



Crooked River Weed Management Area

Board Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2017

Present: Ron Halvorson, Brooke Gray, Berta Youtie, Debbie Wood, Chris Gannon and Sarah Callahan.

Ron called the meeting to order at 2:00pm

- **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the minutes by Gannon, with a second from Kastor and a unanimous decision from the board.
- **Approval of Financials:** Debbie stated that we have increased liquid funds due to invoices pending for RAC dollars. We received a \$81.00 refund from SAIF. A motion was made to approve the financials by Gray with a second from Gannon and a unanimous decision from the board.

Coordinator Updates

- **Yellowstar thistle:** The Barnes Butte patch has increased in size and Debbie is working to get the right people together to work on control. The board expressed concern about yellowstar continuing to persist in Crook County and would like to crack down on landowners in the future. There was also discussion of asking for another treatment grant from OSWB.
- **OSWB:** Interim reports are due and once they have been turned in we will receive payments toward existing grants.
- **Cost-Share:** The 2017 program was a success. Debbie visited Ralph Foster's property, which now belongs to Aspen Valley Ranch. Helena treated the property this year and it looks good. There were just a few rosettes found, which were pulled.
- **Crook County Medusahead:** Debbie worked with Kev to spray along roads within Juniper Canyon and Grizzly Mountain sub-divisions, as well as, individuals who wished to treat their actual property.
- **Scotch & Musk Thistle:** There is one more fall spring to complete in 2017 and the rest will be treated in the spring of 2018 with the remaining funds. In 2017 41 acres of musk, 343.5 acres of Scotch thistle were treated over 21 different landowners between Crook and Grant Counties. Matt Wennick of Grant SWCD and Amy Stiner with South Fork John Day Watershed Council aided with the Grant county treatments.
- **Russian knapweed Biocontrol:** Working with Jefferson County, Debbie was able to put out 33 releases over 315 acres on 9 separate properties, which exceeded the 2017 goals. Many releases were done in Bear Creek, where some of our most persistent patches exist. Before the snow flies Debbie will monitor a few sites to look for established gals.
- **Sagegrouse Medusahead:** Aerial treatments were done October 16th-18th of 2017. The weather was great. Treatment consisted of 6.5 ounces of Plateau and a new surfactant, Grounded. This year Diamond T was added to the program.
- **USFS Agreement:** A mock-up for the new brochure has been completed. The USFS will be paying for 5,000 prints of which half will come back to the CRMWA.
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Old Business

- **Treasurer Position:** Brooke Gray will take over the treasurer position as well, in the same fashion as Deb Mafera. A motion was made by Gannon to accept Gray as the new treasurer, with a second by Kastor and a unanimous decision by the board.
- **President Position:** Ron Halvorson has held this position for many years, but with the lack of someone new wanted to fill the president position he will stay on a year to year basis and resign if someone else wishes to take the position on.

New Business

- **New Board Members:** With Deb Mafera and Priscilla Johnson leaving in the last year Debbie would like to see more landowners fill vacant positions. Recently Rance Kastor moved and will now represent the Ochoco Reservoir area. Gannon suggested an HOA or Prineville urban area representative. The board would like to have ODOT, the City of Prineville or OID represented again. The board is asking Debbie to search out new members.

Board Member Updates

- **Rance Kastor:** Please get a handle on Russian thistle. It is proven to be resistant to glyphosate and is becoming a bigger and bigger problem in Crook County. Rance is using a fertilizer coated common rye seed to outcompete Russian thistle and suggests it as a good tool.
- **Brooke Gray:** Just finished seeding over 300 lbs. of pelleted seed TNC has been working on for almost a decade. The seed was put out on a recently burned unit. The pellets are designed to protect seedlings from the damaging effects of herbicides, therefore, they were spread over medusahead patches and then treated with 6 ounces of Plateau.
- **Sarah Callahan:** The short of it is the USFS budgets are decreasing.

Meeting adjourned at 4:03pm

Brooke Gray
11-14-2017