

NOXIOUS WEED BOARD MEETING
APRIL 11, 2013
Deschutes County Board Hearing – Meetings Minutes

Jason Denev
Brenda Pace
Ed Keith
Julie Craig

Robert Marheine
Larry Pecenka
Ana Cambra

Spring Olson
Misha Williams
Jon Valley

CALLED TO ORDER 3:34 PM

MINUTES

Minutes for March 14, 2013 were approved M/S/C, with corrections.

UPDATING OF WEED BOARD AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE LIST

The contact information is finalized and updated.

THE 2013 ACTION PLAN

The Weed Board will continue to support Forester, Ed Keith and Deschutes County Operator, Jon Valley in continued efforts to educate the public about weeds. Larry Pecenka stated that the economic benefits of weed control should be included in the educational piece. Brenda Pace asked Larry if there are educational materials available at Fish and Wildlife. Larry suggested Brenda contact Department of Agriculture for materials that may help her.

Weed Free hay was discussed; question was asked if Weed Free was 100% weed free? The hay certified as Weed Free is not weed free, it has passed testing for certain types of weeds and is certified as free of weeds that are on a test list. Robert Marheine mentioned that the economic benefit of a farm or ranch without noxious weed is similar to the market value of a home with a well maintained landscape. A potential buyer of a noxious weed infested property realizes the time and money it takes to clean up property, therefore value is depreciated in a Buyers bid for property.

Larry Pecenka stated that education is very important, not everyone knows what a noxious weed is. Robert Marheine will work on the Action Plan and would like to get a subcommittee together to review and work on issues within the Plan.

Brenda Pace asked Jon Valley how many citations Dan Sherwin handed out for weed violations. Jon Valley reported that not a single citation was written; Dan used education to get the people to take care of their weed issues. Ed said that education is important to let people know that they have a problem with noxious weeds and to inform them of the County's Cost Share program.

Julie Craig explained steps taken by the City of Bend before they send out a citation. Deschutes County works similar to the City of Bend, sending a letter out informing homeowner of their weed problem and that they are in violation of the Flammable Vegetation Ordinance. Also, City of Bend taking the issue a step further, if homeowner does not contact the City, a final notice is sent, and then a citation is sent. Larry Pecenka expressed that there is no separation between education and enforcement, with enforcement it will help to keep people in line. Brenda Pace asked Jon Valley if there is a list of homeowners that received notification about their weed problem; Jon replied yes there is a list.

Funding for enforcement was raised as an issue. Brenda Pace suggested that a weed enforcement program could work similar to compliance volunteers that work with the Community Development Department. Brenda said that the County has compliance volunteers that work with CDD. Brenda would like to talk to the Board of Commissioners about the compliance volunteers and compliance funding. Brenda said she talked to the Board of Commissioners about funding options about three years ago. Ed asked what the outcome of that meeting and Brenda said nothing came of it. Brenda Pace and Robert Marheine said that if we presented this as an initiative we would need 3,782 legal signatures (registered voters) in the county for funding of the weed issue. That is why Robert said we need the county and city together as a weed district then they can work on an initiative to get funding for the weed issues in both the county and the city. Robert put Brenda Pace in charge of the funding issue of the weeds, and will keep the Weed Board up to date on how things are going.

Robert Marheine said the Board of Commissioners held a work session to discuss reorganization of the vegetation management duties. The Board of Commissioners supported the reorganization as it has been presented to the Weed Board with the realization there is a funding issue. They expressed concern that they would like to see the program continue and did not want to see it lose momentum. The BOCC suggested that they review how the reorganization is progressing over the next year to see how well it's working. Ed and Jon are working on a few things together and things are starting to come along.

General discussion concerning gather information cities regarding the benefit and costs of joining the Weed District. Ed Keith and Brenda Pace will work together to get more information together regarding funding. Jason Deney brought up the possibility of the HOA's getting involved with the weed district as well. Julie Craig said that she talked to some HOA's and they were excited about being involved with a weed program.

VEGETATION REPORT

Report was given verbally by Jon Valley. See Attached Report

FORESTER WEED REPORT

Report was given verbally by Ed Keith. See Attached Report

HOME AND GARDEN

It's coming up and Jason is going to have a meeting next week. No one from the landscaping community will be going to the Home and Garden show this year, Jason will have more information.

LET'S PULL TOGETHER

Question was asked if the Weed Wagon was going to be at the function, Robert said it will be there somewhere.

GRANT MONEY

Spring Olson said to try getting a hold of Ryan Houston Executive Director of Upper Deschutes Water Shed Council. The grants from the small grant program that Spring use to get when she was with the SWCD might still be there.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:00 PM

NEXT MEETING MAY 9, 2013

Vegetation Division Update- April-2013

- Completed herbicide application on 1150 + acres of right of way and contract work in Deschutes County.
- Secured contract with BLM for \$11,500 .00 for treatment of noxious weeds. An increase from last year by \$5000.00 due to new Cline Butte Rec. area.
- Received Orange Hawk Weed Grant. This grant has been awarded for \$12,780.00 for post emergence treatment of 62 sites in Deschutes County
- Reseeded sites at Knott Landfill and Rickard Rd.
- Completed pre-emergent work for Deschutes County Property Management, City of Sisters, City of Bend, ODOT, Jefferson County, COI and Swalley Irrigation Districts, USFS, The BLM, Bonneville Power Admin. Power line from Crooked River Gorge to China Hat Rd. and 219 acres of spray work at the county fairgrounds gravel parking lots.
- On 4/2 Erik, Ed, Les and I went with ODA on a bug collection of *Mecinus janthinus* for the control of Dalmatian Toadflax. Collection site was by Clarno across the river from the Young Life camp. Two sites were chosen for release on 4/9. One site on private land in the LaPine area and the other on the south side of Pilot Butte State Park.
- Post emerge program will begin at the end of this month in the north county area. Also included are all previous named agency and cooperators.
- Upcoming fun for the guys...spot spray noxious weeds from Bend to Riley and back!

Deschutes County Forester
Weed Activities Report to Deschutes County Weed Board
April 11, 2013

Events:

LOFA conference – March 16 – w/ Dan Sherwin
Rimrock West community meeting – March 20 – w/ Dan Sherwin
City Edition – March 25 – w/ Cheryl Howard and Julie Craig
Collect *Mecinus Janthinus* at Clarno – April 2 – Jon, Eric, Les, Dave L., Mike C.

Grants status:

Cost Share (RAC) – expires 9/30/2015

Approximately \$5000 obligated to 12 landowners, a few more pending site visits
3 payments for completed work in past 2 months
\$15,000 remaining to obligate

Cost Share Site Visits: 6 total since mid-February, several scheduled for next week

Education (RAC) – expires 12/31/2014

\$26,600 awarded from RAC to add to this grant. Waiting on modification from USFS, which is delayed because they do not have a final budget.

Orange Hawkweed (ODA) – pending award for \$12,728 – forms sent to ODA, waiting for a response.

Training:

Laws and Safety course and test at COCC – March 22
Turf and ornamental course and test at COCC – upcoming April 19

Other:

Time spent with Dan S. in February and March to review files, procedures, grant status, etc.
NRCS local working group meeting – February
Collect *Mecinus Janthinus* at Clarno – April 2 – Jon, Eric, Les, Dave L., Mike C.
Oregon County Weed Control Assn. meeting – April 11