

Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board Minutes of the February 09, 2022 meeting

Call to order: Tamara Cowles, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:07 am via phone. Others present include Board members Bill Bezanson, Dave Robbins, Myrn Stewart and Coordinator Patricia Grover.

Minutes: Minutes from the January 09, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Bezanson/Stewart moved and seconded to accept the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing for adoption of 2022 Mason County Noxious Weed list: Pat read from the RCW as to why a public hearing is held. Packets consist of the DRAFT Noxious Weed list trifold. Changes were identified as:

- Class B-designate additions:
 - Hanging sedge, *Carex pendula*, *Carex pendula* subsp. *pendula* and *Carex pendula* subsp. *agastachys*
 - Rough chervil, *Chaerophyllum temulum*
 - Wild basil/basil savory, *Clinopodium vulgare*
- Reclassification from a class C to a class B noxious weed: Common tansy, *Tanacetum vulgare*
- Addition as a Class C noxious weed species: Green alkanet
- Multiple taxonomic name changes

Question about Scotch broom. The plant is found under Class B, no requirement for control. Discussion followed about the Board's ability to enforce control of Scotch broom. Scotch broom could be selected for control in specific geographic areas if "control" is reasonable.

Stewart/Bezanson moved and seconded to approve the 2022 Mason County Noxious Weed list as proposed. Motion carried unanimously.

Coordinator's Report: The coordinator's update is incorporated by reference. Questions followed:

- Re: the Green Diamond Master Land Use permit, Tamara asked whether they will be addressing fragrant waterlily at Cranberry Lake. Fragrant waterlily is a Class C noxious weed which does not require control. The Frank Family Foundation owns about ½ of the lake and I have not heard of any effort on either owner's part to undertake control which would require an NPDES permit through the Department of Ecology for in water treatment. Fragrant waterlily is expanding in the lake.
- The permit with Green Diamond facilitates treatments adjacent to National Forest land.
- Discussion followed re: the weed free gravel and WWHAM (Washington Weed Free Hay and Mulch) program. What is weed free gravel? Forest Service implemented a weed free gravel program approximately 10 years ago and the County program inspects Forest Service and private rock sources when requested.
- Property owner on Coulter has bamboo. Pat plans to add bamboo to the Notice of Intent (NOI) for treatment at this location.

2022 Budget: Budget expenditure spreadsheet was provided. Format is consistent with prior years. Charge as worked! Pat provided an explanation of the budget numbers and sources of funding.

Extra Help Position update: Pat provided the updated position descriptions. Noxious Weed Specialist and Noxious Weed Control Inspector will replace the two Noxious Weed Control assistant positions. Pat explained the process and reasoning behind the changes. Discussion followed re: positions in Lewis and Thurston Counties. Former Mason County Noxious Weed staff have now gone to work in both of those counties.

Work Priorities for 2022: Pat attended the Kitsap County Noxious Weed Control Board's virtual meeting. Kitsap County does a work plan and Pat felt that the Board should be engaged in setting priorities for the program. Pat provided copies of a Work Plan template. What are the program goals for 2022? Examples might be events, enforcement, control, no cost disposal day, etc.. What are the Board member's priorities?

Other Business: The Board does not have a representative from the Belfair area. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is currently under development for the Belfair Urban Growth Area (UGA). Upon review, I found no information about noxious weeds and very little information about vegetation. Prevention measures during development are key to reducing the spread and impacts of noxious weeds.

Training for OPMA.

This will be Pat's last season. Tenure to be completed by the end of September. Board and Coordinator have been involved with interview process at other counties. Coordinator position description is in the process of being updated and Pat will bring to next meeting. Is an Executive session appropriate to discuss employment issues?

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00.

Submitted by Patricia Grover 04/13/2022

Approved by MCNWCB 04/13/2022