

M. J. P.

FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD

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Minutes Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting Monday April 8, 2024 7:00 PM

LOCATION: 502 Boeing St Pasco, WA

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Martin Pierret at 6:55 pm. Board Members present were Vice Chair Dan Voss, Jake DeRuwe and Chance Trainer. Staff included Todd Harris, Program Coordinator; Betsy Crysel, Office Manager and Sabrina Gilley, Inspector. Minutes from the March 11, 2024 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Chance Trainer and a second by Jake DeRuwe. Motion passed.

Monthly Financial – Review of the Treasurers Report, P&L comparison 2023-2024 and Budget update

Meetings & Events – WA State Weed Coordinators' Association Conference, Chelan 3/15-3/18, Todd mentioned many Weed Boards across the state are struggling to hire staff; Farm Fair 3/28-3/29

NEW BUSINESS

FC Roadside – Todd reported the roadside work had been completed with the exception of the gravel yards and block walls. There is approximately \$153,000.00 to be billed.

BLM – The 200 acres in the Juniper Dunes area was completed by Zack Pfister, Pfister Farm's Aviation, LLC. The work will be billed at the first opportunity.

State Parks – Pfister Farm's Aviation LLC sprayed 340 acres of the Columbia Plateau Trail from Burr Canyon south, approximately 4 miles.

WSDA – Todd reported staff will meet with Kathy Sample, Aerial VM on Tuesday April 9th to discuss the Scotch thistle project in Connell. The landowners in the area have been notified and are on board with the project. Todd mentioned the railroad designated a 20-foot buffer from the tracks. The intent is to spray approximately 200 acres. Discussion on the variability of the spray width and cost of having a helicopter make the application followed.

Cost Share – Todd provided an update on the spring acres completed. Approximately 1400 acres have been sprayed. Discussion on spray intervals followed. There was further discussion of a few problem areas. Todd reported that letters had gone out inviting some of those landowners to participate in the cost share program.

Hiring – Todd reported 10 applications had been received for the Seasonal Field Inspector position and interviews had been completed. Two candidates were offered the position but they declined. Discussion on the starting wage followed. Betsy mentioned

there had been conversation with Konrad Kauer, Benton County Weed Board Coordinator, to discuss the possibility of utilizing their staff. Konrad was receptive to the idea.

Voucher numbers 24-034 through 24-045 signed in the amount of \$36,847.69

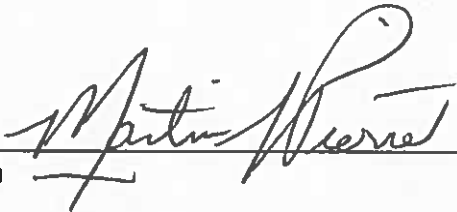
March payroll in the amount of \$20,522.00

Upcoming Meetings and Events – Vegetation Management Committee Meeting 5-3-24

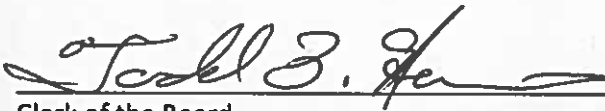
Next Board Meeting May 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned by Chairman martin Pierret at 7:40 p.m.

These are the Board of Director proceedings for April 8, 2024


Chairman

6/10/24
Date


Clerk of the Board

6-10-2024
Date

