financial** – Review of the March Treasurers Report, P&L comparison 2017-2018 and Budget update

**Upcoming Meetings & Events** – Farm Fair 3/22-3/23, Pasco, Betsy and Marcus reported the children and teachers responded positively to the presentation.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Cost Share Program** – Todd provided an update on the cost share participation reporting one landowner has completed their aerial application and turned in their paperwork. Some landowners have decided to postpone applications to the fall.

**County Road** – The residual roadside application has been completed for a total of 1639.8 spray miles. Public Works has been invoiced in the amount of \$45,137.53 for application and chemical reimbursement. Todd reported gravel roads in Districts 4 and 5 are will be contact sprayed to allow road crews to finish up work in the area. There are approximately 250 acres slated for the contact work. FCWB will determine if follow up contact work is needed on residual roads.

**State Parks** – We have been in contact with Andrew Fielding; Resource Steward. Andrew informs us the contract is processing and given the go ahead to begin work. Staff surveyed Palouse Falls, Lyons Ferry, and Sacajawea State Parks to determine weed pressure. Staff will be returning to spray.

**BPA** – Survey and treatment on BPA transmission lines has begun. Staff has logged 36 hours so far and will focus on northern lines in 2018. Todd reported it has not been necessary to spray continuously as in past years. Rush skeletonweed is intermittent in the right of way but there are some access roads that have quite a bit of diffuse knapweed. Those roads have been sprayed.

**WA State Noxious Weed Control Board** – We received notification from Alison Halpern; Executive Secretary, that she would be moving on to a new position soon. At this time there is no word on future plans for filling her position on the State Weed Board.

M.D.G.

**DNR-** Todd provided an update on the parcel assessment inquiry made by DNR. Following a review of the lease for the parcel, discussion with Steve Marks; County Assessor and with DNR staff it was determined the parcel did not fit the criteria of irrigated agriculture. Todd recommended to Steve the parcel be re-classed as grazing with the associated assessment rate. v. were informed by Steve the adjustment has been made. A meeting between FCWB and DNR is scheduled for 4/19 with Emma Barnett, Agriculture Section Manager. The purpose of the meeting is information sharing and to make contact. Emma may want to discuss other DNR parcels at the time of the meeting.

**FCWB-**

FCWB spray rigs have been calibrated and are ready for action! Set up of the 2007 Ford X-cab 4x4 is complete and the vehicle is now in service. The rig was available for viewing at the meeting. The guys did a great job setting it up.

Betsy reported the white bryony contract had been signed by Todd and sent off to WSDA for signatures. Funding totals \$4, 995.00, to be completed between 4/15/18-12/31/19. The intent is to use the funding to perform herbicide trials and physically remove tubers from Russian olive groves. Several partnering agencies will donate equipment.

Todd and Betsy met with Dan Dotta; City of Pasco & Vic Reeve; BCWB to discuss the annual training for municipal workers. The date is tentatively set for June 21. Ideas for possible topics and speakers were tossed around. There will be more information at a later date.

Todd reported the advertisement for a Field Inspector is running on the FC website, FCWB website, CBC Job Board, and Indeed.com. A suggestion was made to contact area colleges with agriculture programs to inquire of their job posting requirements. Betsy will follow up with the request.

During Holly's final week with the Weed Board she took a misstep off one of the trucks and fell, sustaining a badly sprained ankle. Holly sought medical attention immediately following her injury.

New Raven units purchased for the John Deere Gators were shared during the meeting.

**Upcoming Meetings & Events** – WSDOT Training 4/17 Pasco; Annual Report Training & Filing, 5/2 Richland; Ecology Day 5/18, Mesa Elementary School - Betsy

Voucher #'s 18-043 through 18-058 signed in the amount of \$9,073.92

March payroll \$27,500.00

Next Board Meeting 7:00 pm 5/21

There being no further business meeting was adjourned by Chairman Marv Grassl at 8:10 pm.

These are the Board of Director proceedings' for April 16, 2018

Mario D. Grassle  
Chairman

5-21-18  
Date

Todd S. Han  
Clerk of the Board

5-21-18  
Date