

**WASHINGTON COUNTY WEED ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2019 7:00 p.m.**

Those attending:

Larry Anderson

Isaac Ward

Calvin Hickey

Tom Sutton

Jerry Lunsford

Harmon Horton

Bruce Gochnour

Royce Schwenkfelder

Sarah Funk-Idaho Power

Bonnie Davis-Wash. County Weed

Lonnie Smith-Wash. County Weed

Lonnie Huter-BLM

Kirk Chandler-Wash. Co. Commissioner

Guests this evening: Kenneth Edwards and Betty Ward-private landowners

Chairman Horton called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance by Tom Sutton, Invocation by Bruce Gochnour. Tom Yankey, Jasen King, Andy Bumgarner, Zac Huling and Aaron Switalski are absent this evening. Harmon thanked everyone for coming early to help fold newsletters. The newsletter makeover looks really good. Our thanks to Sarah and Aaron for all their work.

Introductions: Kenneth Edwards is a resident of Weiser. He would like to learn how to control his noxious weeds. Bonnie will meet with him after the meeting.

In the Matter of the Minutes: Motion by Calvin to accept the minutes of the July 9th meeting as written. Second by Larry Anderson. Motion carries.

In the matter of claims: N/A

In the matter of Correspondence: Larry shared an article from the Successful Farming At Agriculture Magazine "Weed Menace how metabolic resistance will change the way farmers manage weeds". Copies were provided for those attending. He talked about another story he read regarding growing hemp and marijuana.

General Business

Cooperator Dinner-Bonnie reported the Vendome is reserved for Thursday, January 30, 2020. She reported that Commissioner Collini dropped off a menu for the golf course restaurant and that Sondra Eaton is interested in catering. Bonnie prepared the menu so that we can get quotes for the exact meals from caterers. Calvin Hickey agreed to check with Sondra Eaton at the golf course restaurant and report at the next meeting. Royce said he will check with Grubbin' BBQ to see if they can do a meal like this. Jerry Lunsford stated he feels it's important to keep the dinner with a local business. Brett Lolley has agreed to present for a half hour. We will continue finalizing details at our September meeting.

New Business

Weed Insert Tax Bill-Bonnie mailed examples of what we have done to date with this month's packets. Do we wish to continue, the consensus of the board was yes. Chairman Horton asked 3 photos or 4? The last insert featured three weeds that allowed for larger pictures which everyone seemed to like and it helps with identification. Bruce suggested featuring new invaders. Mr. Edwards asked if these are sent for a membership drive or to make landowners aware and asked who receives them. The board explained this is a part of our effort to educate landowners about noxious weeds. Each landowner in Washington County will receive one in their tax bill this fall/winter and they will receive another in the tax assessment notice which is sent in the spring. Discussion followed. The board decided to feature 3-weeds: common crupina, hoary alyssum and diffuse knapweed per motion of Bruce Gochnour, second by Calvin Hickey. Motion carries.

2020 Calendar-Drafts of the calendar were provided to all for review. Bonnie explained once we get the approval of the board she will send it to AB Company and they will do the final touch ups and make the layout perfect. The board reviewed dates set for the recertification seminar, teacher

workshop and weed tour. The board asked that Bonnie insert a boxes to announce and remind people of the poster contest. Bonnie pointed out the contest due date has been moved to April so that the winners may be recognized at the school's end of year assemblies. This date change was a request made by a Weiser teacher. Bonnie will also add the Neighborhood Project Application due date. Motion to approve the calendar with the above changes by Larry Anderson, second by Jerry Lunsford. Motion carries. Mr. Edwards asked if this is a fund raiser, supported by advertisers or funded with tax payer dollars. The board explained this is another element of our education program. They further explained about the youth art and the effort to raise noxious weed awareness in the schools which filters into the homes.

Sifting Date for 2020 Neighborhood Projects-Tuesday, November 5, 2019 which is Election Day was chosen for the sifting of next year's projects. Bonnie will send letters prior to the day and reminder calls will be made.

Reports-

Common Crupina-Lonnie Huter gave the board an update on the crupina treatment. He said it was aerial treated on June 4, 2019 and 1,300 acres were treated. He continues to find more satellite sites of this new invader. To date he has not found any north of Sheep Creek road. He has found some on the trail that goes north of Dodson Pass in Gem county. He has found numerous sites south of Sheep Creek Road. Lonnie refers to these as micro sites. He explained he crews continue to scout the area. Royce asked about the BLM using drones? Lonnie said it will take a lot of money to fine tune that operation they did send a drone up to get aerial footage of the crupina site but he still prefers boots on the ground to find plants under sage brush etc. There are many environmental factors to consider. He estimates next year's treatment to be 1,400 acres and again it will be bid. He shared the technicalities with bidding these types of treatments and that it is done nearly a year in advance. Steep terrain was discussed and the difficulty to maintain desired speeds with ground equipment. They are treating with Milestone at 5 oz. per acre and surfactant at 1 qt.-100 gallons. GPA is 5 gallons. Royce asked about control of other weeds. Lonnie stated at this rate it only curls the rush skeletonweed but is easy on the forbs. There is some mortality on legumes such as lupine but is easy on the grass. Lonnie stated they mounted a Go-Pro camera to the helicopter and they have some video footage which he showed a short clip of. He will have more at a later date.

Yellow Starthistle Paddock Aerial Treatment-Lonnie Huter explained they started out in Payette County and then moved to Paddock. They were able to start at Paddock but soon got blown out. They resumed treatment the next morning. Cost of \$40 per acre plus herbicide were discussed. Spraying hundreds of acres in a few hours is not possible to do with ground rigs in addition to the extremely steep terrain. Bonnie had Shoreline Pest Control do follow-up backpack work along the riparian area and check some other possible sites. Lonnie is monitoring this closely.

Announcements & Upcoming Activities:

**On-Site Reviews are Thursday-meet at Weed Dept. at 8.30

**Bonnie reminded the board we will be discussing/selecting the 2020 Poster Contest theme at our next meeting.

Next meeting is Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Harmon thanked everyone for coming and the public is always welcome to attend.

Motion to adjourn by Bruce Gochnour, second by Tom Sutton. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.