

**WASHINGTON COUNTY RODENT DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019**

Those attending:

Bob Shirts

Curtis Hickey

Bonnie Davis-Wash. Co. Weed & Rodent

Kirk Chandler-Wash. Co. Commissioner

Special Guest: Olivia Farrens

Chairman Curtis Hickey called meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

In the Matter of the Minutes: Motion was made by Bob Shirts to accept the minutes of the May 14, 2019, meeting as written. Second by Curtis Hickey motion carries. Troy Mock is absent and excused.

General Business

Review of District Expenditures-Bonnie presented an expenditure activity report dated 7/9/19. Cash balance is \$30,764.83; budget balance remaining = \$16,820.08. Tail Bounty Report-October 1, 2018 to date: a total of 13,174 tails (per weed office report) have been received with \$16,467.50 expended on tail bounty. Leaving a bounty balance of \$14,432.50 (this includes the additional \$100 in the petty cash account). Motion was made by Bob Shirts to accept the expenditure activity report as presented, second by Curtis Hickey, motion carries unanimous.

2020 Rodent District Budget-Bonnie explained after the May meeting she met with the clerk concerning the work load for our administrative assistant at the weed department. In order to increase her hours (many of which are spent doing rodent district duties) the cost should be shared with the district. She presented new budget worksheets which include 25% of the wages and benefits for the administrative assistant to be paid by rodent with the remaining 75% to come from weed. Line items added to the Gopher District Budget after our May meeting-A (Salaries) \$5,525 and D (Benefits) include \$3,405. Motion by Bob Shirts to accept the budget changes listed above. Second by Curtis Hickey, motion carries. Commissioner Chandler reported the county will receive the property values prior to the budget hearing.

Rodent Awareness/Landowner Responsibility-Bonnie shared an email with suggestions from a local landowner concerning educating landowners to their responsibilities with gopher control. Bonnie presented copies of the Idaho Code Title 25, Chapter 26 Extermination of Wild Animals and Pests in Counties for the board to read at their leisure. She shared an email sent by Bill Ford who lives on the Payette/Washington county line. He feels that maybe when a complaint is filed a simple letter be sent to the landowner stating that "said problem" has been observed. Please call and discuss how you may take care of the problem. He is concerned that landowners do not realize it is their responsibility to control both rodents and weeds. Curtis suggested placing something in the envelope with the tax notices. Kirk asked about a combined insert with the weed department since they are doing inserts two times per year. It was also suggested we break statute out and run a notice in the newspaper much like the annual weed notice we put in paper annually. Maybe discuss how gophers devalue your property. Kirk is concerned with including too many pieces in the tax assessments so sharing would be a good option. Bonnie will check with the weed board to see how they feel about that.

New Business

Board Member Update-Bonnie reminded the board that Troy Mock's term expires December 2019 as he filled the position vacated by Don Gruell. We will revisit this at the September meeting.

Announcements: Bonnie reminded the board the county budget hearing will be held Monday, August 26th at 2:00 p.m. at the courthouse. She encouraged board members to attend.

The next Rodent District Meeting will be held Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. at the Weed Department.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Shirts, second by Curtis Hickey. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.