

FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD

MAILING - 1016 NORTH 4TH OFFICE - 502 BOEING STREET PASCO, WA 99301
OFFICE: (509)-545-3847
EMAIL: fcwb@co.franklin.wa.us

Minutes Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting Monday August 19, 2019 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 7:05 p.m. Board Members present were Vice Chair Terry Utecht and Dan Voss. Staff included Betsy Crysel; Office Manager, Marc Miller; Lead Inspector, Luis Esquivel; Inspector and Wes Smalling Inspector. Minutes from the July 15, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Dan Voss and a second by Terry Utecht.

Monthly Financial – Review of the July Treasurers Report, P&L comparison 2018-2019 and Budget update

Upcoming Meetings & Events – No meetings in July

NEW BUSINESS

Roadside Spray Program – Betsy reported the contact work and spot spraying had been completed. Public Works has been billed in the amount of \$13,108.22 for application and chemical. Jerry Ellis, Wilbur Ellis; toured roads with Todd to assess the most problematic roads. Discussion on Todd and Jerry's conclusion followed. A plan is in the works for a fall application. A meeting between FCWB and Public Works will be scheduled to present a proposed work plan for the fall.

State Parks – Betsy and staff provided information on herbicide trials that were performed on tree-of-heaven at Sacajawea Park. Three application techniques were used on the trees; hack and squirt, basal bark, and foliar treatment. Discussion on the methods and herbicides used followed. Wes reported Russian olive had also been sprayed to determine if the mix was effective on that as well. Luis shared a video of the hack and squirt method.

BPA – Betsy reported payment in the amount of \$11,442.31 was received for work on the BPA right of ways. Craig Fackrell, BPA liaison paid us a visit before transferring to Spokane. Craig informs us he will continue to manage our contract from Spokane. Craig stated he is pleased with our work on the BPA.

WSDA White Bryony Grant – Staff provided information on continuing grant work at Big Flat Habitat which is managed by the USACOE. Betsy reviewed work that had been performed under the contract in 2018. This year the USACOE opened up 3 circles to allow FCWB access with an excavator for tuber removal. Marcus explained the tubers were hauled off and chopped up. Dan stated he was not familiar with white bryony and was interested in learning of it. Discussion on timeframe of the grant followed. Betsy explained the grant was a two year project with completion due December 31, 2019.

BCWB- Betsy reported Vic Reeve; Benton County Noxious Weed Control Board (BCNWCB) had requested assistance from our staff for a project lead by WA Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). Marcus and Wes spent a day on the Yakima River with BCNWCB and WDFW staff assisting with flowering rush control. The day consisted of spotting, spraying and mapping flowering rush. Wes and Marcus shared their thoughts on their involvement in the project. Discussion on chemical used in the application followed. Marcus shared video he had recorded.

M.D.G.

FCWB –

Staff surveyed the Smith Canyon area and found large infestations of Scotch thistle and yellow starthistle. One landowner in the area has been contacted. The landowner had requested Todd propose a plan for noxious weed work. Betsy presented Todd's proposal along with a map of the areas that need to be sprayed. Todd has requested the landowner begin spraying this fall. We will follow up with landowner and encourage him to arrange a fall aerial application. Staff have also been spraying kochia and maretail this past month and surveying for Ravenna grass, Scotch thistle and yellow starthistle. Discussion on where we have sprayed, what chemical is being used, and how far out the spray equipment reaches followed. The Benton Franklin Fair and Rodeo is scheduled for August 20th through August 24th. Betsy reported Luis is adding fresh content to our video display. In addition to noxious weed identification and control we will showcase activities and field work. Betsy explained that several of our handouts have been updated and Wes is updating the website.

Upcoming Meetings & Events – BF Fair and Rodeo August 20-24

Voucher #'s 19-111 through 19-123 signed in the amount of \$7,604.03

July Payroll...\$28,011.00

Betsy will be on vacation from September 9th through September 13th.

Next Board Meeting Monday 9/16/19 @ 7:00 pm

There being no further business meeting was adjourned by Chairman Marv Grassl at 8:25 p.m.

These are the Board of Director proceedings' for August 19, 2019

Mario D. Grassl

Chairman

9-16-19

Date

John B. Haas

Clerk of the Board

9-16-2019

Date

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