

NOXIOUS WEED BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2013
Deschutes County Board Hearing – Meetings Minutes

Marlo Fisher
Spring Olson
Christina Veverka
Jon Valley

Kelsey Josi
Brenda Pace
Ed Keith
Chris Doty

Robert Marheine
Sasha Sulia
Kelli Candella
Larry Pecenka

CALLED TO ORDER 3:30PM

Introductions were made.

MINUTES

Minutes for June 13, 2013 were approved with changes M/S/C.

ED KEITH UPDATE

Program status:

Cost Share

This program is funded through the USFS (RAC) – grant expires 9/30/2015

Approximately \$7400 is currently obligated to 14 projects

Status as of August 31:

- 16 completed projects totaled 150 acres treated year to date
 - July: 5 projects, 52 acres treated
 - August: 2 projects, 69 acres treated
- 35 Initial cost share visits year to date
 - July: 3 Initial cost share site visits
 - August: 3 Initial cost share site visits
- \$8,000 remaining to obligate

Education

This program is funded through the USFS (RAC) – grant expires 12/31/2014

Two events were attended in July and August:

July 20: Deschutes River Woods Neighborhood Association annual meeting

July 31-August 4: Deschutes County Fair

Individual landowner educational contacts / site visits:

July: 4

August: 4

Complaints

July: 2

August: 4

Orange Hawkweed

This is a grant through ODA and OWEB – expires 4/30/14

A media release led to radio interviews with the Bend Radio Group and Combined Communications which together cover most major radio outlets in Central Oregon. The media release was also printed in the Bend Bulletin, Sisters Nugget and posted on KTVZ.com. This helped raise public awareness and resulted in several contacts with landowners. A report of contacted landowners and treated sites will be completed by September 30 for a report to OWEB and ODA.

FY 09/10, 10/11, 11/12 Graph passed out – see attached

In addition to the information Ed provided the Board asked for breakdown of activities, i.e. chemicals, species. This was not provided in the past but Ed will add that to his graph.

Education Grant has been completed and \$26,600 has been allocated.

Bank Owned property has been an issue. Contact information is not available, Ed recently dealing with a bank owned property infested with noxious weeds. Larry said a citation should be issued in these incidents and that may ensure that potential owners are notified of weed issue. At present, although bank is required to disclose, this is not the case for potential buyers being notified.

Complaints/Enforcement

Legal Counsel is working with the current Order as it does not clearly state authority for Code Enforcement. Authority to deputize a party must be approved by Board. Community Development currently pays Sheriff's Department to do their Code Enforcement. The weed program does not have money for this; changes are being made in the County Code to authorize the Weed Manager to perform Code Enforcement. County Forester currently has authority for fire hazard enforcement. Another issue being looked at within the Code is authority to collect fine for violation of weed issue. Brenda pointed out that Tom Anderson was incorrect stating that the citation collection did not go directly to County.

Violation of Weed Ordinance is a Class A violation, up to \$1,000 per day fine. This is a drawn out violation process, up to and including court hearing.

JON VALLEY UPDATE

- Treatment of 1,500 acres of County ROW
- Completed survey, treatment of Orange Hawkweed Grant with many new sites found
- Completed survey, treatment of Tri County Grant spraying over 25 sites and over 35 acres of Perennial Pepper weed and the earlier release of bio-agents on Dalmatian Toadflax
- Completed treatment on many contracts including BLM, BPA, COI, City of Bend, City of Sisters, properties owned by Deschutes County, i.e. Landfill and transfer sites, Fairgrounds, Sheriff's shooting range, Communication tower sites, Jail and properties around the county.
- New Contracts: Special Road District #1, treatment of 26.5 acres, City of Bend Airport 65 acres and was requested to pan a year-round maintenance program; including

reseeding the airport properties, Oregon Department of Defense, ODOT adding more mileage to our program.

- Numerous site visits and phone calls for weed identification and treatment questions.
- Working with COI to increase treatment on main canals, treatment of off side of canals and many laterals to approximately 500 acres
- Bid request to reseed Sisters Airport.

Jon Valley reported there is a new weed, Floating Yellow Heart in Redmond. ODA wants to get this treated immediately and get on top of the site.

Funding

Discussion and background of past funding. Weed Free Forage inspections have been contracted out through Randy Black at the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Ed informed the Weed Board of the PILT funding that has become available, \$60,000. No expiration of this funding, money is currently parked with County Finance Department until Board determines funding line items. PILT not guaranteed for more than two years. Ed asks that Board members consider areas for funding and will discuss more at next meeting. Ed was asked to provide current budget line items to help Board with the discussion moving forward.

Larry stated that the County should come up with additional permanent funding; program needs to be evaluated and determine if a new Weed Manager should be hired. Robert stated that Board agreed to give the transition one year, keep an open mind and work with what is being done. Robert appreciates the feedback given by Ed and Jon.

Delegate another meeting to discuss Budget allocation.

Meeting Schedule

Discussion on possible change to meeting day of the month and time, no change was necessary.

Brochure Review

The brochure "Noxious Weeds: Your Responsibility" was passed out and Ed asked that any suggested edits be sent to him in the next few days before the brochure was reprinted.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:00PM

NEXT MEETING October 10, 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.