

FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD

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Minutes

Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting

Monday March 16, 2015

7:00 PM First Evening Meeting

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

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chairman Marv Grassl; Board Members present were Vice Chair Dave Beach, Paul Herrman, Bill Middleton, Terry Utecht, and guest Leonard Van Buren. Staff included Vic Reeve, Coordinator, Todd Harris, Lead Inspector, and Betsy Crysel, Office Manager.

Minutes from the February 17th board meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Dave Beach and a second by Terry Utecht. Motion passed.

Monthly Financial – Review of the February Treasurers Report, P&L comparison 2014-2015 and budget update.

Meetings & Events attended – Home & Garden Show, Master Gardeners Betsy & Vic, Commissioners Meeting, Growers Meeting Kahlotus, Coordinator Conference. FCNWCB was well received at the Home and Garden Show. The event was a good forum to educate landowners on Ravenna grass. The Master Gardener presentation was well received. We have been invited to participate in the Summer Solstice event in June. Grower Meeting in Kahlotus was well attended. Carol Black did an excellent job presenting on the plight of bees and the art of measuring. The Coordinator's Conference in Chelan was a good opportunity to network with other counties. Ray Ledgerwood held a strategic planning workshop to identify common and measurable goals.

NEW BUSINESS

2015 Franklin County Weed List Public hearing was opened by Chairman Marv Grassl at 7:40 P.M.

Betsy shared the changes to the noxious weed list. Ravenna grass has been added to the Class A list. There is a known presence of Ravenna grass in Franklin County, however; the extent is not known. Eradication strategy is undetermined. Pampus grass, Jubata grass, and Italian Arum have been added to the Class C list. Shiny geranium has been reclassified from a Class A to a Class B noxious weed. The scientific names of three species have been updated: *Cardaria drabe* to *Lepidium draba*; *Cardaria pubescens* to *Lepidium appelianum*; *Centaurea jacea x nigra* to *Centaurea x moncktonii*. Board discussion determined FC weeds of concern list are manageable. Motion to approve the Franklin County Noxious Weed List for 2015 as presented was made by Paul Herrman with a second by Terry Utecht. Motion passed.

2015 Franklin County Weed List Public Hearing was closed by Chairman Marv Grassl at 7:50 P. M.

County Rd – Todd continues to work on SP4. Approximately 1,000 of the 1300 contracted, residual, Task 3 miles have been completed. We will continue application on remaining miles as time and weather permit with a review of incomplete miles, if any, scheduled for March 20th. A warm trend has plant material emerging which impacts efficacy of residual herbicide. Contact herbicide in the mix should kill any green plant material. We have received the signed Inter-Local Agreement for 2015.

WA State Parks – Todd – Todd spoke with Reade Obern. We have received a verbal go ahead for sterilant application from Ice Harbor Dam to Snake River Junction and noxious weed control on the trail. Historically this has not been a problem but we are still in hopes of receiving a written contract. Herbicide has been delivered for trail noxious weed control.

WSDFW – FCWB has accepted the invitation to participate on the revived advisory board for this area beginning this year.

Job Description – Betsy presented the revised job announcement and job description for Inspector, job description for Lead Inspector.

Meeting with Carlee Nave, Franklin County Human Resources Director – Vic and Betsy reported about their meeting with Carlee. She has determined we are County. Carlee was very supportive in addressing operating within county guidelines. Vic presented a 2015 salary matrix, staff hours worked, and salary step/grade matrix to demonstrate effects of COLA, overtime, and employee salary increases on current and projected budget for 2016. Vic requested a motion to approve overtime compensation beginning April 1st, 2015 for non-exempt employees for hours worked over 40 per week with coordinator authorization. Motion by Marv Grassl with a second by Paul Herrman. Motion passed.

Assessment – Vic met with Commissioners March 4th to begin assessment increase talks. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information and gauge approachability to introduce the idea of an assessment increase. More information will be needed to establish a requested amount. Vic will talk with assessor to determine time line for assessment increase in 2016. The matrix and information is one tool to aid in determining if and how much assessment increase is warranted.

Coordinators Conference Report – Vic reported the Coordinators Conference was a very educational event. Staff will develop a strategic planning workshop modeled after Ray Ledgerwood's presentation to be conducted in the fall.

Commissioners reappointed Marv Grassl, Terry Utecht, and Bill Middleton to new 4 year terms that will expire March 1, 2019.

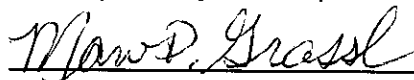
Upcoming Meetings & Events – State Auditors training – Betsy, March 18, Betsy on Vacation March 26 thru April 1, Vic knee replacement this summer.

Vouchers signed in the amount of \$5,731.52

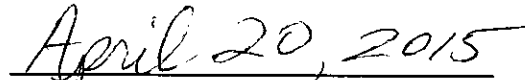
Payroll February...\$15,144.47

Next meeting Monday April 20, 2015 7 PM

Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Marv Grassl at 9:40 P.M.




Chairman



Date



Clerk of the Board



Date