

Chelan County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting
1:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 14, 2021
412 Washington St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Board Members Present

Joe Grentz (phone)
Jim Johnson (phone)
Fred Smith (phone)
Dirk Veleke (phone)

Board Members Absent

None

Others Present

Adam Pfleeger, CCNWCB Field Supervisor (phone)
Jenna Eardley, CCNWCB Field Surveyor (phone)
Julie Sanderson, CCNWCB Coordinator
Tayna Russell, CCNWCB Office Assistant
Mary Hill, Board Nominee

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by Board Chair, Joe Grentz.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board reviewed the draft minutes for the September 14th regular meeting. *Dirk Veleke motioned to approve the minutes as presented.* Jim Johnson asked for clarification on the knotweed percentages under Knotweed Project Progress. Julie Sanderson clarified. *Fred Smith seconded the motion to approve. The motion carried.*

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

1. Budget Report and Grant Status

Julie gave an update on the budget. Discussion followed.

Dirk asked if progress has been made in the matter of WSDOT assessments. Julie said the State Weed Board is still in the phase where they're figuring out how they're going to be assessed, but it sounds like they're still leaning toward a per-mile assessment. Julie added that Mary Fee of the State Weed Board said it should be ironed out by 2023.

Julie then gave an update on grant projects. Discussion followed.

2. Education & Outreach

Julie gave an update on recent education and outreach activities. October was a busy month, mainly due to the Invasive Species Council's Tree-of-Heaven & Spotted Lanternfly Campaign. A Press Release was submitted to media outlets, the Native Plant Society, and the WSU Extension Master Gardener Program. Lots of good feedback was received from citizens. Justin Bush with the Invasive Species Council, said many sightings were reported on their invasive species app from concerned citizens. There was even a reported sighting of Spotted Lanternfly in Omak, but it was not confirmed because no insects were captured.

The Master Gardeners will hold a class in February at which Julie will be giving a 3-hour presentation on weeds.

3. Recertification Workshop

The Noxious Weed Department will hold its annual Weed Management Recertification Workshop on February 23, 2022. Participants will earn up to 4 credits, free of charge. The workshop will be held via Zoom webinar again this year. The Department has some good programming and speakers lined up.

4. Weed List Changes

Julie said the State Weed Board's annual Noxious Weed List hearing in November does not require any action for Chelan County other than to add hanging sedge, rough chervil and wild basil as Class B Designates. These three weeds are more likely to be found in western Washington, but we will be keeping our eye out for them. Common tansy was changed from a Class C to a Class B weed because some counties wanted to be able to designate it for control in their counties. Common tansy is a Class B weed, but is not designated for Chelan County. Green alkanet has been added to the State Weed List as a Class C, but there has been no positive confirmation that it has ever been found in Chelan County. It was, however, reported in the Entiat area about 7 years ago, but, again, was never confirmed. Wild carrot has been seen in Chelan County and landowners have been asked to remove it when found.

Julie asked the Board if they had any thoughts on adding common tansy, green alkanet and wild carrot to the County Select List. The Board agreed that all 3 should be added. *Dirk motioned and Fred seconded the addition of common tansy, green alkanet and wild carrot to the County Select List to be approved in March 2022. The motion carried.*

5. Open Board Member Positions for Wenatchee/Malaga & Cashmere/Dryden

Two Chelan County residents have applied to positions on the Chelan County Noxious Weed Board once the terms of Ken Bauer and Fred Smith expire in April, 2022. Mary Hill from Wenatchee would fill Ken's position in District 1. Kirk Laird from Peshastin would fill Fred's position in at large District A. Board members have received and reviewed copies of the applications.

PUBLIC HEARING ON WEED BOARD NOMINEES

Joe Greutz opened the public hearing at 2:21 pm. No one from the public was present or on the phone for comment. Mary Hill, who was in attendance, introduced herself and gave a brief summary on her background. Joe gave Kirk's background as written on his application, since he was not present for the meeting. Dirk asked Mary a few questions about herself. Discussion followed.

Julie clarified that she didn't realize the Board would want to interview the applicants at the December meeting and offered to set up an interview between the Board and Kirk Laird. The Board agreed.

Julie said new Board members would need to attend their first official meeting prior to the expiration of any terms. This would be the March 2022 meeting.

Dirk motioned to recommend Mary to the County Commissioners for a position on the Board. Joe seconded. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL

The Board excused staff and convened an Executive Session for the Coordinator's 2021 performance evaluation. After a 5-minute discussion, *Jim motioned to adjourn the session. Dirk seconded. The motion carried.*

BOARD MEMBER ROUNDTABLE

No roundtable discussion.

ADJOURN MEETING

Dirk motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jim seconded. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8th, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

Follow-Up Items:

- *Draft weed list will be amended.*
- *Julie will get in touch with Kirk Laird to set up an interview with the Board.*