

**Regular Meeting of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
1:00 p.m. March 9th, 2016
Online/Teleconferenced meeting via WebEx
and hosted at Campbell's Resort,
located at 104 West Woodin Avenue, Chelan, WA, 98816**

Handouts provided for meeting:

- Agenda for meeting
- Draft minutes of the November 2015 board meeting
- Draft minutes of the January 2016 board meeting
- Office report for February
- February budget report
- Summary of Class A Eradication grant proposals
- Summary of special project suggestions
- 2016 state noxious weed list
- Bee-U-Tify seed packets

Meeting called to order at 1:09 p.m. by Chairman Tony Stadelman.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present

Tony Stadelman	Carey Caruso	Janet Spingath
Brad White	Bill Agosta	Jenifer Parsons (WebEx)
Dirk Veleke	Commissioner Wes McCart	Bob Roth (WebEx)

Others present:

Alison Halpern, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
 Kittanya Locken, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
 Greg Haubrich, WA State Department of Agriculture
 Jennifer Andreas, Washington State University IWMP
 David Heimer, WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Eric Bell, Adams County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Julie Sanderson, Chelan County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Mike Mackey, Chelan County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Cathy Lucero, Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Rachel Hutchens, Columbia County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Steven Moreno, Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Tricia Maclaren, King County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Mary Fee, King County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Karen Peterson, King County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Todd David, Kittitas County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Marc Eylar, Kittitas County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Dana Coggon, Kitsap County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Marty Hudson, Klickitat County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Larry Hudson, Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Janet Nelson, Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board

Anna Lyon, Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Sharon Sorby, Pend Oreille County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Beki Shoemaker, Pierce County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Debbie Ringler, Pierce County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Emily Stevenson, Skamania County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Cindy Jennings, Stevens County Noxious Weed Control Board
 David Maiden, Walla Walla County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Dick Jacobson, Yakima County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Jeff Knutson, Yakima County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Marilyn Sielaff, Adams County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Craig Hintz, Grant County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Vic Reeve, Benton County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Betsy Crysel, Franklin County Noxious Weed Control
 Todd Harris, Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Jason Ontjes, San Juan County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Marcus Miller, Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Mike Scott, Kittitas County Noxious Weed Control Board
 Dale Whaley, Washington State University

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for November and January as there was no quorum at the January Meeting.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to accept the minutes for the November 2015 Board meeting
	Carey Caruso	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

VOTE	Janet Spingath	Moved to accept the minutes for the January 2016 Board meeting
	Dirk Veleke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES:

Brad White updated the board that WSDA was working to add several species to the noxious weed seed plant quarantine, as requested by the State Weed Board and Jenifer Parsons. No dates for hearing or public comment have been established at this time. Species considered include butterfly bush, yellow archangel, lesser celandine, non-native hawkweed species, Senegal tea plant, and Australian water clover.

Bill Agosta shared that the San Juan County Coordinator, Judy Jackson, had stepped down. Acting coordinator Jason Ontjes is in the process of being appointed for the position. A new assistant will also be appointed soon.

Tony Stadelman gave a weather update, stating that his county had received 6 inches of rain, a total of 5.5 inches more rain than last year.

There were no other board member updates from present members.

OFFICE UPDATES

The Board reviewed the February office report.

Both Alison and Kittanya participated in the annual Flower and Garden show alongside volunteers from county weed boards and the public. They have been working on a comprehensive office re-organization, including the installation of ergonomic standing desks. A new WSNWCB Facebook page has been created as a way to provide positive press, outreach, and information. Alison and Kittanya will be posting regular updates to this page and invite submissions from county boards. Additionally:

Alison:

- Worked up a contract for an invasive species economic impact report in collaboration with WSDA and WISC concerning the economic impacts of fifteen plants and animals. With commitments from several agencies to chip in \$3,000.00 each, the project has been funded to a total of \$23,000.00. The competitive bidding process has resulted in contracting a Seattle company that specializes in economic impact reports that are easy to read and understand. The report deadline is June 17th, 2016, meaning that it will be completed before the end of the fiscal year. The report is expected to be a valuable resource in working with commissioners, legislators, and the public.
- Has been tracking bills and legislative activities.
- Announced that she may be defending her dissertation in April, pending coordination with her dissertation committee.

Kittanya:

- Has been scanning and archiving historical files related to each species of noxious weed.
- Has been making edits and updates to the website, including a work on the noxious weed pages, general webpages, and a variety of other sections.
- Sent out a large number of publications to county boards and community organizations, as a result of the online request forms.

WSDA UPDATE

Greg Haubrich provided an update, stating that he is still waiting to receive numbers from the United States Forest Service. He will be putting out a request for proposals for small grants in the near future. Additionally, he shared that efforts are getting off the ground for field season.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Alison Halpern provided the update.

- House Bill 2478, which concerns the preservation of forage for pollinators, passed the House and the Senate and is awaiting reconciliation and the Governor's signature. It is uncertain whether it will have funding attached, though it sounds like it probably will. The bill had full support with only one vote against.
- House Bill 2392, which concerns pesticide exposure, did not pass out of committee.

- House Bill 2751, which concerns the investigation of pesticide exposure, did not pass out of committee.
- House Bill 6171, which increases the penalties associated with violation of the Public Meetings Act passed the House and the Senate and is awaiting reconciliation and the Governor's signature.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Alison explained that an email was sent with details about the budget. The budget shows a \$63,000 overage, due to unspent but already allocated expenditures. The board has not yet spent money on Class A eradication projects. Also, special projects have not yet cleared and money from the invasive species council is included though it will go to the Economic Impact Report. Salary and benefits that are unspent will go to education efforts. She concludes that, so long as we spend as we have agreed to spend, the budget will be balanced.

SPECIAL PROJECT REVIEW

The board discussed the proposals and estimates for the special projects suggested by coordinators and reviewed at the January meeting. The board had already agreed to buy additional Bee-U-Tify seed packets at a total cost of \$7,500.00 as well as contribute \$5,000 towards the WSU Integrated Weed Management Project and \$3,000 towards the Economic Impact Report.

- The quote for ads in movie theaters was discussed and ultimately deemed not cost-effective at this time.
- Additionally, Alison suggested that coordinator training is being conducted at this conference and thus additional spending is not necessary at this time.
- Alison explained that the board also does not have the money or interest in establishing a state weed-free gravel program, especially in light of logistical concerns and the need to continue such a program from year to year.
- The suggestion for decontamination outreach to state agencies will be brought to the Invasive Species Council, which has already begun this outreach including the creation of voluntary guidelines.
- Additional road signs may be produced quickly with leftover funding if available.
- The board does not have enough special project funding to pay for newspaper ads. However, Alison suggested that the board could contract with the graphic design company that created the "Weed Em' Out" and "Bee-U-Tify" logos to produce a graphics that could be used by the counties in flyers or in ads following the good neighbor theme. This suggestion received a positive response from the board after some discussion. Also suggested was contacting the WSDA communications director who may be able to assist the board in submitting or recording a radio PSA, which are often played for free.
- Carey Caruso suggested that the board boost its Facebook posts in addition to producing a graphic to be used in by counties in newspaper ads or flyers. Discussion followed regarding how counties could utilize the graphics. It was suggested that some newspapers offer reduced advertising fees for non-profit organizations.
- Another suggestion presented was to contact Marsha VanDyke from the Washington Newspaper Association, which is always seeking content. If the graphic was provided in

conjunction with publishable content, the Washington Newspaper Association may be willing to run it for a low cost or even for free.

- Discussion followed regarding whether or not counties would utilize the graphics, if produced, and explanation of past graphic use by counties was provided. Alison also explained that these images would be for the new outreach campaign that focuses on neighborliness, making the images distinct from other images produced and applicable to a wide audience. Tony suggested that counties should come back in a year and share how the graphics worked for them. Kittanya and Alison will offer support and information to counties on utilizing these graphics, once produced.

VOTE	Wes McCart	Moved to spend up to \$5,000.00 on the graphic and slogan design plus an additional \$500.00 on promoting the WA State Noxious Weed Control Board Facebook page.
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

CLASS A ERADICATION GRANTS

The Board reviewed the eight proposals that were submitted and discussed the challenges of eradicating Class A weeds in areas where distribution is scattered and the costs associated with eradication.

VOTE	Wes McCart	Moved to approve all grant requests except for the Clark County goatsrue project request.
	Brad White	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

Janet Spingath requested that the summary sheet for proposals next year include a section demonstrating county progress in eradicating the weed selected for the proposal and that progress reports be emailed.

OFFICER ELECTION AND COMMITTEE REVIEW

Nominations were requested to fill the open officer position of Vice Chair.

VOTE	Tony Stadelman	Moved to nominate Bill Agosta for Vice Chair position.
	Brad White	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

VOTE	Janet Spingath	Moved to close with Bill Agosta as Vice Chair officer.
	Tony Stadelman	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

Chair Tony Stadelman appointed members to several committees which had vacant positions. Appointments of Noxious Weed Committee members were deferred to the next meeting.

Budget Committee

- Carey Caruso appointed as new chair.

Executive Committee

- Bill Agosta appointed as committee member.

Legislative Committee

- Wes McCart appointed as new chair.
- Janet Spingath appointed as committee member.

Discussion followed regarding the inactive status of the Education Committee, Special Projects Committee, Management Committee, and Strategic Planning Committee.

VOTE	Janet Spingath	Moved to put the Education Committee, Special Projects Committee, Management Committee, and Strategic Planning Committee on hiatus.
	Tony Stadelman	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

Alison requested that the board consider creating a Pollinator Committee in light of the bee bill passing. The committee was created.

Pollinator Committee

- Carey Caruso appointed as chair.
- Justin Bush appointed as committee member.
- Emily Stevenson appointed as committee member.
- Loretta Nichols appointed as committee member.
- Dirk Veleke appointed as committee member.

COORDINATORS FORUM

Discussion surrounded the concerns from beekeepers regarding noxious weed control and the challenges of educating the public about the benefits of weed control to pollinator species. Additionally, discussion surrounded whether or not beekeepers should be asked to assist in upcoming pollinator-friendly weed control projects. Alison explained that these projects are an opportunity to educate the public of the reality of weed control: that it is a long-term process that involves planning and developing healthy plant communities.

PUBLIC QUESTION AND COMMENTS

No public questions or comments were presented.

MEETING EVALUATION

The board discussed and approved hosting the May 19th Board WebEx meeting from San Juan county in conjunction with a tour to see English Hawthorn infestations for those able to attend in person.

The Board adjourned at 2:52 p.m.



Tony Stadelman, Chairman
WSNWCB



Dirk Veleke, Secretary
WSNWCB



Alison Halpern, Executive Secretary
WSNWCB