

NOXIOUS WEED BOARD MEETING
March 14, 2013
Deschutes County Board Hearing – Meeting Minutes
Revised 4/1/2013

Jason Denev
Robert Marheine
John Stephenson
Tom Shamberger

Marlo Fisher
Spring Olson
Christina Veverka
Jon Valley

Kelsey Josi
Larry Pecenka
Ana Cambra

CALLED TO ORDER 3:32PM

MINUTES

Minutes for February 2013 were approved M/S/C, with corrections

UPDATING OF WEED BOARD AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE LIST

Robert asked the Weed Board Members to review their contact information on the Member/Technical Support list. Several changes were made; the updated list will be distributed to the board for one last review, and then finalized at April meeting.

Robert would like to add Julie Craig, City of Bend Code Enforcement to our Technical Support list. Jon Valley will reach out to Julie Craig and Dave Dethloff to get their contact information. Dave Dethloff is from ODOT and will be taking Josh Frazier's place on the Technical Support side. Tom Shamberger will contact the City of Redmond to inquire about a staff member participating in the meetings to represent Redmond issues. Sandy Conaway will still be the contact person for La Pine; she just can't make the meetings.

Larry Pecenka asked about Dave Langland's retirement, what will happen to his position, Mike Crumrine will step in for Dave.

UPDATING THE 2013 ACTION PLAN

The board reviewed the last Action Plan as a starting point for the 2013 Action Plan. The existing plan was reviewed item by item with the many changes. Robert will take the lead on rewriting the Action Plan and distribute it to the board for comments prior to the next meeting. Several of the items on the plan were discussed. These included updating the county weed list, implementing the weed Enforcement policy, and securing funding for the weed program to name a few. Robert volunteered to compile the discussion topics into a draft action plan. Side Note: the draft 2013 Action Plan was distributed to board members on March 22 for review. The board will review the plan at the April meeting.

ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM

Spring Olson inquired about an Adopt-A-Road program to pull weeds with in the Right-of-Way. Kelsey Josi stated that she would like to use the corrections group or juvenile group to pull weeds. Tom Shamberger reported that Corrections groups are expensive; they have a high hourly billing rate. Marlo shared a contact in the Juvenile group,

Jim Smith – Juvenile Community Justice,
63360 Britta St. Bldg., 1,
Bend, OR 97701.
james@deschutes.org
541-322-7653

Tom Shamberger asked if Ana Cambra had a contact for the City of Bend Adopt-A-Road program. Ana informed Tom that her contact is Brandon at Bend City Public Works. Ana also reported that the City's Adopt-A-Road program may no longer be running. Tom Shamberger will contract City of Bend to make an inquiry.

NEW BUSINESS

If we can do enforcement for over grown weeds on people's property and we can collect fines than we would have funds to use for administrative costs for the Weed Board. Todd Pfeiffer of Klamath County has a program, they send out citations to the people who need to clean up their properties, if they don't clean it then the county cleans it and they charge the land owners for the bill. If the land owner doesn't pay the bill for the cleanup then they put a lean on the property. Tom said he was at a Road Officials meeting and enforcement is not very popular with Judges and elected officials. Over the last fiscal year, we sent out approximately 900 courtesy letters which is just information to property owners that have had a notice of violation sent to them at some point over the past 4 years. It just gives them a heads up that weed growing season is just around the corner and that they should start making a plan to remove potentially flammable vegetation. Also, the letter has only addressed flammable vegetation, not noxious weeds in the past. City of Bend had approximately 500 formal flammable vegetation complaints last year and issued 31 citations.

Tom Shamberger indicated that there is a Public meeting with the Commissioners in the Downtown County facility on Monday, March 18, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. During the February Weed Board Meeting there was a lot of discussion and concern that the Weed Free Forage program may be discontinued. Tom Shamberger discussed with Tim Butler of ODA the concern of not having the money for the Weed Free Forage program. Grant funding this program has expired; no funds are available to proceed with Deschutes County involvement in this federally mandated Forestry program.

During the remaining minutes of the meeting funding for other County programs was discussed. There are other counties losing funding, Union County will lose their Weed Program due no funding for the program. There is a meeting set for April 10, 2013, for all the Counties and Department of Agriculture to discuss loss of funding and positions that will be cut for Noxious Weed Programs. Deschutes County is in the process of budget meetings. Jon Valley reported that Deschutes County Weed Program obtained \$178,000 in grants for their weed program last year.

Robert Marheine said that the Marine Board will be holding a simulation drill for invasive species Quagga Mussel at Prineville Reservoir on April 2 and 3, 2013.

MEETING CALLED AT 5:03PM

NEXT MEETING APRIL 11, 2013