Asotin County Noxious Weed Control Board Wednesday – December 15, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

5:00 pm: Chairman Tom Petty called the Board meeting to order.

Board Members present: Jerry Hendrickson, Brit Ausman

Guests present: Megan Stewart and Kodie Wight (Asotin County Conservation District)

Minutes:

Board reviewed the minutes from the November 9, 2021 board meeting.

1. Jerry Hendrickson moved and Brit Ausman seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2021 board meeting. **Motion Carried.**

Financial Updates:

Board reviewed the Financial Report.

2. Jerry Hendrickson moved and Brit Ausman seconded a motion to approve the expense report as presented. **Motion Carried.**

New Business:

The board was provided an update on the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation project proposal request. Emails indicated the project was approved for funding at the state level and sent to nationals for fund allocation. When Megan reached out to Christine at RMEF, she could find no record of the proposal and there was no funding allocated to the project. The person responsible for the original communications and processing of the proposal request is no longer with RMEF. The next proposal cycle will be in early 2022 and Megan recommended submitting the same proposal with updated information and requesting \$15,000 with \$20,000 shown in match.

The board reviewed the adopted changes and finalized Washington State noxious weed list. The board agreed to not add any additional weeds to the list that is designated, which requires control by landowners. The Asotin County Noxious Weed List must be approved by February 28, 2022. Megan will coordinate to hold the public hearing in conjunction with an Asotin County Commissioners' meeting.

The board reviewed the recommendations for change to the cost-share program and EDRR program for 2022. The change to the cost-share program would allow for more acres to be treated by aerial application by raising the cap to \$1,250. The EDRR change recommendation is to allow landowners the option for treating weeds in the program without using a contractor. The landowner would still have to sign an agreement for follow the program requirements prior to treatment.

3. Brit Ausman moved and Jerry Hendrickson seconded a motion to approve the change recommendations to the 2022 Cost-Share program and EDRR program. **Motion Carried.**

Kodie provided an update regarding some biological controls that will potentially be available in 2022. The weed board would like to offer multiple options for landowners if possible.

There will be at least 2 pesticide recertification courses offered in 2022. The plan is to have one that would include a tour of the Biocontrol center followed by a tour and one classroom setting which could possibly include a virtual option.

The conservation district has multiple newsletters that are sent out to landowner groups in Asotin County. We have a goal of featuring weeds, control methods and funding opportunities in a minimum of 8 mailings in 2022.

As a part of the Asotin County Weed Management Plan, which is in the process of being updated, Kodie has been developing weed fact sheets. The board was provided copies of the ones that are completed.

The 2022 meeting schedule was reviewed. Due to harvest, it was recommended to not have a meeting in August. The Asotin County Noxious Weed Control Board meetings will be held on 3rd Tuesday of even numbered months, except August, at the Asotin County Conservation District office at 6:00 pm. The meeting schedule will be posted on the Conservation District website on the Weed Control page. Any special meetings will also be advertised by posting a notice on the door at the Asotin County Courthouse and Courthouse Annex at least 24 hours prior to the meeting time. The board determined a special meeting in January will not be necessary.

Review of Motions:

- 1. Jerry Hendrickson moved and Brit Ausman seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2021 board meeting. Motion Carried.
- Jerry Hendrickson moved and Brit Ausman seconded a motion to approve the expense report as presented. Motion Carried.
- 3. Brit Ausman moved and Jerry Hendrickson seconded a motion to approve the change recommendations to the 2022 Cost-Share program and EDRR program. Motion Carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 pm by Chairman Tom Petty.

CHAIRMAN SIGNATI