

Chelan County
Noxious Weed Control Board
Meeting Minutes Dec. 8, 2015

Board Members

Dirk Veleke, Board Chair
Ken Bauer
Fred Smith
Joe Grentz

NW Dept. Staff & Guests

Mike Mackey, NW Coordinator
Julie Sanderson – NW Field Supervisor
Jean Postlethwaite - Recorder
Dale Whaley – WSU Reg. Extension Specialist
Nancy Redlin – Chelan Co. Public Works
Vegetation Management
Mr. Doug Pauly & Israel Summer

Open Meeting – Board Chair Dirk Veleke called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

Consent Agenda

Fred moved and Joe seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2015 meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Coordinator Report

Graduated Assessment 2016-2020

Mike discussed the next 5 year assessment which will allow for hire of a seasonal employee in 2016 and purchase of a new truck in 2019. This is to be a graduated assessment as follows:

2016 - 17

The general assessment for all private and State taxable lands will increase from \$5.00 to \$6.50 per parcel with a \$0.05 per acre charge for parcels over one acre in size. Any private taxable forested lands will be assessed as outlined in RCW 17.10.240; and all other lands with a classification of Non-Assessed Lands will be assessed at \$0.50 per parcel plus \$0.01 per acre.

2018 – 2019

The per parcel amount will increase to \$6.75, and

2020

The assessed amount per parcel amount will increase to \$7.00 while the \$0.05 per acre charge will remain constant.

2016 Weed List

Julie outlined proposed changes to the County 2016 weed list. Changes and additions to the State C list (grasses) will not affect our County. Weeds on the County Selected list are designated for control however the County Selected list includes the Class C weed Whitetop and Class B nondesignate weed diffuse knapweed which are -too widespread to be able to control all seed production in a season. Julie asked the Board to only include weeds on the C list that we can feasibly control based on priority, ability, time and available resources. The current policy focuses on controlling all weeds on any ROW. Julie suggested requiring owners of properties adjacent to ROW to control. Discussion followed.

Fred suggested BOCC ordinances are needed related to developers of large tracts. Consensus of the Board is, 'we continue operating as we have'. The Board also agreed to add Medusa head to the 2016 County Weed List. Fred moved and Ken seconded a motion to adopt the 2016 County Weed list with the following changes: omit Whitetop and Diffuse knapweed and add Medussa head and Ventenata grass. The motion passed unanimously.

Grant Requests

- WA ST Dept of Agriculture No awards will be granted by the Dept. of Agriculture until the State budget is approved, there may be grants of \$5,000 and \$2,000 available from state agencies for some high priority weeds.
- Forest Service The WRAC board has not been appointed. In the interim we will be working with the USFS Regional Office and Shawna Bautista. Mike will coordinate with Greg Haubrich to arrange a supply of chemical for Crupina control.
- Dept. Natural Resources We will be asking the Department for money to control Flowering rush on the Columbia River. Nancy suggested we enlist the support of Bass Clubs for identification of Flowering rush.

Board Chair and Vice-Chair

Fred agreed to rotate into Board Chair and Dirk agreed to serve as Vice Chair. Fred moved and Dirk seconded the motion to approve. It passed unanimously.

Guest presentation on Goathead Warriors

Doug Pauly citizen volunteer and Israel Sixto-Sanchez a student at Wenatchee High School and web-designer introduced the Goathead Warriors movement whose goal is to rid public recreational properties of Puncturevine. Goathead Warriors is a grassroots effort to enlist volunteers to help map locations of infestations and encourage volunteers to adopt sections of the Loop Trail System to pull and bag Puncturevine plants. Goathead Warriors is a two-fold education effort to educate volunteers and property owners at large. They hope to develop a model that volunteer groups in outlying communities and other outdoor service clubs and organizations will adopt. For more information visit Goatheadwarriors.com. Mike requested that the group obtain permission in the form of a letter, and supply our office with a copy of the letter.

Board Roundtable

Joe asked about the workshop for Irrigation District Managers responsible for ditches as well as syphons and closed pipes. Mike has talked with a Wilbur-Ellis representative about aquatic chemicals that can be used on irrigation ditch banks, the sales representative is working with several of the irrigation companies. . Irrigation District managers will be invited to the Weed Certification Workshop February 23 which will provide a presentation from one of the chemical companies as the agent.

Executive Session for personnel purposes Coordinator Evaluation.

Meeting Adjourned. Joe moved and Fred seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Board Chair, Dirk Veleke adjourned the meeting at 3:00.

The next meeting will be March 8th, 2016 at 1:30pm