



Crooked River Weed Management Area

Board Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2016

Present: Ron Halvorson, Deb Mafera, Rance Kastor, Dave Langland, Sarah Callaghan, Kristin Williams, Kev Alexanian, and Debbie Wood.

Ron called the meeting to order at 2:00.

- The minutes from the last meeting (May 10, 2016) were reviewed, Dave made a motion to accept the minutes and Deb seconded, and the minutes were approved with a minor typo correction by the board.
- Debbie presented financial information for May through June. CWMA received a payment for the medusahead grant from OSWB. Out-going funds continue for cost-share reimbursement to landowners. Check #2248 (\$10,353) to Wilbur Ellis will be reimbursed by ODFW soon as part of the medusahead project.

Coordinator's Report

- Scotch thistle project – program is steadily increasing: 2016 = 42 landowners participating, 2015 = 38 landowners, and 2014 = 13 landowners. Debbie continues to make contacts as she sees populations or when neighbors complain about neighbors. Kev will send certified out of compliance letters to Whitcomb, Lockhart, and Quail Valley Ranch. He will call Sessler to discuss treatment of their population.
- Medusahead project – Debbie is working with landowners, surveying, and choosing test plot sites on different soil types. Ann Kennedy sent a GPS camera to use in conjunction with a PVC frame for monitoring purposes. Six landowners have agreed to become producers of the bacteria: Bonneview Ranch, Waibel, Tweed, Hermreck, Sabre Ridge, and Young's Blue Mtn Ranch. TNC will also put out bacteria although not be a producer. About 3000 acres will receive bacteria treatment.
- Title III – Kev and Debbie sprayed spotted knapweed up McKay. They are also working with HOA's for fall treatment of medusahead. Ron asked about Iron Horse trail system – Debbie will call about them.
- Title II – grants were approved for \$19,000 for this year and \$32,500 for next year.
- Cost share program – 30 landowners to date have been reimbursed and 962 acres sprayed. The Ralph Foster property was sprayed!

Grant Application Brainstorm

- ✓ Continue with Scotch program: Use leftover herbicide as an in-kind contribution, and use Title III as matching funds for outreach. Ask OSWB for money for program management and monitoring.
- ✓ Med sage: Describe situation of changing property owners and older landowners not capable of managing their land. Ask ODA to collect biocontrol and spread onto for-sale ranches and USFS populations. USFS says they will make med sage a priority.
- ✓ EDRR – ask Crumrine to feel out the OSWB on how this project might be received. Request funds for Debbie to work with landowners and do surveys.
- ✓ Apply for Pulling Together grant for medusahead in sage grouse habitat. Due August 3.
- ✓ Apply for Bella Vista grant using the restoration project that Priscilla worked on as a basis.

Secretary/Treasurer Topics

Deb described and read the Delegation of Authority document that will be an amendment to the by-laws. She received email concurrence from some board members not attending this meeting (Chris, Priscilla, Libby, Brooke). Kev made a motion that the by-laws be amended as proposed. Kristin seconded and all were in favor. Motion passed.

Deb will be moving to Colorado in November (or sooner). The board needs a new Secretary/Treasurer. Debbie Wood discussed the matter with several board members and there may be interest to do parts of the job. Kristin offered to do the note-taking part of the job. More discussion will occur between meetings about the possibility of splitting the duties up.

Board Member Updates

Kristin says their EA for adding herbicides was challenged by Blue Mountain Biodiversity Group. This may not hold up, stayed tuned. BLM is doing lots of spurge treatment in the John Day area.

Sarah reports that the Summit OHV project will be out for comment at the end of the month. Jill Wellborn will be acting in Sarah's job while she is on maternity leave. FS is creating strike teams to work on meadusahead.

Kev is busy treating houndstongue on USFS. He is spraying more acres than last year, and this is true for all species and sites. Lots of germination of the seed bank. More herbicide is being used as a result of increased numbers of plants compared to the last few years.

Motion made for adjournment at 4:30 pm.

Deb Mafera,

Secretary/Treasurer 11 August 2016