



## *Crooked River Weed Management Area*

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### **Board Meeting Minutes**

May12, 2015

2:00PM – 5:00PM

Present: Ron Halvorson, Deb Mafera, Brooke Gray, Kev Alexanian, Kristin Williams, Chris Gannon (left at 3:00), Dave Langland, Debbie Wood. Visitors: Jill Welborn USFS, Sue Manley USFS (both left at 4:30).

Ron called the meeting to order at 2:00.

- The minutes from the last meeting (March 10, 2015) were reviewed; Dave made a motion to accept the minutes, Chris seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved by the board.
- The board reviewed the financial information presented by Debbie, with questions about what funds will cover the board liability insurance yearly payment of \$981. Dave brought up that OWEB now covers expenses such as these under administrative/overhead costs. The insurance was purchased after grant submittal, so OSWB funds are not available to cover these costs this year. The subcommittee (Ron, Deb, Kev, Debbie) will sort out the matter. The board approved the financial reports.

### **Coordinator Update**

Sage Grouse Project – Debbie worked with Andy at SWCD and Jackie Couples at ODFW for suggestions of areas to target. She also talked to Tristen at ODA about expectations and Tristen said photopoints are important. Dave said it is imperative to talk to Mike Crumrine about ODA and OSWB expectations since he was part of the grant review committee.

2015 Scotch Thistle – Eric Tucker is currently working with landowners; there is new interest from the Post and Paulina areas. He has changed the treatment chemical to Weedmaster as it is cheaper, but Kev is concerned about the prescribed rate being too weak especially later in the growing cycle. Kev will check the rate and let Eric know if changes are necessary.

Yellow-Flag Iris – Floyd Paye (Payes 2 Spray) got the contract for this BLM grant. He will start within a couple weeks, surveying and treating at the same time. Debbie will monitor results. Debbie sent letters to adjacent landowners to inform them of the project and got no response. Floyd will use the COID easement for access points into Dry Canyon.

2014 Tri-County Project – There was \$3,000 left over from Jefferson Co that was used by Deschutes Co for perennial pepperweed control.

Title III Spotted Knapweed Project – There was one landowner up McKay Creek that was sent a letter of noncompliance and the knapweed on the property was sprayed. All other landowners cooperated. Work continues.

Education/Outreach – Debbie participated in River Keepers and will also participate in Fur Fin Fire Feather tomorrow. She and Kev are giving an educational talk about nuisance weeds tonight in Powell Butte.

### **Crook County Weed Pull**

The weed pull will occur on June 13, 2015; meet at the Extension Office at 9:00. The target will be dalmatian toadflax on absentee landowner property up Juniper Canyon (refer to 9/9/14 minutes). One of the landowners from CA gave permission to pull weeds on his land; there was

no response from the other landowner. The decision was made to go ahead and pull on both properties. Debbie will try and contact Karen Berg who brought the matter to the board's attention last fall for help. Also contacting Cheryl Howard of "Let's Pull Together" may result in supplies and/or food for the event.

### **CRWMA Website**

There was much board discussion about our website, as to whether to continue with the Crook County platform, use only Facebook and not have a website, go out on our own using google or similar, or contract out website services. Website fees through Crook County have been sporadic with the latest payment of \$1000 covering the last 3 years. The \$1000 was covered under the 2012 Participating Agreement with the USFS. Deb and Debbie met with CC GIS recently and they made some changes to the site but it needs to eventually be converted to the new CC format, which will take some funding (amount undetermined as yet). The board made the decision to stick with the CC site and to secure funding to update it to the new format this winter. There was also discussion about the Interactive Weed Map that is out of date. More discussion is needed to make a decision to keep it up or not.

### **Equipment Loans**

A decision was made to not loan out the ATV to the public. A decision was made to require a sign-out sheet and a refundable deposit for the ATV tank sprayers and backpack sprayers. The WMA will also consider taking over the accountability of the backpack sprayers from Extension.

### **2015 Cost-Share Program**

The budget for 2015 Cost-Share is \$25,500. See attached summary spreadsheet of cost-share applications. The following changes were made by the board:

Applicant	Changes	Comments
96 Ranch Thomas Scott	None	Talk to them about the large amount of diffuse on the ranch. Treat YFI with AquaNeat
Aspen Valley Ranch Jim Wood	Reduce Med sage to 25 ac	Scotch thistle is covered under Scotch grant.
At The Y Ranch Hermrech	None	
Beaver Creek Ranch Hermrech		Confirm yellow-star species and acreage before funding
Cheryl Parga	None	Find out if scotch is being treated under the scotch thistle program
Jerry Hicks	None	
John Kreachbaum	None	Deb abstained from vote due to conflict of interest
Larry Downing	Delete musk thistle	After reviewing pictures it is more than likely bull thistle
Nancy Belz	Delete musk thistle	After reviewing pictures it is more than likely bull thistle
Post Ranch Moerschell	None	
Ralph Foster	None	

Rhett Schultz	None	Use Milestone next to creek
Sabre Ridge Ranch	None	Also treating TACA under sage grouse grant?
Santucci Ranch	None	
Shotgun Ranch	Change whitetop to 40 acres	Brook abstains from vote due to conflict of interest. Treat whitetop on the Tweed Place and concentrations on Drake Rd
Stan Hickman	None	
Waibel Ranches	None	

***Note that the attached table of herbicide costs is based on the cost of the product by the ounce needed to treat the listed acreages. It is not the actual cost based on purchasing the minimum container size. The CWMA will not repackage herbicides into smaller containers. Debbie will recalculate costs based on container size.***

Dave commended Debbie on working with cost share applicants to get good proposals. The information received was detailed and included maps and pictures. The board members agreed that the proposals were great, good job!

Motion made for adjournment at 5:00 pm.

*Deb Mafera*, Secretary

Typed on 20 May 2015