

FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD

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Minutes Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting Monday September 17, 2018 7:00 PM

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

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Terry Utecht at 7:04 pm. Board Members present were Bill Middleton and Paul Herrman. Staff included Todd Harris; Program Coordinator, Betsy Crysel; Office Manager, Marc Miller; Lead Inspector, Luis Esquivel; Inspector, and Wes Smalling; Inspector. Minutes from the August 20, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion by Bill Middleton and a second from Paul Herrman. Motion passed.

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

Upcoming Meetings & Events – BF Fair 8/21-8/25 Staff shared information on attendance and looped videos.

NEW BUSINESS

Cost Share Program – Todd mentioned Kelly Cochran; Wheat Grower Association President had been asked to remind participating landowners to begin planning for fall applications in the mid-October through November timeframe or as moisture becomes available. FCWB staff will also contact landowners involved in the program.

County Road – Todd reported approximately 15 acres of roadside had been sprayed where bermudagrass had broken through. The fall treatment was timed to set it back. Todd, Jerry Ellis; Wilbur Ellis and Kent Pittard; Bayer toured county roads to look at problem areas and determine where adjustments to the herbicide mix could remedy the breakthrough of stubborn weeds, particularly marehail. Discussion on increasing the rate of esplanade in the mix to address marehail was discussed.

Benton County Roadside Spray Program – Todd reported Vic Reeve; Benton County Noxious Weed Control Board Coordinator had approached him on the possibility of loaning BCWB a spray truck and trading staff hours to help with a couple projects this fall. Discussion on the time this could take away from FCWB activities followed. Terry expressed concern over liability issues that might arise. Todd and Betsy will follow up with Vic and research potential liability and reducing FCWB's risk.

State Parks – Todd and Betsy explained plans for a pollinator planting at Sacajawea Park to be installed at the welcome sign. The area has been treated for noxious weeds, mowed and mulched. Native plants will be installed sometime this fall.

FCWB-

We have been notified by the WA State Auditor's office of an upcoming accountability audit. Betsy reported detailed vendor and payroll reports had been requested for years 2015-2017 for preliminary planning. Betsy provided the reports as requested. Betsy reported no date has been set for the audit and additional reports may be requested. Staff has been surveying and mapping skeletonweed and Scotch thistle problem areas for future use in the roadside spray program. Todd shared a draft of the fall newsletter. The official version should be electronically distributed in the near future after Wes makes some formatting changes. Approximately 100 recipients will receive the final version. Marcus and Luis are currently working on a JD Gator calibration video to be presented by Marcus at the Weed Conference in Wenatchee, this November. Luis shared a clip of the beginning of the video. A discussion on calibration followed.

M.D.G.

Todd shared internet quotes for new and used pickups to replace one of the older green pickups. Discussion on hauling capacity followed. The Board of Directors requested local quotes for a new Ford pickup be made available for the October Board meeting. Todd will follow up with the request.

Todd presented a first look at the 2019 budget. An increase to payroll would be the most significant change to the budget. Todd explained he would like to adjust salaries to reflect employee performance. Other changes to the budget included increases to the cost share amount, travel, insurance, and education and a decrease in the amount allotted for professional services. The Board of Director's recommended Todd take another look at the amount allocated to professional services with the upcoming audit. Todd will revise the 2019 budget to reflect the Board's recommendation. The 2019 budget will be presented in a public hearing during the regular October Board Meeting.

Upcoming Meetings & Events – Todd vacation 10/31-11/6; WA State Weed Association Conference, Wenatchee Nov 7-9
Voucher #'s 18-116 through 18-129 signed in the amount of \$5,533.24
August payroll \$ 29,289.86

Next Board Meeting 1:00 pm 10/15/18, ***Note Time Change**

There being no further business meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman Terry Utecht at 8:40 pm.

These are the Board of Director proceedings' for September 17, 2018

Mary D. Krassl
Chairman

Oct. 15, 2018
Date

Todd S. Ho
Clerk of the Board

October 15, 2018
Date