

FRANKLIN COUNTY WEED BOARD

MAILING - 1016 NORTH 4TH OFFICE – 502 BOEING STREET

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Minutes

Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting

Monday December 9, 2024

11:30 AM

LOCATION: 502 Boeing St Pasco, WA

Staff gave presentation to the Directors at 11:30 am. Guests attending the presentation were Vic Reeve, retired; Michelle Haack, and Marie Harris, Nurse Practitioner. Lunch break 12:15-1:00

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Martin Pierret. Board Members present were Vice Chairman Dan Voss, Jacob DeRuwe, Chance Trainer and Paul Herrman. Staff include Todd Harris, Program Coordinator; Betsy Crysel, Office Manager Sabrina Gilley; Inspector, and Nick Haack; Inspector. Minutes from the November 12, 2024 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Jacob DeRuwe and second by Paul Herrman. Motion passed.

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

Meetings & Events – So. Columbia Basin Irrigation District presentation 12/3/24, Moses Lake, Betsy stated the meeting had been well attended.

NEW BUSINESS

Co Road – Todd reported on spraying of the dryland roads. The task is nearly completed with the exception of Blanton Rd, Palmer Rd. and Nordheim Rd. Todd mentioned chemical for spring roadside work will be purchased by next February. Public Works will not be billed for roadside work or chemical until April or May.

WSDA – We received payment in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Dalmatian toadflax work. WSDA has been billed in the amount of \$5,000 for the Scotch thistle project along the Burlington Northern Santa Fe RR. WSDA has also been billed in the amount of \$3,428.35 for the Ravenna grass project. Betsy reported having vouchers has helped with motivating homeowners to remove plants without the Weed Board's assistance. We expect to see payment soon on the outstanding funds.

John Deere Gator – Todd provided an update on the trade in value for the John Deere gator. RDO had offered \$4,000 for the unit. Discussion on the trade in value and potential proceeds at auction followed. Todd suggested taking the gator to auction. There was a motion from Jacob to surplus gator 1 with a second by Chance. Motion approved.

2025 Cost Share – There is already interest in the cost share. We will be taking the sign truck out to Kahlotus. Discussion on increasing the cap on total proposed acres followed. It was determined to remain at the 5,000 cap, but limiting initial acres to landowners at 1,000 acres. Following the closing of the cost share sign up period if 5000 acres has not been met, landowners that expressed interest in spraying more than 1,000 acres will be contacted.

Other Activities – Todd reported Nick has completed CDL training! Congratulations Nick! Nick is already spraying solo and familiarizing himself with the Weed Board spray trucks. Pfister Aviation will spray approximately 135 acres of Irrigation District ground in Eltopia. The audit for 2021-2023 is completed and we are waiting for the notification of the exit conference. Todd provided an update on the Grower meeting and speakers for 2025. The meeting will be held at Burl Booker's building but the date still needs to be determined. The Pest board has offered to find a speaker on the Japanese beetle and other invasive species. Discussion on other possible topics and speakers followed. Staff had a lunch meeting with Hugo Mertens, Orion Solutions, a new Southeastern Company. Questions regarding inspector areas followed. Todd mentioned we will be reassigning areas to inspectors, Sabrina will be covering the Eltopia area and Nick will be covering the Connell area. Todd mentioned he had toured with Marv Grassl, mentioning Marv is concerned about Scotch thistle. In 2025, we will pass the torch to other Board Members for the Chairman and Vice Chairman positions. Jacob has volunteered to serve as Chairman and Martin will fill in as Vice Chairman.

Voucher numbers 24-116 through 24-129 signed in the amount of \$68,597.53
Payroll November...\$25,712.00

Upcoming Meetings and Events – Grower Meeting TBD

Next Board Meeting January 13, 2025

There being no further business meeting was adjourned by Chairman Martin Pierret at 2:23 pm.

These are the Board of Directors Proceedings for December 9th 2024

Martini Perret
Chairman

1/13/25
Date

Scott S. Ha
Clerk of the board

1-13-2025
Date

