

Pend Oreille County Weed Board

227 B South Garden Ave.
Newport WA, 99156
Phone: 509-447-2402
Email: noxweedinfo@pendoreille.org
www.pendoreilleco.org/weedboard

Minutes

Pend Oreille County Noxious Weed Control Board

Monday, March 11, 2024

Weed Board Office, 227-B South Garden Avenue

2:00 PM

Board members present: Wesley Bailey, Tom Pulford, David Hoisington

Also present: Loretta Nichols, Tommy Crossman, Paula Martin

Meeting called to order: 2:00 pm.

Action Report	Motion Carried
Motion to approve travel expenses for March Meeting	Yes
Motion to approve February expenses	Yes
Motion to approve February meeting minutes	Yes
Motion to approve Policy for NPDES Permit Usage	Yes

I. Public Comment

Public comment opened at 2:00 pm.

No public comment.

II. Consent Items

Travel expenses for March meeting:

Tom moved to approve the travel expenses for this meeting. David Seconded.

Motion carried.

February Meeting Minutes

Tom moved to approve the February regular meeting minutes. David seconded.

Motion carried.

III. New Business

A. Revenue & Expense Report:

(See attachment A 1- 2)

David moved to approve expenses for December. Tom seconded. **Motion Carried.**

B. Employee Updates and Monthly Reports:

(See attachment B 1 - 3)

1. Discussion regarding acquiring “new” truck this summer, and preparation for 2024 Inspection/Spraying season.
2. A lot of work on NCS Workshop by staff. Loretta discussed that this may be a high fire year, and has been discussed with other Coordinators, with weeds likely to come up at the same time (May). Tom would like this brought up at the Workshop. Make public aware of situation and take action before flowering/seeding. Wes would like a handout to get people talking about it during and after the workshop.
3. Tommy informed board members of fender-bender accident that occurred on February 15th in county pickup. No follow-up required after County found no damage to vehicle, local police declared no visible damage and no action necessary.
4. Paula updated on obtaining license and endorsements, ability to go into field for inspections and spray this year.

C. Coordinator Reports & Updates:

1. Loretta informed Board that the Outreach position has been offered to someone, awaiting their acceptance or rejection of position.

D. Review Seattle City Lights Agreement and Department of Natural Resources Agreement:

(See Attachment C & D)

1. SCL specific: Loretta read Pam Thomure’s email out loud as she was unable to attend meeting. Bringing the Agreements before the Weed Board prior to the County Prosecutor is a new sequence of events. Normally the Prosecutor’s office would go through the contracts and correct most language, including cancellation of contract(s) by either party and clauses regarding payment for work that has already occurred. Loretta also explained that Exhibit C gives a better breakdown of costs for Agreement, that these are estimates, and that we can do an amendment each year as necessary during the 5-year contract.
2. Tom spoke up about the staff at SCL being all new and not as knowledgeable about contracts. Wes would like Prosecutor’s Office to see contracts and make changes as necessary to be sure our Agreements are as strong as possible before signing. Loretta asked for clarification if they are giving approval for her to now send both Contracts to the Prosecutor’s Office, all Members present were in agreement, with the notes of concern from all Board Members and their individual concerns for the contract(s).
3. Loretta mentioned that she is working with Mary Fee from Washington State Department of Agriculture about the laws regarding specific weeds, who is responsible for eradication and/or maintenance of suppression, and how new weeds added to the list are taken into account.
4. Loretta brought up 5-year contracts, as this is what is common for Agreements/Contracts in the Weed Board office, asking the board members present if they are on-board with this procedure. All three present board members were in accord with continuing 5-year contracts at this time.

E. Review Annual Ad:

(See Attachment E)

1. Review of ad was positive. Permission to place in Newport Miner and Selkirk Sun, with edits that Loretta suggested.

IV. Old Business

A. Annual Report Review

1. Review of the Letter in Report. Enumerate how aquatic spread occurs from people using the waterways without due diligence. Board would like to make it clear we are asking for the community to help in this fight. Loretta will complete edits and review again in April.

B. Discuss Working Over Water Policy

1. "Who does a hazard assessment" was Pam's question at February meeting. Tommy's answer is: we do. He handed out a Hazard Assessment for PPE page with sample forms. Pam's 2nd questions was "Who is the safety compliance officer?" Tommy's answer is DOSH, Department of Safety and Health. He set up an appointment for them to inspect our work area and equipment April 17th at 9am to ensure we are in compliance.

C. Review Aquatic Plant & Algae Management Policy (Attachment F)

1. Updated Policy for NPDES Permit Usage for Ecology Aquatic Plant and Algae Management and WSDA Aquatic Noxious Weed Control from 2018 version. Tom motioned to approve; David seconded. **Motion carried.**

V. Open Discussion

A. Discuss changing April Board Meeting date per request

1. Board Members did not want to change the date of the meeting with an Herbicide Hearing also being necessary at the meeting.

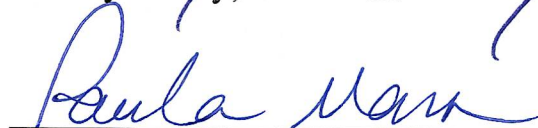
B. Calibration Workshop Date

2. Date discussed and set for April 12th at 10am
- c. Will do Contracts in May for Aquatic work, discussed getting Aquatic Weed Solutions to do a massive Flowering Rush eradication when the water is low, with the assumption on a dry year due to current weather conditions.
- d. Discussion around time frame for evaluation of Coordinator. The possible schedule will be July 2024 and February 2025.
- e. Tom gave a talk about fire and FEMA plan. Has suggested [to] PUD shut down parts of grid in certain conditions to prevent fires this year. Chelan County has one in place at this time.

Meeting Adjourned at: 4:00 pm.


Wesley Bailey, Chairman

4-10-24
Date


Paula Martin, Secretary of the Board

4.10.24
Date