

Chelan County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting
1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 9, 2021
412 Washington St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Board Members Present

James Johnson
Fred Smith (phone)
Dirk Veleke (phone)

Board Members Absent

Ken Bauer
Joe Greutz

Others Present

Julie Sanderson, CCNWCB Coordinator
Adam Pflieger, CCNWCB Field Supervisor
Tayna Russell, CCNWCB Office Assistant
Jenna Eardley, CCNWCB Field Inspector

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Board Vice Chair, Dirk Veleke.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board reviewed the draft minutes for the December 8th regular meeting. *Fred Smith motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Dirk Veleke seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

The hearing was opened to get input from the public on the proposed Chelan County Noxious Weed List. No members of the public were in attendance.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

REOPEN BOARD MEETING

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

1. Board Vacancy

Julie Sanderson updated the board on term expirations. Julie had mentioned at the previous meeting that she heard from Jeff Heath at Stemilt. Jeff was very supportive of trying to help the Board find someone to fill the vacancy left by Ken Bauer. Julie followed up with Jeff in late

February and hasn't heard back. Julie proposed taking the next step and advertising the open position in local print media. Julie added that Fred's position will also expire in 2022 and asked Fred if he thought he would continue on the Board through 2026. Fred mentioned he agrees we should put a notice in the paper and added he would likely leave the board in 2022 so it would be best to advertise for 2 positions. Tayna Russell will advertise the upcoming vacancies in mid-March.

2. Budget Report and Grant Updates

Julie reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure status reports with the Board. Expenditures are at 9%, well below average expenditures for this time of year. On the revenue side, the noxious weed control assessment will come in around the end of April. State land assessments have already come in at just under \$6,000. All in all, we are in a good position.

Julie briefly discussed new grants for 2021. Staff are working on a proposal for 2 more years of funding from WSDA to continue the knotweed control project. We still haven't received word from the BLM on the \$25,000 grant to do control work on the Sleepy Hollow burn area. Two smaller grants we're waiting on for this year are \$5,000 for knotweed control in Stehekin and \$3,000 for removal of Ravenna grass in Chelan County.

Dirk mentioned we should be able to start assessing DOT with a change to the RCW coming soon that would allow the Weed Board to assess DOT by the mile. Discussion followed.

3. Proposed County Weed List Changes

The Board discussed proposed changes to the County Noxious Weed List. Proposed changes are as follows:

- Turkish thistle added as new Class A noxious weed
- Status of Ravenna grass changed from non-designate to designate
- Scientific name changed on 5 Class B designates
- Babysbreath added to County Select List

Fred Smith motioned to approve all proposed changes to the 2021 County Noxious Weed List. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. Virtual Recertification Class

Julie updated the Board on the Pesticide License Recertification Webinar the Weed Board and WSU Extension put on in February. 93 people attended the webinar, by far the largest turnout since the Board began offering the workshop in 2011. All but 2 people of the 93 stayed for the whole morning and got their 4 recertification credits. We received a lot of positive feedback from participants who said they got a lot out of the presentations and appreciated the availability of an online format, as they may not have been able to attend otherwise.

5. Coordinators' Meeting and State Weed Board Meeting in Chelan

The next State Noxious Weed Board Meeting will be teleconferenced instead of meeting in person in Chelan due to coronavirus. Dirk mentioned the next State Weed Board meeting will be held on Thursday at 9 am via Webex.

6. Field Season Preparations

The field season is just around the corner. We will begin sending out noxious weed reminder letters to landowners beginning in April. Staff are already prepping for the 2021 field season, working on streamlining the GPS data collection process and getting their noxious weed cases lined up for re-visits.

7. Upcoming Education & Outreach

Julie did an online presentation for the Master Gardeners in February and is doing another class next week for the Cascadia Conservation District's Native Planting 101 Workshop. Julie will soon be calling in to KPQ and KOZI for interviews about noxious weeds. Tayna is working on getting us signed up for education outreach events this summer at local Farmers' Markets.

BOARD MEMBER ROUNDTABLE

The board had nothing further to discuss and thanked Julie for her updates.

ADJOURN MEETING

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 8th, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Follow-up Items: None