

# ***FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD***

MAILING - 1016 NORTH 4<sup>TH</sup>

OFFICE – 502 BOEING STREET

PASCO, WA 99301

OFFICE: (509)-545-3847

EMAIL: [fcwb@franklincountywa.gov](mailto:fcwb@franklincountywa.gov)

## **Minutes**

### **Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting**

**Monday February 10, 2025**

**1:00 PM**

**LOCATION: 502 Boeing St Pasco, WA**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jake DeRuwe at 1:05 p.m. Board Members present were Vice Chair Martin Pierret, Paul Herrman and Dan Voss. Staff included Todd Harris, Program Coordinator; Betsy Crysel, Office Manager; Sabrina Gilley, Inspector and Nick Haack, Inspector. Minutes from the January 13, 2025 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Paul Herrman and a second by Martin Pierret. Motion passed.

**Monthly Financial – Review of the Treasurers Report**

**Meetings & Events – Connell Grower Meeting 1-23-25**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**CO Road – Public Works** has been billed in the amount of \$59,142.47 for fall roadside work. If weather permits, we are looking to begin irrigated residual task this month. We are expecting to spray approximately 640 acres. Todd met with Craig Erdman January 27 to discuss the county roadside budget. Craig's preference is to keep the work and payments within the same calendar year. The implication of transitioning to a new schedule means very few dryland roads will get sprayed this fall. Todd expressed concern and is leery of skipping spraying dryland roads in the optimum timeframe. Discussion followed on increases in herbicide prices and Public Works inability to purchase chemical prior to cost increases. Todd suggested the Weed Board continue buying chemical ahead out of the Weed Board budget to get the best price.

**Audit Results and Meals at Meetings Policy –** Betsy reported the "Meals at Meetings" policy had been reviewed by the State Auditor and was acceptable as presented. The State Auditor stated the policy had addressed all their concerns. There was a motion to accept the "Meals at Meetings" policy as presented by Paul Herrman with a second by Martin Pierret. Motion passed.

**Grower Meeting Update –** Todd provided an update on speaker topics, audience and feedback from the grower meeting. The speakers and their topics had been well received. Todd reported 83 people had signed for pesticide credits but estimated close to 100 had been in attendance. We have received many positive comments since the program. Several people informed Todd they were not aware of the changes coming down the pike regarding licensing. Aaron Brown, WSDA did a good job presenting the material. It has also been mentioned that Cassie Chicorz, WSDA had given a very interesting talk on emerging pests.

**John Deere Gators –** Todd reported we are waiting titles to be issued for Gators 1, 2 and 3. Once the titles are received Gator 1 will go to auction. RDO delivered Gator 4 today. Todd mentioned a different spray system skid configuration will be installed on it, stating there will be two electric pumps providing more pressure and continuous agitation. Discussion followed on the choice of electric pumps over gas. Todd explained it has been our experience that electric pumps have performed well, cost less and experience fewer issues in the long run. The skid is nearly complete with the exception of the wiring. The Board had an opportunity after the meeting to have a look at the new Gator.

**Cost Share Program** – Todd provided an update on the 2024 and 2025 programs. Not all acres were sprayed in 2024. A total of 680 will carry forward and three landowners have agreed to spray these acres in 2025. There were also 223 acres abandoned by landowners who decided not to spray at all. The dollar amount of the unsprayed 2024 acres is \$7,919.31. There was a motion from Martin Pierret to carry the unsprayed acres (903 acres valued at \$7,919.31) into the 2025 cost share with a second by Paul Herrman. Motion passed. The value of the 2025 cost share is \$57,919.31 for a return of \$10.07/acre.

**SCBID** — Staff is contacting landowners neighboring the ground sprayed by the So. Columbia Basin Irrigation District (SCBID) encouraging them to work on Scotch and yellow starthistle on the periphery of the SCBID ground.

Voucher numbers 25-022 through 25-034 signed in the amount of \$106,766.28  
Payroll January \$26,364.00

**Upcoming Meetings and Events** – Home and Garden Show at HAPO Center. February 14-16

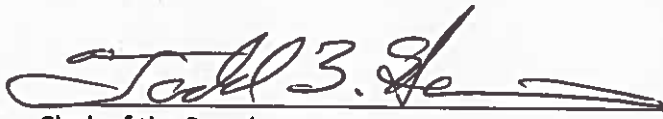
**Next Board Meeting** March 10, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned by Chairman Jake DeRuwe at 1:47 p.m.

These are the Board of Director proceedings for February 10, 2025

  
Chairman of the Board

3/10/25  
Date

  
Clerk of the Board

3-10-2025  
Date

