

Regular Meeting of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
9:00 a.m. July 21st, 2016
Online/Teleconferenced meeting via WebEx
And hosted at the Natural Resources Building, Room 259
Located at 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA 9801

Handouts provided for meeting:

- Agenda
- Draft May 2016 minutes
- May budget report
- June office report
- July office report

Meeting called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Chairman Tony Stadelman.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present

Tony Stadelman	Dirk Veleke (WebEx)	
Janet Spingath	Bob Roth (WebEx)	
Brad White (arrived after the meeting began)	Wes McCart (WebEx)	
	Tim Miller	

Others present:

Alison Halpern, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
 Kittanya Locken, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
 Greg Haubrich, WSDA
 Angelica Velazquez, Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)
 Bill Rogers, Skagit County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)
 Cathy Lucero, Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES:

Tony discussed his recent trip to and experiences in China.
 No other board member updates were given.

OFFICE UPDATES – Alison gave the update. She:

- Shared completed products from June, including:
 - the new Yard Guard logos for the next outreach campaign
 - Publication of the new Noxious Weeds in Washington State booklet
 - Creation of the redesigned WSNWCB website, noting that Kittanya had been the primary contact with the website company to make the new website possible.
 - The 2016 Washington without Noxious Weeds magnet
 - Completion and closure of all 2016 service and Class A eradication contracts

- Reported that the weed board office had received significantly more calls and emails than normal, presumably due to increased efforts through social media. Additionally, Kittanya's online publication request appeared to be increasing demand for publications from both county weed boards and also from the public.
- Gave an update on the invasive species economic impact report and explained that she and the other partners decided to amend the contract to increase the total project amount from \$23K to \$30K and to extend the deadline from June 30 to July 29.
 - While the original economic model that the company proposed to use in the contract was sound, the lack of point data for the widespread as well as the still absent invasive made the results less accurate.
 - The additional \$7,000 would be used to run an additional model for a more accurate and comprehensive report with much more realistic numbers following a brainstorming meeting between Greg, Justin, Alison, and the CAI team.
 - While this report has involved much more work on WSNWCB, WSDA, and WISC's end than expected, Alison believes the report will meet the Board's goals and expectations.
 - The board also discussed the methodology used and percentages used for spread rate.
- Alison also mentioned her participation in Cathy Lucero's integrated roadside management workshops in Clallam County and commended Cathy for such a successfully planned series of events. She also praised Kittanya for the poster that she produced for the WSNWCB display. Alison explained that she would give further details during the coordinator's forum.
- Tony requested an update on the biennial report, which Alison explained she is behind on but expected to have completed in August.

WSDA UPDATE

Greg gave an update for WSDA, sharing that:

- The field season was underway.
- The Pest Program had been down an administrative assistant position, and it was filled only just last week. This position being filled would make a big difference in the ability of WSDA to manage contracts and administrative duties.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

- Alison explained that most of the June expenditures had not posted yet, but that she had put in placeholder numbers as estimates.
- If all the expenditures posted as planned, she expected to have a balance of about \$5K.
- Alison requested that the Board hold a budget committee meeting to discuss expenditures for FY17. While the printing budget for this fiscal year was slated to primarily pay for printing of the toxic plant booklet, they were very low on western WA field guides and would need to look at the budget to decide how to best manage upcoming expenses, including the coordinator's handbook, class A eradication funding, new written findings, and other expenses.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Noxious Weed Committee

Tim Miller provided the update. He reported that:

- There were few requests for changes to the 2017 weed list, and the main discussion had been the proposed reclassification of Ravenna grass from a Class A to a Class B, though there remained some concern about potential spread of plants from ornamentally planted vegetation. Tim expected that the committee would only need to meet once more before the September board meeting.
- Additional changes included proposed Class B designation adjustments in one county.
- The NWC talked about pruning the monitor list and revamping the monitor list process (including listing criteria, categories for monitors, monitor procedures, and timelines), and began to discuss noxious weeds that could potentially be removed from the weed list.
- Originally, the committee had representation from each of the corners of the state as well as agency and organization representation. The committee may be recommending changes to the membership if members are ready to pass their position on.

Legislative Committee

Commissioner Wes McCart provided the update. Wes reported that:

- The committee had met five times over the last few months and had gone through the entire RCW 17.10 statute to identify all areas of concern.
- After a great deal of discussion, all of the notes from the meetings had been gathered and presented to the AAG to use in developing a draft bill.
- Discussion surrounded the timeline for having a draft for the board and stakeholders, and Wes explained that the goal would be to have a draft ready for the December legislative meetings, and that it would need to be ready for board review at the September meeting.

Bee Forage Committee

- Alison reported that she was working with the WSDA policy team to determine whether OFM might be funding the bee bill for FY17.
- She explained that the committee would be contracting out the writing of guidelines for pollinator-friendly restoration in different scenarios, such as near berry farms, livestock and horses; riparian habitat, prairie and grassland habitat, etc.
- The committee would begin to lay out what kinds of pilot projects it would be looking for and then will contact the counties to seek out candidates.

Class A Eradication Funding Committee Creation

- In light of recent discussion surrounding Class A eradication project funding in past meetings, Alison requested the creation of an ad hoc Class A Eradication Funding Committee.
- Past ideas for Class A eradication funding had included strategically spending the money on fewer projects focusing on just one or two species, biennial grants, and conducting federal grant writing for additional funding.

- The Board established a temporary ad hoc committee to discuss these options in advance of Class A Eradication funding opportunities with members: Dirk Veleke, Greg Haubrich, Tim Miller, Tony Stadelman, and Janet Spingath. The first meeting would be held August or September.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for May Meeting.

VOTE	Wes McCart	Moved to accept the minutes for the May 2016 Board meeting
	Dirk Veleke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

COORDINATORS FORUM

Cathy Lucero thanked the Board for their support and for allowing Alison to come on their behalf to her Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management workshops in Clallam County and for creating a new display for these workshops.

- These workshops were intended to be an opportunity for the public to hear from experts from multiple agencies regarding the new plan to involve multiple steps of the IPM process in roadside vegetation management for Clallam County without the pressure of a public hearing.
- Cathy explained that it was important and helpful to attendees to see the collaboration between multiple agencies involved.
- The Board discussed the outreach opportunities presented by this event and the positive feedback reported by Cathy on the event.
- Cathy shared her appreciation for the consistent, statewide message that the State Weed Board has presented in their educational materials and thanked the Board for having these materials available for county programs.

Angelica Velazquez shared her experience in having an on-the-job accident while working for her county weed board.

- She expressed the importance of updating RCW 17.10 to better clarify the relationship between the county and the county weed board.
- Alison expressed sympathy for her injury as well as her ongoing issues with the county. She explained that the Legislative Committee had discussed RCW 17.10.60 extensively and hoped to make the relationship between the county and the county weed board more clear.
- Alison mentioned that she had surveyed the coordinators previously to see they were covered under their county insurance policy and whether county weed boards held supplemental liability insurance.

Tony Stadelman shared that this will be his last week of being the Grant Weed District #3 Coordinator. He explained that Jacob Woll, the new coordinator, was being trained now.

PUBLIC QUESTION AND COMMENTS

There were none.

MEETING EVALUATION

No technical difficulties at this meeting.

Next meeting is September 15th, hosted in Olympia and held via WebEx.

The Board adjourned at 10:26 p.m.



Tony Stadelman, Chairman
WSNWCB



Dirk Veleke, Secretary
WSNWCB



Alison Halpern, Executive Secretary
WSNWCB