



**NOXIOUS WEED BOARD MEETING**  
**MAY 9, 2013**  
**Deschutes County Board Hearing – Meetings Minutes**

Spring Olson  
Christine Veverka  
Ana Cambra

Brenda Pace  
Dave Langland  
Jon Valley

Larry Pecenka  
Ed Keith  
Julie Craig

**GUEST**

Larry Roofener  
Cheryl Howard  
Sasha Sulia  
Dan Sherwin  
Jen Binks

Deschutes Soil & Water Conservation District  
Let's Pull Together  
Bend Park & Recreation District  
Retired  
Let's Pull Together

**CALLED TO ORDER 3:35 PM**

Introductions were made.

**MINUTES**

Minutes for April 11, 2013 were approved with corrections M/S/C.

**THE 2013 ACTION PLAN**

Larry Pecenka asked if the Weed Wagon was at the Earth Day event, no it was not at the event. Christina also inquired if Wagon was at the Home and Garden show. Due to the cost of space, the Weed Wagon was not at the Home Show, it will be at the Deschutes County Fair, space costs \$450.

Ed Keith and Brenda Pace met to discuss funding issues; intention is to have Weed Board meet with the Deschutes County Commissioners asking for funding to support the Vegetation Program. It is important to have a list of homeowners that were told they had a weed problem but were not in favor of participating in the Cost Share Program to assist in eradicating their weeds. Brenda mentioned that she contacted Dan Sherwin regarding list, no list was ever constructed. The only way to make list is to review Dan's daily journals and build list to quantify that piece of the Vegetation Manager's personal contacts. This piece of information is important to present to the Commissioners showing that personal contacts are being made and additional funding is necessary to keep the program moving forward. Brenda Pace informed the group that the Board of Commissioners can

establish an assessment on their own for Weed District, if they won't do that than Weed Board is back to having petitions signed for an initiative be placed on the ballot. Larry asked Brenda if she would be willing to keep working on that project, she stated that she would continue on the project. Ed Keith has put some past budget numbers together. Ed would like to meet with Brenda to review budget numbers and then present to Weed Board for their review.

A piece of information that would be helpful to present to the County Commissioners is the economic benefits of keeping weeds under control. Hans Radtke did the economic analysis and he categorized the weeds, and Dave Langland said that a lot of the economic analysis has to do with the West side issues. Forest, farm, range, and wet lands from the production end, a study was done to show what the ecology effects are, Larry is still looking for information on property values. Dave said there are a few ranches that have been ruined because of weeds. That information is available and you can get it from Tim Butler in Salem. Need to let the County Commissioners know why it is important to keep this board going and why we need funding. Dave said that he doesn't know of any County that the Weed program is funded through the general fund. Brenda suggested that when the Board meets with County Commissioners, request a public hearing since there are people who would like discuss their with concerns. Cheryl Howard stated she would like to be included in that public meeting.

### **ACTION PLAN 2013**

The action plan was approved M/S/C.

### **REPORT FROM ED KEITH AND JON VALLEY**

Ed is still waiting for the education funding, RAC money has to be funded soon and there is a time limit, Christina said she would help with the RAC (Resource Advisory Committee) money, she is going to look into that matter to see why it is taking so long for Ed to get his funding, there is cost share money, and the Hawkweed grant money available at this time. Jon has been spraying weeds all around the county and he has also had contract work along with road side work.

### **LET'S PULL TOGETHER**

Cheryl Howard introduced Jen Binks a Natural Resource Major at OSU, an intern with the City of Bend. One of her projects is helping with the community garden at 9<sup>th</sup> and Franklin project as well as Let's Pull Together event. Proposal to expand research monitoring and treatment of invasive weed species in Central Oregon. OSU Cascades would like to come up with some internship opportunities for

Natural Resources & Sustainability but it is hard to come up with funding for two paid internships.

Cheryl Howard wanted to know what we need to pursue this project and if we need a partnership to put this together. Christina said that from the scientific aspect it's creating a monitoring program that is manageable and actually effective. With the scale that you are talking about for the City of Bend it is very large and if you are working with Ron, he has done wilderness weed surveys for the forest service. You would want a partnership with researchers to be the key focus for the design and get a good product with information that you can truly track. You'll need a compatible data base that can be shared with others. Weed Mapper is used State wide but the County hasn't used it or doesn't have the resources or the time. Spring suggested that Cheryl contact Brenda Smith from Ag Resource Center.

Dave said that Crook County GIS presented this program that will be coming soon that has information from the Forest Service, BLM, County, and ODS. Larry suggested keeping information data on what weeds are cleared, who clears them, this information gives *Let's Pull Together* the anecdotal information and Cheryl wants the scientific information.

Six locations for LPT, Bend, La Pine, Redmond, will be on June 8<sup>th</sup> and Sisters weed pull will be on June 15<sup>th</sup>. The six sites are COCC, Pilot Butte, Cascade Middle School, Old Mill, Highland Elementary and Bend Pine Nursery. Cheryl wants to make sure there are weed experts at each location. Cheryl also wanted to have the Weed wagon in a high profile location. Spring suggested asking the Irrigation Districts if it would be appropriate to suggest that people that cannot make Weed Pull and live along irrigation canals spend that time pulling weeds where canals run adjacent to their property. Larry also suggested letting the public know that if they cannot make the Pull event, suggest spending the day pulling weeds at their own property. Dumpsters are available, if homeowners pull weeds on their personal property, they can bring bags for disposal at the weed pull sites.

Cheryl said *Let's Pull Together* has an extensive advertising campaign. City Edition filmed a short segment on weed awareness and there will be a flyer in the water bill, and it will also have the flyer posted on the City of Bend web site. Café Yumm will be doing some special T-Shirt for the *Let's Pull Together* event.

## **OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

Christina would like to have everyone think about the State Fair. Larry Roofener of Deschutes Soil & Water Conservation District wanted to talk to the Board about getting funding of a small grant from the County Commissioners. Brenda said that

first things need to be done first, the Weed Board is trying to get some sort of funding and it's hard to see what will happen. Larry Roofener is asking for a letter of support from the Weed Board and Larry Pecenka said that the Board can look into doing that.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:03 PM**

**NEXT MEETING JUNE 13, 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](mailto:Kelli.Candella@deschutes.org) .