

# FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD

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## Minutes Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting Monday December 20, 2021 11:30 AM

LOCATION: 502 Boeing St Pasco, WA

Staff gave presentations to the Directors at 11:30 am. Marcus gave formal notification of his retirement. Marcus' last day will be February 24, 2022.

Lunch from 12:30-1:10

### OLD BUSINESS

Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Marv Grassl at 1:10 pm. Board Members present were Vice Chair, Terry Utecht; Dan Voss and Martin Pierret. A quorum was established. Staff included Todd Harris, Program Coordinator; Betsy Crysel, Office Manager; Marc Miller, Lead Inspector and Luis Esquivel, Inspector. Minutes from the November 15, 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved as presented with a motion from Martin Pierret and a second by Dan Voss. Motion passed.

**Monthly Financial** – Review of the Treasurers Report, P&L comparison 2020-2021 and Budget update

**Upcoming Meetings & Events** – Exit Conference with State Auditor 11/19

### NEW BUSINESS

**WSDA Grant Work** – Todd reported payment in the amount of \$14,000.00 had been received for Tree of Heaven and BLM work. \$5000.00 was for tree-of-heaven grant work and the other \$9000.00 was for continuing work in the Juniper Dunes and an additional area treated on BLM ground. Todd explained the additional acreage was a result of a complaint about yellow starthistle from a neighboring landowner. The landowner also allowed FCWB to spray his ground.

**FC Roadside** – Todd reported payment in the amount of \$56,837.27 had been received for chemical and application on roadsides in the dryland. Everything up to Hwy 260 has been sprayed as well as a few of the northern roads. Todd mentioned we had sprayed until we ran out of the mix. An additional two pallets of EcoPak mix has been ordered. These will be billed in 2022.

**BPA** – Todd provided an update on the Benton Scootney rebuild project. The pre-rebuild spraying has been finished. Both ends of the line were sprayed. Staff surveyed in between the areas that were sprayed as the middle section of the line is in crop. Todd mentioned the billing for this portion of the work will go out soon.

**Other Activities and business** – Todd reported staff had sprayed approximately 20 acres within the city of Pasco on lots that were infested with rush skeletonweed. We will be reimbursed for the chemical.

Todd, Marcus and Luis assisted Trent Brusseau, Corteva in completing test plots on Wiswall ground. Trent used a variety of grass seed mix which was direct drilled following an application of milestone. Trent and Reed Wiswall will keep us posted on results.

M.D.G.

**State Audit – 2018-2020** – The audit for years 2018 – 2020 has been completed. Todd and Betsy had an exit conference in which the State Auditor expressed their satisfaction with the audit process stating it had been the most efficient audit they had done in several years. Todd and Betsy mentioned areas the auditor's office had focused on and were happy to report there were no findings.

**Cost Share** – Todd provided an update on the interest so far in the 2022 cost share program. It is still early in the sign up process and so far we only have one participant. Discussion followed on advertising of the cost share program. Todd mentioned the sign truck is being moved around the county and an advertisement has been placed in the FC Graphic. Betsy mentioned a public service notice should run in the December 24<sup>th</sup> issue. The total acreage sprayed since the program's inception was provided. A total of 4,855 had been sprayed in 2021. Total acres sprayed from 2018-2021 are 15,543.5. Corteva's herbicide financing option was discussed as some cost share participants have mentioned their participation. The option allows farmers to hold off on paying for chemical. A discussion on how this might affect the cost share payment to farmers followed.

**Upcoming Meetings & Events – Weed List Hearing 1/18/2022**

Voucher #'s 21-143 through 21-164 signed in the amount of \$123,069.33

Payroll November \$20,765.00

Betsy vacation 12/16/21-12/30/21

There being no further business meeting was adjourned by Chairman Marv Grassl at 1:50 p.m.

These are the Board of Director proceedings' for December 20, 2021

Marv D. Grassl  
Chairman

1-18-2022  
Date

Judd S. Hans  
Clerk of the Board

1-18-2022  
Date

