



Crooked River Weed Management Area

Board Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2017

Present: Ron Halvorson, Kev Alexanian, Libby Stahancyk, Sarah Callaghan, Dave Langland, Brooke Gray, Rance Kastor, Kristin Williams, Debbie Wood and late was Priscilla Johnson.

Ron called the meeting to order at 2:00pm

- The minutes from the last meeting (May 9, 2017) were reviewed. Changes were made to a couple of names and a motion was made by Langland for approval with a second from Callahan and unanimous approval from the board.
- Debbie presented financial information for March and April. A motion was made by Stahancyk for approval, with a second from Callaghan and unanimous approval from the board.

Coordinator Updates

- **Fin, Fire, Feather:** Held this May in Ochoco Creek Park. There was an invasive species booth for 3rd graders and Debbie presented Noxious Weed Bingo to kids.
- **OSWB Meeting & Field Tour:** Debbie helped lead ODA employees and partners in the field on the second day of their meeting in Crook County. Folks were taken to Conant Basin where they released biocontrol's onto Russian knapweed. Next, they stopped at TNC's Juniper Hills Preserve to talk about weed management. A stop was made to look at Medusahead and last a stop in Grant county to look at the treatments done to Scotch and musk thistle.
- **Grants:** Debbie is finishing up 2016 final reports. Forty-four landowners participated in the Scotch thistle project, treating 541 total acres. Nine landowners participated in the Medusahead project for a total of 5,018 acres. Under the Western SARE grant 3,000 acres of medusahead and cheatgrass were treated.
- **Cost-Share:** We had another great cost-share year spraying and educating many Crook county residents. At Ralph Foster's property Jim Wood provided labor to treat Mediterranean sage and the CRWMA provided herbicide and treatment recommendations.
- **Brochures:** Debbie has been working with Sarah Callahan to finish the brochures, which should be ready for the Crook County Fair.
- **Scotch & Musk Thistle:** Debbie is working with Matt and Amy from Grant County. Matt is performing some of the treatments as well.
- **Russian knapweed Biocontrol:** Debbie continues to collect and release biocontrols for Russian knapweed. The next collection will go to Jefferson county.

New Business

- **County Fair Sign-up:** Debbie is currently asking board members to sign up for shifts for the Invasive Species Trailer at the fair.
- **2018 Grants:** Grants will be put in for Russian knapweed biocontrol, Scotch and musk thistle, Medusahead Aerial spraying with a possible seeding component. Debbie mentioned the expansion of leafy spurge beyond the riparian corridors and that we may want to write a grant for treatment. Kev called this the, "State of Euphorbia", don't ask what that means, but we may be able to leverage treatment with the Lower Crooked

River projects. Strategy could be to tackle treatments above the bridge before projects begin.

- **Scotch thistle:** Kev has been working on enforcement and has gained help from the Crook County compliance officer Lewis Seals, who can be reached at 541-447-3211 or 541-903-2081
- **"A" Listed Weeds:** We may need to look over our "A" listed weeds to make sure they are all still relevant. Should perennial pepperweed stay? Should we add Japanese knotweed, which has been found at Rager ranger station.

Board Member Updates

- **Rance Kastor:** Rance would like to see Russian thistle moved to the "A" list and seed everything after treatments. Helena is putting out a dryland seed mixed with fertilizer.
- **Kristin Williams:** Lost her seasonal and working to find someone before it's too late. She has also been putting out a lot of biocontrol releases. She will be gone September 1, 2017 to January 1, 2018 for maternity leave
- **Priscilla Johnson:** Is not pregnant.
- **Libby Stahancyk:** Sprayed the Davidsons and is finishing the Conant Creek grant spraying, as well. Grass is coming well and the riparian will be fenced and planted. At the LS Ranch in Fall 2016 Mike Crumrine consulted on treatment options, which were implemented. Oversight herbicide was used on the riparian corridor and it has come back nicely. Weeds treated included Russian knapweed, whitetop and perennial pepperweed.
- **Brooke Gray:** This spring we amped up treatments with some new equipment and treated 150 acres of whitetop treatments, which is about 90% of current infestations.
- **Kev Alexanian:** In June Kev treated USFS areas and in July BLM lands. He is working with Heart of Oregon on the Hwy 26 corridor for spotted knapweed and houndstongue with great success using 1oz/acre of Escort.
- **Sarah Callaghan:** Heading up the Heart of Oregon partnership. USFS Botanists put on a weed ID workshops. She also led a fieldtrip on the Grasslands with the Gray Butte Grazing Association teaching Ecological State and Transition Models and showing folks how to apply them.
- **Ron Halvorson:** Bought some speedzone and used it on his yard. Reported Scotch thistle to Parks and Rec., which will turn into a volunteer week.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25pm

Brooke Gray
8-30-2017