

NOXIOUS WEED BOARD MEETING
JUNE 13, 2013
Deschutes County Board Hearing – Meetings Minutes

Marlo Fisher
Spring Olson
Christina Veverka
Jon Valley

Kelsey Josi
Brenda Pace
Ed Keith
Julie Craig

Robert Marheine
Sasha Sulia
Ana Cambra

GUEST

Tom Anderson County Administrator

CALLED TO ORDER 3:30PM

Introductions were made.

MINUTES

Minutes for May 9, 2013 were approved M/S/C.

ED KEITH UPDATE

County Fair is coming; Board Members need to sign up to help staff the Weed Wagon. Jon Valley will need to ensure there are keys available for those with the opening shift.

Events:

Let's Pull Together June 7th.

Grants Status:

- Cost Share (RAC) – expires 9/30/2015
- Approximately \$7,000 obligated to 15 landowners
- 6 payments for completed work year to date
- \$13,000 remaining to obligate
- 3 Cost Share Site Visits in May
- 7 Cost Share site visits to date in June

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.

3 Education site visits in May

3 Education site visits to date in June

Orange Hawkweed (ODA) -

Paperwork complete, advance payment has been made to the county. Treatment will take place in late June and July.

Complaints:

1 in June

Other:

Tri-county weed coordination meeting 5/15 with Crook, Jefferson counties.

Cost research in cooperation with Brenda Pace

Weed Board meetings.

Robert asked who was going out for site inspections and Ed responded that both he and Jon are doing this.

Brenda asked how that is being billed and Jon reported the Road Department is still in transition so currently this is being done through the Road Department.

Spring inquired if Yellow Flag Iris would be treated this year; Jon stated that it was done last year and is on an every two year schedule.

JON VALLEY UPDATE

- Spray post emergent, completed northern part of County.
- Worked with Bonneville Power, they contracted with the County for \$6,000 to spray their structures from China Hat to Hwy 31.
- Spraying center medians and landscaped area in the City of Bend
- IGA signed with Department of Defense, National Guard youth challenge program, contract not to exceed \$125,000 for Vegetation Management work.
- Working with BLM, Vegetation Management work, main goal will be Cline Butte Recreation area.
- Orange hawkweed and Tri-County Vegetation Management work, grant money from ODA will be paying for treatment.
- Continuous work with ODOT contract – spot spray Hwy 20
- Contract with Bend Airport for spaying and seeding area.

Jon Valley reported on the fire camps. These camps are infested with knapweed and firefighters are distributing seeds to other areas. Previously Jon and Dan wrote a request for Grant money to fund this type of project. In addition to using the Grant money on fire camp sites, it expanded to include spraying school property. When grant money ran out citizens contacted the County to state they would be interested in paying for the knapweed to be sprayed.

ALTERNATIVE REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL WEED MANAGEMENT FUNDING

Brenda Pace stated that no outreach is being done at this time due to no funding. Ed reported that as of June 21, 2013, the Forest Service should have their budget completed. Once the budget is available, the County will receive funds for education.

Brenda felt that Jon Valley is not bringing in contracts like Dan Sherwin did in the past. This information is incorrect; Jon Valley was and is the person that has solicited contract work for the last five (5) years. Brenda gave a report on a breakdown of all the hours and money that Dan Sherwin spent in past years. Brenda asks for the full funding amount for Educational Proposal. Brenda aims to request the County to make a loan to the Weed program to fund this request and when Grant money comes in that loan can be repaid. Ed reported that when you apply for Grant money you must apply for as to the terms of the Grant, i.e. education, orange hawkweed, etc. That money must only be spent on those specific items not to fund an entire program. Funds are only available once the grant is awarded, so any funding in advance of that could not be used as a loan as Brenda suggested.

Brenda thought the County should write more citations so there would be a source of income. Tom Anderson explained that citation money does not come directly to the County in which wrote the citation, it goes into the State funds, once at the State level there is a formula that the State works out to determine where the money goes.

The grant money that Ed Keith is waiting for is from Title II grants. Brenda estimated that the funds needed based on past activities amounts to \$4,400, these have not been awarded at this time and that the Weed Board should request funds from the Board of Commissioners until the grant funding comes through. Christina Veverka stated that the hold-up is due in part to sequestration as well as other budget issues.

Tom Anderson explained that a simple request for funding could be made to the Board of Commissioners. Tom Anderson stated that the Board of Commissioners knows the Weed Program has been restructured now that Ed Keith and Jon Valley are doing the job of three people between the two of them.

How can we get these funding issues in front of the Board of the Commissioners? Spring asked if the Title II money comes through will everything be working again. Robert Marheine said to work towards funding issues, and keep track of the work being done, document everything and see how the program goes.

Robert Marheine said that the first part of the funding that Tom Anderson is going to help us and it looks like there is a good chance that we could get that funding. Remember Tom has not looked at this paperwork that Brenda presented and he has to study it. Christina said that Tom Anderson was put in a very uncomfortable position with the funding issue. The paperwork that Brenda did is very important and the Weed Board needs to document everything to build a viable case. Brenda doesn't agree with the rest of the Weed Board that we are going in the right direction, she feels that the Weed Board is settling for just supplementing the Title II funds to the amount of \$4400.00 to run the education part of the program and the Weed Board should just ask for the whole amount of her funding proposal.

Robert Marheine said the Weed Board has previously stated their support during the first year of the restructured program as stated in previous minutes. The Board of Commissioners also want to give the program a chance with Ed Keith and Jon Valley for a year, after all the Board of Commissioners changed the job that was held by three people to two people, and that is a big change. Let's work to see if we can get the first \$4,400 after June 21, 2013. Brenda said that Tom Anderson and Ed Keith need to talk about the education funds.

NEW BUSINESS

Sasha Sulia wants to become a Weed Board member and has sent a letter.

Misha Williams has sent a letter of resignation.

The Weed Board approved both of these requests. Ed will make the changes with the county records.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:00PM

NEXT MEETING September 12, 2013

Deschutes County encourages persons with disabilities to participate in all programs and activities. This event/location is accessible to people with disabilities. If you need accommodations to make participation possible, please call Kelli Candella (541) 322-7104 or send email to Kelli.Candella@deschutes.org.