



Clark County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting Minutes



Monday, May 2, 2022, 9:21am to 10:30am

Meeting held at 4700 NE 78th Street, Conference Room B1, Vancouver, WA and via Microsoft Teams

Control Board: Jerry Kolke*, Bill Zimmerman, Lee Wells*, Randy Lawffer, Lisa Nelski, Justin O’Dea

Clark County Staff:

Parks and Lands: Kevin Tyler, Justin Collell, Chris Walker, Denielle Cowley, Daniel Ebert

Guests: None

* Not Present

9:21am Called to Order – Bill Zimmerman

Time	Action Item
9:27am	MOTION BY: Randy Lawffer SECOND BY: Lisa Nelski
	MOTION: Motion to adopt February 7, 2022, minutes as submitted
	DISCUSSION:
	IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None ABSTAINED: None

9:22am Opened hearing to review weed board member applications – Bill Zimmerman

Time	Action Item
9:24am	MOTION BY: Lisa Nelski SECOND BY: Randy Lawffer
	MOTION: Motion to recommend reappointing Lee Wells (District 1) and Randy Lawffer (District 5) to Clark County Noxious Weed Control Board
	DISCUSSION:
	IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None ABSTAINED: None

9:25am Closed hearing to review weed board member applications – Bill Zimmerman

3) Status Update of Field Inspection Program – Justin Collell

a) Staffing/Training

- i) Justin is the only fully trained employee in this program
- ii) Justin is training John Wilson, nine-month employee
- iii) Attempting to hire another nine-month employee, one temporary employee now and second one later in the year – Justin will need to train all
- iv) Hiring for county and temporary employees is an on-going challenge
- v) Training time difficult to quantify – mainly on-the-job training as well as studying for pesticide license exams

b) Garlic Control vs Inspections

- i) Contract with City of Camas has Justin and staff doing their control work which is very time consuming and taking time away from other survey work
- ii) Camas reimburses Clark County per the contract which provides no education to City of Camas employees as our staff does 100% of the work

- iii) Justin would like to move away from this contract and have Camas do their own control work like the Cities of Vancouver and Washougal
- iv) Justin noted this as an example in support of a noxious weed assessment
- v) Lisa will reach out to City of Camas regarding volunteer events—they may have a Volunteer Coordinator now
- vi) Once Garlic Mustard control is completed in Camas we can go back to inspections

c) Grants

i) Variable Leaf Milfoil – Warren Seely Reservoir

- (1) First infestation of variable leaf milfoil discovered by private landowner and confirmed with DNA test
- (2) Early Infestation grant has been accepted by DOE but due to staffing issues has stalled

ii) Knotweed

- (1) Will be sending letters out for Gibbons Creek
- (2) Gibbons Creek has never been targeted and history shows the first time we target a new watershed we have a low rate of return for waivers

iii) Tree of Heaven/Spotted Lanternfly

- (1) Accepted proposition from State of WA to survey for Tree of Heaven as it is the preferred host for the Spotted Lanternfly which is a threat to stone crops
- (2) Survey efforts should be fairly easy as it is a tree, and we already know some locations
- (3) Clark County was specifically targeted due to rail lines, and activity from camping/recreating where people travel from back east (Pennsylvania) where there is a large infestation of lanternfly
- (4) We will provide a short list of 2-3 likely infestation zones

d) Weed Free Forage

- i) Justin is the only employee trained in Weed Free Forage
- ii) John Wilson will also be certified
- iii) The state inspector did not enter their own reports and relied on us to do so
- iv) We have 10-11 producers in the area
- v) Twine is now stored at 88th St.
- vi) Lisa talked about President Biden’s “America the Beautiful Challenge” and are there any grants we could use from that to get more staff and resources – Justin will follow up and Kevin said it depends on the program and we would need council approval to seek our own grants
- vii) Again, we are having challenges hiring people as the job market is very competitive right now
- viii) Justin mentioned advocating for an assessment

5) Items from Board – Bill Zimmerman

- a) Bill asked about Tansy Ragwort signs
 - i) The signs can go out – deployment doesn’t take too long
 - ii) We have a reserve and need to tape over the deadline

6) Public Comment – None

7) Other - Denielle Cowley took a new position as the Legacy Lands/Railroad Coordinator and introduced Dan as interim for the Vegetation Management position she vacated

10:30am Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by Chris Walker, Secretary

Upcoming Meeting:

Date: August 1, 2022
Time: 9:00am to 11:00am
Location: 4700 NE 78th St. Conference Room B1 and Microsoft Teams