

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 September 16, 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 7:00 pm. Board Members present were Vice Chair Terry Utecht and Dan Voss. Staff included Todd Harris; Program Coordinator, Betsy Crysel; Office Manager, Marc Miller; Lead Inspector, Luis Esquivel; Inspector, and Wes Smalling; Inspector. Minutes from the August 19, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Terry Utecht and a second by Dan Voss. Motion passed.

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

Upcoming Meetings & Events – BF Fair and Rodeo August 20-24. Todd reported the fair had been well attended but that vendor participation appears to be declining. Staff rotated shifts and reported puncturevine always draws a lot of inquiries. Discussion on booth placement in the Commercial Building followed with a suggestion to investigate future placement in the county and service oriented location.

NEW BUSINESS

Roadside Spray Program – Todd reported payment in the amount of \$13,108.22 had been received for contact application and chemical reimbursement. The majority of roads sprayed during the contact task were sprayed for knockdown of rush skeletonweed bloom. Todd has scheduled a meeting with public works to discuss his plan for a fall residual application targeting skeletonweed in the irrigated area. Todd, John White and Scott Garberg have had some discussion on problem roads that will be addressed. Approximately 583 acres will be sprayed if time and weather allows. Additional acres may be sprayed in the dryland if conditions permit. Todd shared information on the mixes he will propose. The mixes have a component that should address marestail and kochia, gives good control of grasses and provides flexibility in both dryland and irrigated use. A new adjuvant which has been tested in Grant County with good results is being substituted for last year's adjuvant. The adjuvant provides longer soil contact. Any unused portion in the 2019 roadside budget will be expensed on chemical for use in 2020.

FCWB –

Todd reported Woodpecker Truck finished tying up loose wires and hoses and recharged the ac system on Spray 2. There is a code that has been popping up since the engine replacement that needs correcting. We have been informed they will perform a diagnostic at their earliest convenience. Marcus is coordinating with Woodpecker to get the issue resolved. Staff has been surveying and mapping areas with yellow starthistle, Scotch thistle, Dalmatian toadflax and Ravenna grass. Maps have been distributed to responsible parties. The manager at Stemilt Growers has agreed to a fall application for yellow starthistle along the Snake River. Baisch Vegetation Management holds the contract for the City of Pasco Circles and has informed us their applicator; Rob Lowman will spray for yellow starthistle. As soon as we have received enough moisture and are confident there will be follow up moisture staff will begin spraying for Dalmatian toadflax, yellow starthistle and Scotch thistle. We will also assist a few homeowners with Ravenna grass removal. Marcus shared a few photos of Ravenna grass plants he had found while surveying. Todd reported FC had completed the change to Umpqua Bank and the Procurement Card (PCard) policy had been put in place. FCWB has the option of getting a PCard under the umbrella of the county. Discussion on the interest rate, billing cycle, and cash back rewards associated with the Umpqua card followed. We will research cards offered through other banks and report on findings at the October Board meeting.

M.D.G.

Todd presented a first look at the 2020 Budget. Todd stated he wanted to adjust Wes' salary to reflect his performance. Todd's salary would also see an increase to bring him more in line with Coordinator position salaries. The rest of the staff would receive a 3% cost of living increase. The increase to payroll would be approximately \$16,000.00 for wages and benefits. Other changes to the budget included an increase to communications, travel, insurance, and promotional and a decrease in the amount allotted for fuel and shop rent. Todd explained he expected there would be less time at the shop since our fleet has been upgraded. The 2020 budget will be presented in a public hearing at the October 21st meeting.

Upcoming Meetings & Events – In the process of scheduling meeting between City of Pasco and USACOE, date tentatively planned for 9/26/2019. Meeting with U S Fish and Wildlife 9/17/2019. State Weed Board Meeting in Asotin County Mediterranean Sage tour.

Voucher #'s 19-124 through 19-131 signed in the amount of \$18,227.38
August payroll...\$28,912.00

Next Board Meeting Monday 10/21/19 @ 1:00 pm (Public Hearing for 2020 Budget), *note time change

M.D.G.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned by Chairman Marv Grassl at 8:45 p.m.

These are the Board of Director proceedings' for September 16, 2019

Maw D. Grassl
Chairman

Oct. 21, 2019
Date

Stahl S. Ho
Clerk of the Board

10-21-19
Date