

Regular Meeting of the Clark County Noxious Weed Control Board

February 13, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. Meeting Location: Conference Rm-B1, **Address:** 78th Street Operations Center – 4700 NE 78th St, Vancouver, WA 98665

Roll Call: Members Present – Jerry Kolke, Lee Wells, Kent Wright, Bill Zimmerman, Randy Lawffer

Members Absent: None

Quorum Present: Yes

Guest/Public Present: Doug Stienbarger, Extension Agent

Staff Present: Kevin Tyler, Casey Gozart, Denielle Cowley

Meeting called to order @9:15 a.m.

1. Review and Approval of the meeting minutes from December 5, 2016 meeting.

Minutes were approved – motion made and seconded

2. Welcome of New Weed Board Member

Casey introduced and welcomed new weed board member – Randy Lawffer

3. Adoption of the 2017 Weed List

A discussion began regarding the definition between Class A, B, & C weeds on the State and County levels. A question was posed regarding English Holly – Members wanted to know if it could be added to the state list of noxious weeds. Casey informed members and staff present that it has been suggested before but received pushback from growers. The Growers defined English Holly as an ornamental/holiday plant and was therefore not ratified by the state to be added to the list.

Motion was made to adopt the 2017 County Weed List, was seconded and approved. The 2017 County weed list adds several Class C species as required control. Remaining State-listed Class C weeds are dropped. It was discussed among members the continued push forward to control Buffalobur, Medusa Head, Bull Thistle, and Canada Thistle, especially for agricultural purposes.

4. Review & Approve the annual “Need to Control” notice to be published.

A discussion by the members was brought out about how to deliver the weed list the public without overwhelming them. As in times past, an ad is taken out in the local newspapers to inform the public yearly. Suggestions were made by the board members to perhaps highlight/bold the weeds that are most common. Listing percentages spread over a 3-4 year period that shows how each weed is being handled and progress in moving toward eradication.

5. Review & Approve three letters regarding: Weed-Free Forage, Class A Weeds, Tansy Ragwort

Approval was given regarding the three letters listed above. Regarding Weed Free Forage – Member had a discussion about Oxeye Daisy, Wild Honeysuckle, Morning Glory, Old Man’s Beard – these weeds/plants are known to choke out native plants and trees. Therefore, these weeds/plants need to be controlled. Regarding Class A Weeds – Members discussed definitions on what makes a weed a Class A vs. Class B.



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A discussion began about Weed Free Twine. An issue has risen with the public about being charged for shipping from Olympia mid-season. Vegetation Management, in an effort to make gaining access to the weed-free twine easier, will order the twine directly from the manufacturer in bulk therefore ending the shipping charge issue. Regarding Tansy Ragwort – All members agreed that this weed is still prevalent and in need of continued control and monitoring. Furthermore, it was explained in greater detail regarding how the public is notified: Letters are sent to landowners who have had these weeds on their property from the previous year. Idea behind or purpose for these letters is to identify issues, offer help to the public, and to clarify the enforcement process. Regarding the enforcement process – Casey explained to the members present about the fine levels. For example, a Class A weed infraction will result in a fine of \$750-\$1000. A Class B weed infraction will result in a fine of \$500.

There was a question raised about what an actual “parcel” is. Casey explained what the county and state consider a parcel and how it is taxed. It was suggested by members that the wording for parcel should be changed to TAX PARCEL. All members were in agreement with this change. A new discussion formed regarding Herbicides, particularly Milestone and Curtail. Wording regarding these two herbicides will be changed to accurately reflect how early in the year these herbicides should be used in order to be effective. Also, to give clarity on which herbicide works best for each type of weed and any residual effects.

6. Finalization of the quarterly meeting schedule

Members agreed to posted schedule now on website with a few changes suggested.

7. City of Camas Garlic Mustard Control Plan

Casey gave an update regarding a joint plan to work with the City of Camas in controlling their Garlic Mustard. An Earth Day Volunteer Event is being planned and more efforts to further public education on how to control and eliminate Garlic Mustard.

8. Changes to Field Inspection Program in 2017

Weed Tools Software and spreadsheet upload as back-up to Weed Tools Software. Kevin Tyler discussed the Field Inspector changes and updated information regarding adding a temporary employee as fourth field inspector. It was further explained why needed and showing where funding to pay for the 4th inspector is coming from.

9. Field Inspection Program Annual Report

Casey discussed the need for an Annual Report. The Weed Board decided to send a copy of the Annual Report to the Clark County Councilors to keep them abreast of what the County Weed Board is accomplishing.

****Next Meeting - Monday, May 15, 2017 @ 9:00 a.m.**/ Meeting adjourned @ 10:45 a.m.**

Submitted by, Monica Watson



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