

**WASHINGTON COUNTY WEED ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021 7:00 p.m.**

Those attending:

Harmon Horton

Isaac Ward

Tom Yankey

Bruce Gochnour

Jerry Lunsford

Calvin Hickey

Royce Schwenkfelder

Lonnie Huter-BLM

Bonnie Davis-Wash. County Weed

Jasen King-Idaho Dept. Lands

Attendees via Zoom: Royce Schwenkfelder and Jasen King.

Guests this evening: *Betty Ward-private landowner*

Chairman Horton called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance by Calvin Hickey, Invocation by Isaac Ward. Tom Sutton and Sarah Funk are absent and excused this evening.

Commissioner Haines is at the Idaho Association of Counties Commissioner/Clerk's Conference.

Introductions: *N/A*

In the Matter of the Minutes: Minutes of May 11, 2021. Motion by Calvin Hickey to accept the minutes as presented this evening. Second by Tom Yankey, motion carries.

In the matter of claims: *N/A*

In the matter of Correspondence: Bonnie reported she does have the Vendome reserved for our Cooperator's Appreciation Dinner to be held January 27, 2022.

Lonnie Huter reported he received a request from a research study group for sample of the common crupina in our area as there are different genotypes. He stated he has found a dozen plants 8" tall in a new area. His findings are the herbicide treatments have been very effective.

General Business

Teacher Workshop/Summer Weed Tour-Bonnie reported she has received 3 cancellations for the workshop with 16 registered as of this evening. Tour stops were reviewed and Royce stated he will work with Amy Neckels, FFA Advisor to see about a better screen for the Exhibit Hall in Cambridge. We discussed a site change to Midvale Hill Rest Area per Mike Pellant's request as the Horse Flat site did not have sufficient annual grass present.

2021 ISDA Cost Share Award-The board discussed the new requirements that were added to the Cost Share Agreements after the original award letters were received. The delays on behalf of the ISDA and how weed control is a time sensitive matter. Motion by Royce Schwenkfelder to not accept the 2021 Cost Share Award, second by Tom Yankey. Discussion: write letter to the state explaining our reasoning for not accepting the award. Royce stated we do not wish to close any doors but this was not the vision of the late Glen Secrist, ISDA when this program began. Lonnie shared the Jordan Valley CWMA received their money on June 4th. They are now scrambling to get contractors. Chairman Horton signed a prepared letter declining the 2021 Cost Share Award which provided explanation, Harmon read the letter into the record. Harmon suggested we send a copy of this letter to the Governor, Department of Agriculture, our state representatives and all CWMA's. Bonnie will send the signed letter electronically to ISDA. Calvin Hickey moved to form a committee to be chaired by Royce Schwenkfelder to draft a letter on behalf of the Weed Advisory board addressing the ISDA Cost Share funding. Second by Royce Schwenkfelder, motion carries. Royce asked for volunteers. Calvin volunteered the entire board. They will try to have a rough draft before the next meeting and we all need to weigh in on this. Calvin stated once this letter is written he would like to share it with other weed departments and CWMA's. Motion by Royce Schwenkfelder to send letter written by the committee to ISDA, second by Calvin Hickey, motion carries.

New Business

August Newsletter-Articles will be due July 16th and we will fold at the August meeting. Articles are: Weed Tour-Aaron or Zac, Poison Hemlock Biological Agents-Joey Milan, Teacher Workshop-Jerry Lunsford, Middle Valley Waterways-Harmon Horton, Poster Contest-Tom Yankey, 2022 CWMA Neighborhood Project Applications and Commissioner Haines will do Commissioners Corner. If anyone else is interested in writing something please let us know.

Project Reviews/Set Date-The board feels there is benefit to doing this. Bruce stated this shows that the Advisory Board has time to come and talk to them. Jerry Lunsford says they all appreciate it and they come away with a good attitude. Discussion of where we might need to visit this summer. The board requested to review the project spreadsheets at the next meeting and they can make their determination at that time. It was suggested to not only invite the coordinator but cooperators as well.

Washington County Fair Booth-The board would like to see the booth there as feel it is a benefit to have it there but it is difficult to man. After discussion we will place materials under the table for restocking and if one of the board or Bonnie passes through please restock the table. We will not provide Idaho Weed Books on the table but information to contact the office for more information. Isaac stated it is very educational for the kids and people were always interested in guessing how many scotch thistle seed in a jar. Harmon and Calvin both suggested we leave the booth optional and if you have time to work please do.

Project Reports

Weed Crusaders-Bonnie reported the project went fairly well. Turnout was not what the project coordinator had hoped for which happens often.

Middle Valley Waterways-Harmon reported participation was down this year but those that came accomplished a lot. Of those that committed only half showed up. The project score sheet the coordinator and Bonnie fills out at the end of the day is a bonus. Everything is fresh and you don't have to write a report later.

Up the Creek-Lonnie Huter reported good turnout he and had the Public Affairs Specialist with him and he will do a post on the BLM Facebook and Twitter accounts showing the cooperation. Jerry reported the project went well, weather was a bit unsettled but they were able to get it done. The BLM and USFS participated.

Cow Creek-Jerry reported turnout was great and the boys had a pump in the creek for weed department to refill trucks with. They took 2,200 gallons and refilled at the creek several times. One cooperator who travels quite a ways bought a new UTV sprayer which is good to see. It was noted the weed department needs more help on that project to keep up. It was suggested maybe a weed board member come and assist.

Dutch Flat-Jerry reported he was there and participation was not very good. Bonnie reported this has been a challenge from the beginning. The coordinator has sold his property and could not be in town project day so his brother took the project over in the interim, then was out of commission and the staging area was changed numerous times. It was noted that a lot of land is selling in this area.

Valley View-Royce and Jerry reported the project went well with good participation. Lunch was great and it was a great weather day. Jerry noted last year he got a tremendous kill, he killed the spurge and now rush skeletonweed is moving in. Royce stated where they have taken out the rush skeletonweed something else comes in behind it. Competition is the best key. Royce shared he is excited about a new product that Corteva is coming out with. They are going to do some aerial spraying where the vegetation is thick with rush skeletonweed and annual grasses. This could be a future tour stop.

Advent Gulch-Jerry reported it was a great turnout with lots of people there. USFS came and lunch was great. One of the larger landowners that is relatively new doesn't really understand the weed issues that he has but Jerry is working on him.

Pine Creek Mountain Estates-Bonnie reported 4 people participated on behalf of the estates and they sprayed 322.5 gallons of mixed herbicide.

Midvale Weed Beaters-This was a reschedule. Harmon and Jerry participated. The coordinator tried hard to get people involved and they didn't show up. Harmon sprayed at the airport and put out over half the herbicide used on the project. He went and did a quick survey that morning and a portion was really bad while other areas just needed touched up. The south side is still a wreck but we are gaining. He added he did not do the north side last fall that is why it needed treated again.

He stated we have invested enough there you can't walk away. Jerry treated some property of Holmes and Brian Graham sprayed most of the city right of ways. This project is struggling.

Mann Creek Valley-This was a reschedule. Poor turnout if it had not been for one large sprayer they would not have had much usage.

Announcements & Upcoming Activities-

***June 9-Teacher Workshop**

***June 10-Annual Weed Tour**

***Biological Workshop-July 15, 2021 2-5:00 p.m.**

Next meeting is Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Bruce Gochnour to adjourn, second by Tom Yankey, motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Meeting was held both in person and via Zoom.