



**ASOTIN COUNTY
NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL BOARD**

**Asotin County Noxious Weed Control Board
Tuesday – September 10, 2024
Board Meeting Minutes**

6:03 pm: Asotin Co. Commissioner Chris Seubert called the Board meeting to order.

Board Members present: **Brit Ausman, Bruce Petty, Jerry Hendrickson**

Guests present: **Kodie Wight, Jennifer Zipse, Megan Stewart (Asotin County Conservation District), Chris Seubert (Asotin Co. Commissioner), Dan Sangster, and Nelle Murray**

Appointment of Chair & Vice-Chair

1. *Bruce Petty moved to nominate Brit Ausman as Chairman of the Asotin County Noxious Weed Control Board, Jerry Hendrickson seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.***
2. *Brit Ausman moved to nominate Bruce Petty as Vice-Chairman of the Asotin County Noxious Weed Control Board, Jerry Hendrickson seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.***

*Brit Ausman took over the meeting as the new Chairman.

Public Comment

Dan Sangster – “Bur Chervil is a large issue across the county. Will there be a program to help control the weeds? Is there a biocontrol for bur chervil? The county road department has been doing a good job, but the WA DOT needs to step up. The fire potential related to bur chervil is really high.”

Nelle Murray – “A FOIA/public records request was recently put into ACCD/ACNWCB. Per the agreement, I want to make sure the goals are being met. I think there should be more than six meetings per year. Weed complaints have not been turned into the code enforcement officer. After having a discussion with the code enforcement officer, he will not be enforcing the complaints.”

- Kodie – “I had a meeting with the code enforcement officer about six months ago, and he said he can only enforce on two codes: fire hazards and vegetation encroachment”

Minutes:

Board reviewed the minutes from the April 16, 2024, board meeting.

3. *Jerry Hendrickson moved, and Bruce Petty seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2024, board meeting. **Motion Carried.***

Financial Updates:

Board reviewed the 2024 Financial Report.

4. *Bruce Petty moved, and Jerry Hendrickson seconded a motion to approve the 2024 financial report as presented. **Motion Carried.***

Open Government Training

Public Records Act: Training was completed by the Board

Open Public Meetings Act: Training was completed by the Board

New Business:

Cost-Share Program

- Eleven cost-share applications have been approved for a total of 480 acres of weed control.
- Allocated cost-share funds total \$5,425.00.
- Inflation Reduction Act funding request submitted by NRCS in April was not approved.
- Alternative funding options are being explored.

Weed Management Program

- Currently working with two landowners on completing full noxious weed management plans.
- Established a participant agreement.
- One participant agreement has been approved.

Bio-Control Program

- Yellow Starthistle biological control orders were not filled. Due to hot and dry conditions, the Nez Perce Biological Control Center was not able to collect enough bio controls to fill orders.
- Orders will be kept on file until next year for resubmission.
- We are researching additional biological control agent distributors.

EDRR Program

- Common Crupina assessments were completed on 4/18/24 covering approximately 16 acres.
- Individual stems were hand pulled and left on-site to dry out.
- Additional assessments will be completed in the future.

Knotweed Program

- Treated with triclopyr on 5/31/24.
- Blackberries growing in the Japanese knotweed site made knotweed control difficult. The City of Asotin completed blackberry removal within the treatment site and burned blackberry residue on site.
- Planning a site visit with Asotin City maintenance staff to discuss treatment planning and site restoration.

Mediterranean Sage Program

- WDFW treated approximately 183 acres on Meyers Ridge in early April.
- Private landowners treated acres accessible by ATV this spring/summer.
- Approximately 2,395 acres have been surveyed for Mediterranean Sage. Med sage is present on 1,123 acres and absent on 1,272 acres. Additional surveys will be completed in spring of 2025.
- Received quotes and secured a contractor for treatment this fall on rangeland not accessible by vehicle. Treatment should take place in late September/October depending on plant growth and weather conditions.
- Funds do not expire at the end of the calendar year. Hiring a contractor may be more beneficial for a spring and summer treatment in 2025 based on treatment needs.
- Focused on exploring funding options:
 - o The RMEF PAC Mediterranean Sage Treatment funding request for \$20,000 was approved!
 - o Working to secure an additional \$20,000 for the Mediterranean Sage Program through The Mule Deer Foundation.

- See "Mediterranean Sage Program 2024 Report" for additional information and survey/treatment maps.

USFS Invasive Plant Partnership

- WCC crew treated 73 acres in 2023 and 33 acres in 2024 for a total of 106 acres.
- The Lick Creek drainage is the priority treatment area designated by USFS.
- Target treatment areas within the Lick Creek drainage include Cottonwood Gulch, Sourdough Gulch and along Lick Creek road.
- Rush Skeletonweed and Yellow Starthistle are the priority species indicated by USFS. Other target species include but are not limited to scotch thistle, bull thistle, Canada thistle, common mullein, mustard species, houndstongue, St. Johnswort, sulfur cinquefoil, and knapweed species.

Outreach

- ACNWCB was selected to receive a free boot brush station sponsored by the Washington Invasive Species Council. We have received the boot brush station and custom signage. It will be installed at the North Fork access/parking area. WDFW is working on completing
- cultural consultation and will also install a kiosk in the parking area.
- Planning pesticide credit course/outreach event for landscapers and nurseries. Working to secure guest speakers. Target date is late October/early November.
- Planning a weed tour combined with a biological control collection and release demonstration for the spring of 2025. Tour details are complete. Working with Nez Perce Biological Control Center staff to establish a suitable collection/release date.
- Environmental Protection Agency ESA "Bulletin Live! Two" Update:
 - o "ESA Bulletin Live! Two" is a program designed to protect threatened and endangered species and their designated critical habitat by limiting specific pesticide use in specific areas and application timing.
 - o For certain active ingredients, bulletins are required on site when applying the pesticide in a Pesticide Use Limitation Area (PULA). PULA's are pre-determined by the EPA and an interactive PULA map is available on the EPA's website.
 - o If a bulletin is required for the pesticide you are applying, it will be stated on the label under the "Directions of Use" section.
 - o You can print a bulletin from the EPA's website up to 6 months before treatment and must have the bulletin on site when completing the treatment.
 - o Tree-of-Heaven flyers are complete and will be distributed throughout Asotin County. Flyers include a QR code for the interactive tree of heaven map and encourage the public to report populations.
 - o WCC crew started inventorying Ravenna Grass throughout Clarkston. This will allow a narrower approach for outreach/education. Approximately 16 locations in Clarkston have been mapped.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn


5. *Jerry Hendrickson moved to adjourn the meeting; Bruce Petty seconded the motion.*

Motion Carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm by Chairman Brit Ausman.

Review of Motions:

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3. Jerry Hendrickson moved, and Bruce Petty seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2024, board meeting. **Motion Carried.**
4. Bruce Petty moved, and Jerry Hendrickson seconded a motion to approve the 2024 financial report as presented. **Motion Carried.**
5. Jerry Hendrickson moved to adjourn the meeting; Bruce Petty seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**



CHAIRMAN SIGNATURE

10-22-24
DATE



BOARD MEMBER SIGNATURE

10-22-24
DATE