



Skagit County Noxious Weed Control Board

1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 416-1467

Minutes

Published Meeting
July 20th 2017, 6:00pm
Skagit County Noxious Weed Board
Board of Commissioners Hearing Room
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Jim Hinton calls the meeting to order at 6:15pm

II. ROLL CALL

- **Jim Hinton** - Chair
 - **Jim Carstens** - Secretary
 - **Don McMoran** – WSU Advisor
 - **Dan Berentson** – Director of Public Works
 - **Joseph Shea** – Noxious Weed Coordinator
- 2/5 Voting Board members No Quorum**

III. AGENDA

- a. Approval of June 29th 2017 meeting Agenda
 - Not approved but revised by Jim Hinton

IV. MINUTES

- a. Approval of April 20th 2017 Minutes.
 - **Jim Hinton** – Since we don't have a quorum we can't approve the minutes from last month.

V. GUEST COMMENTS

- N/A

VI. CONTINUED BUSINESS

- a. **Coordinator hiring process**
 - Executive session after meeting 7:30pm.
Board was not in agreement and will postpone selection until our next regularly scheduled meeting.
- b. **Board member nominees letter to the County Commissioners**
 - Not Discussed

c. Permit and grant status

- **Joseph** – We have received our new Knotweed Grant for 20,000.00 and are in the process of approving and getting it signed by the commissioners.

d. Skagit County Noxious Weed Board Policies and Procedures doc.

- Not Discussed

e. Weed District Delineation Verbiage.

- **Joseph**- I have provided a paper map to view that is larger than the one presented at the last meeting.
- **Jim Carstens**- We should move the line delineating between District 4 and 5 to the Skagit River instead of highway 20 since many landowners are isolated on the river peninsulas.
- **Jim Hinton**- We may want to move the township to incorporate Jim Carsten within his district.
- **Jim Hinton**– We will figure it out.

f. lien on property requirements

- Jim Hinton - Previously discussed in coordinators report.

g. Poison hemlock on Old Highway 99

- **Joseph Shea**- the Visser property has been notified.
Jim Hinton – Additionally Sterling Hill Potatoes need to be notified of Poison Hemlock. Their office is in Puget Sound potatoes. Give them a phone call because it needs to be taken care of now.
- **Jim Carstens** would like to have a paper document ready in hand to give to the landowners.
- **Joseph Shea**- We currently cannot regulate people to have timelines of required control due to board member seat status and no voting quorum.
Jim Hinton- The forms need to have a time limit. They need to control the weed or contact us within 7 days otherwise they will ignore the notice. Then you need to draft a secondary letter to the landowner based off a template provided from the state.
- **Donald McMoran** – Have you contacted your prosecuting attorney to make sure that these documents are sound?
- **Joseph Shea** – Yes, I have and Stephen Fallquist has expressed that we do not make any motions, action items or regulation without our board being at full voting capacity.
- **Jim Hinton** – It is still the job of the coordinator to impose regulations on landowners?
- **Joseph Shea** – I have no legal jurisdiction to regulate if I do not have a legally appointed board that meets quorum.
- **Jim Hinton** – I can handle that
- **Jim Carstens** – You don't have that authority already? Haven't we done it in the past?
- **Jim Hinton** – It's in our minutes in the past. You shouldn't have to write a ticket for at least another month.
- **Joseph Shea** – Yes, you may have voted in the past but the RCW 17.10 and WAC processes haven't been properly followed in past years.

h. NFWF Grant Skagit County Noxious Weed Comprehensive Plan/ Dike District 12

- **Jim Hinton** – Previously discussed in Coordinators report.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Guemes Island Focus Group /Island Focus Group**
 - Not Discussed
- b. **Tansey Ragwort on Highway 20 and Sauk Valley Rd**
 - Not Discussed
- c. **Scotch Broom in Electric (Seattle City Light) Right-of-Way Marble mount**
 - **Jim Hinton** - Already Discussed in Coordinators Report.
- d. **Training for Parks Department**
 - **Joseph Shea** – A lot of our maintenance crews for public lands do not have a good understanding of noxious weeds and I hope to give presentations to train the crews at least once a year.
 - **Jim Hinton** – What is the status on the weeds on Anderson Rd? With the new road being put in they have stirred up the dirt and there is a big teasel problem.
 - **Dan Berentson** – Esco Bell will be your contact for controlling the teasel on Anderson Rd.
- e. **Presentation at local Farm Groups/ Committees**
 - **Joseph Shea**- I'm interested in attending some farm groups to get my face out there and possibly give a presentation about noxious weeds.
 - **Don McMoran**- I will plug you in on some of the groups this winter. The big one to attend is the Skagit County Fair.
- f. **Butterfly Bush Classification – Emily Dernenne Natural Resource Division / Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group**
 - **Joseph Shea**- They were wondering if Butterfly bush could be selected for control on our 2018 weed list as it greatly affects their properties.
 - **Jim Hinton** – The new land trust property in the nook champs off of college way has a big teasel problem and I contacted them and they said that they would need a letter in order to control it.
 - **Joseph Shea** – Now with it selected we will have more authority to require the trust to take care of their teasel.
 - **Jim Hinton**- Well we have had it listed before.
 - **Joseph Shea**- From what I was told from Alison Halpern is that our weed lists for the last couple of years have been incorrect and more of a copy and paste of what the state has passed and that our list hasn't been officially voted on for a number of years.
 - **Jim Hinton** - There is a lot of teasel on ovenale rd.
 - **Jim Carstens** - Pulver rd. there is a lot of Japanese knotweed and it was mowed near Wallace potatoes.
 - **Don McMoran** – You only need an inch of knotweed to sprout a new plant.
 - **Jim Hinton**- Rather than telling you now I will send you a list but I talked to Wilcox farm about the dynes place where they were growing corn. There is a lot of knotweed. Bill and randy sprayed cockersham rd. east. In Hamilton
 - **Jim Hinton** – Morning glory is everywhere in the rails to trails near the rodeo grounds in Sedro Woolley. Skagit county parks and Sedro Woolley need to get on top of the morning glory treatments.
 - **Jim Carstens** – What ever happened to the oyster place? Taylor shellfish?

- **Joseph Shea** BNSF has been treating the Knotweed on their right of way but Taylor Shellfish need to take care of the knotweed. They will not allow Chemical treatments due to the shellfish. But we need to get that done.
- **Jim Hinton** – With regards to Smilk beach on the south end of the golf course. There is a lot of Poison Hemlock. Have you done anything?
- **Joseph Shea** – I have done multiple treatments on the area for the Poison Hemlock and am in the process of completing more. I'm working with Kevin Anderson from the Swinomish Tribe as well as I am getting my Federal Spraying license that allows me to treat on tribal lands. This would help me be able to assist more landowners.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

a) Noxious Weed Coordinator Report

- **Jim Hinton** - Moves to start with the Coordinator Report.
- **Joseph Shea** - After passing our weed list at our last meeting Seattle City Light got ahold of me about why scotch broom was selected for control. They were having troubles managing their properties in Marblemount and Rockport and were requesting assistance with landowner outreach and agreements to help them control their scotch broom infestations. September 9th I will be meeting with a group of landowners and Seattle City Light to develop a management plan.
 - We have applied for the NFWF pulling together initiative for a total of 100,000.00 and have added WSU for 25,000 of in kind contribution and are waiting for approval for final proposal.
 - The Anacortes Water Treatment plant and the northwest nursery have both called and or emailed complaints about Gerry Koffel property on River Bend road the abundance of Thistle. Notice has been sent and we are awaiting contact with the landowner.
 - In order to make official actions we need to have an official voting board and need to get our applications in so we have quorum at our meetings.
- **Jim Carstens** - Is considering not being a part of the board moving forward; also I believe that Tom Dellinger is not interested in being a part of the board as well.
- **Jim Hinton** - Do you know Goob? He is his son and would make a good board member for that District.

Joseph Shea – I Talked with Dan Lefebvre from dike district 12 and he has agreed to help with the river survey. We are waiting to see how long things take and then will request for dike district 17 for additional help. We will be using WCC crews to help survey from the concrete boat launch and survey all the way down to the north and south fork of the Skagit
- **Jim Hinton:** You want to make sure to survey the clear lake bridge and Sauk River.
- **Joseph:** We will be compiling all the data that SFEG, Seattle City light, and Sauk Suatle tribe has compiled to determine the extent in the reaches above concrete.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm and Executive session began.