

Benton County Noxious Weed Control Board

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Monthly Meeting Minutes

Tuesday June 19, 2018

7:00 PM

Location: Weed Board Office 1908 Butler Loop Richland, WA

Meeting was called to order by chairman Danny Downs at 7:05 pm.

Directors present were Tony Smith and Darrell Miles. Staff present were Vic Reeve, Konrad Kauer, Holly Kress and Luis Villalobos.

Next Board Meeting to be held on Tuesday July 17, 2018.

Meetings and events attended – Flowering Rush – Umatilla May 14th, Benton Conservation- May 16th

Review the April 17, 2018 Minutes- Motion to approve the May 15, 2018 minutes as amended was made by Tony Smith with second by Darrell Miles. Motion carries 3-0.

Review March financial reports --- (Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet, and Budget Status)

Discussion followed about noting vacation and sick time as a liability. Conversation on logging hours spent on education budget also followed.

May 2018 – Checks #1369 thru #1381 = \$4,613.39

Motion to approve checks to be paid made by Tony Smith with second by Darrell Miles. Motion carries 3-0

Payroll for April 2018 – Direct Deposit = \$17,196.81

Benton Public Works County Roads- June 4th the Weed Board was asked to finish all the unsprayed roads in the county. We now have access to both trucks and can work out of the Prosser shop. That is going to be more difficult than it sounds due to the time frame and weather, Glyphosate is about the only weapon that we have. We have invoiced Public Works for 11,900, 207 hours.

Employee Status ...Konrad- Roadside report, Holly- Office & Website information, Luis- CDL & Pesticide licensing, roadside applications.

Each employee had an opportunity to give a brief insight to what they have been doing.

Projects Report

Roadside- Vic will be working with the road dept. about a commitment of some kind for 2019-2020. Acres to date are 371, 65 hours of spray time with 198 hours of "other activities."

Candy Mt.—Konrad & Luis did a day of spraying June 6 for Yellowstar thistle.

West Richland--- "park at the lake"--- algae treatment was done on June 7, this will require one more treatment 14 days later.

Paul Keith Wetland--- this is an ongoing problem, there is little that we can do to remedy this situation. The wetland is a source of mosquitoes that the Mosquito board is unable to treat due to the lack of open water. The only action that the weed board can provide is to hire a helicopter to treat the area with herbicide throughout the year. The desired result would be eliminating the Phragmites, however it is doubtful that it will provide the open water required. This needs to be a restoration project.

Wheat Growers Meeting—Thanks to Tony Smith, Vic was able to take Holly to the Benton Co. Wheat Growers meeting/ WSU field day event. This is a good opportunity to be face to face with local farmers to hear their concerns and explain the weed boards' involvement with weed control in the county. It was particularly good to hear Shon Small say that the weed board does have a purpose.

2019-2020 Budget discussion.

Walla Walla Cereal Rye Letter & Resolution – in response to the grower's complaint Walla Walla will be developing a Cereal Rye Policy.

Upcoming Meetings & Events – Upcoming Meetings & Events – Benton Conservation June 20, Invasive Species June 21 Spokane, Vic off June 21, July 4 Holiday, Konrad Vacation July 5&6, Rancho Reata event July 7.

Vic requests vacation time August 30 thru Sept 7 --- six days.

Meeting Adjourned 9:15 pm.

Danay A. Owens 7/17/18
Chairman Date
Victor Reay 7-17-2018
Clerk of the Board Date