

**Kitsap County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting
April 19, 2005**

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

Present: Board Members - Joanne Weber, Joyce Komac, John Collins, WSU Extension members Arno Bergstrom and Peg Tillery, and Noxious Weed Coordinator Dana Coggon

I - The minutes were read and approved.

II - Dana was introduced to the Weed Board. Her report and the Board brainstorming are in the following paragraphs.

Dana presented a copy of the report/goal setting from a meeting with the Noxious Weed Advisors held earlier in the day April 19. Arno also added comments to the report from Dana. The report is attached to these minutes. The following are comments and info provided to the Weed Board:

- 1) Various aspects of Noxious Weed Identification, Control and Education will be addressed by teams made up of both Weed Advisors and Native Plant Specialists who will be doing some of the initial site visits with the intent to help the commissioners and county show they're leading by example with four properties: Schold Property in Central Kitsap; Kitsap County Fairgrounds; Howe Farm and Anderson Landing. Dana will visit and assess these properties before any formal plans begin.
- 2) The group felt Anderson Landing and the Fairgrounds were the best places to start. April 25th at 4 p.m. the Weed Board is invited along with Dana and the Weed Advisors to assess the Fairgrounds with the idea of doing something to eradicate the weeds and also use as a demonstration site for educating the public.
- 3) Create small teams for five regions and Weed Advisors would use GPS and mapping standards sheets – Dana will have a plan in place for this effort. (Note: Joyce Komac said Ray Willard with DOT is currently surveying the highways.) Dana will work with Ray on it to utilize the local information. Joyce receives the report because it's her crews that will be working on the problem.

Other reporting from Dana – Dana has already designed and set up a tracking form to record: who, where, when and follow up. Dana and her assistant will set up and maintain a data base for this information. Arno emphasized we'll be able to utilize this data for reports and for seeing impacts along with reporting data to the commissioners and the Noxious Weed Board.

Dana will put together a five year plan and send it out to the board for review. There was an initial plan drawn up by WSU Extension but it needs to be reviewed and revised Arno said.

Arno is having Toni Probert (acting Weed Program assistant) put together new books for all five weed board members along with a copy for Arno, Peg and Dana.

John Collins recommended that we look through the proposal we presented to the commissioners for the assessment. We need to adhere to those items first and create a progress report by the end of this year and projecting where we'll be at the end of 2006. John wants us to show how much value we've given back to the taxpayers. For example: "For \$100,000 of the taxpayers' investment in the Noxious Weed Program the taxpayers have received \$300,000 worth of time, education, resources and products."

Arno will make sure Dana receives the results of the Commissioners most recent questionnaire/survey of the public. A question on noxious weeds was included in the survey this year.

John said the six year goals were attached to the Ordinance that was filed with the Commissioners. It's important we concentrate on the six year goals as our plan and if new goals happen we need to say why we have a new goal.

Arno reported there is a "program glitch" in the way the taxpayers are being assessed for the Noxious Weed Program. Arno will be working with the County to remedy this problem.

Goals:

- Protect natural resources and systems and private property and shorelines
- Partnering with SRF (SERF?)
- Opportunities to partner with DCD
- Look at all county Stormwater Facilities
- Look at retention, detention and wetlands
- Noxious Weeds are mandated for control in SERF planning

John said we need to review the "draft" Six Year Goals – We'll bring copies to the next Weed Board Meeting.

We want to align our goals with the performance measures – these are where we want to set up our documents and documentation on assessments and surveys.

Dana said she will also be meeting with the Weed Boards in neighboring counties. Arno said "I'd like to be able to say 'We've reduced the amount of x weed by x acres.'"

Dana said realistically it takes about five years because at first the amount of noxious weeds increases because we've heightened the awareness of the population and they'll be reporting more weeds and the numbers will go up.

Arno said in 2006 a public entities task force should be formed, educational in nature but to build consensus and form groups to work on certain issues with weeds.

Dana said, “For example the Know Weed Coalition. But, success isn’t just control or eradication; it’s that we’re actively working on the problem” One way to get the word out is through public service announcements and the local theater announcements (like that in Whatcom County).

As for the Knotweed Working Group in Oregon close to 50 people show up every six months to show progress – we can do this for Kitsap too.

Dana strongly believes in marketing. Let people know we’re here and make people want us to stay.

John added – Kitsap County’s Public Education Survey (Water Consortium puts it out) would be a good idea for Dana to look at and utilize.

III - Board Members Reports:

John Collins, Bremerton – Mike Shephard had a successful weed pull at a local park. Free yard waste disposal is in Bremerton this week. John suggested Dana contact Dave Peters at public works to put noxious weed info in the ads for recycling that go out in the various utilities mailings.

Joyce Komac, South Kitsap – Went to check out the hogweed in Olalla reported by Peg Hall and couldn’t find it.

Joanne Weber, Central Kitsap – Joanne, the Halls, Joseph Koppo and Dana met at the Schold Property and sited Reed Canary Grass, tansy and thistle. There is livestock adjacent to the property. The issue will be addressed and a plan drawn up.

No reports for North Kitsap or Bainbridge Island – Wendy and Jane are taking much needed and restorative vacations.

IV – Old Business

Paladin EKO – Arno has passed the info on to Dana and Dana will meet with Sara Simrell from Paladin and report back to the Weed Board. The Board also directed Dana to check with the County to see how the Paladin data system they’re using will mesh with what we decide to ultimately use. Arno said the county will also cost out the system to us and Dana will report to the board on that too.

Rules and Regs – Arno will get a final copy to the Board Members by the May meeting.

I have in my notes Joanne – Center for Invasive Plant Species – help me folks – that’s all I wrote there.

V – New Business

Upcoming events:

- Noxious Weed Education Workshop - May 24 – Long Lake 1-3 p.m.
- Noxious Weed Education Workshop – May 25 – Poulsbo Fire Hall 1-3 p.m.
- Weed Awareness Week is in May – Kitsap will take advantage of this promotional week in 2006
- April 21 Fairgrounds field trip and weed survey
- CKCC Event (Community Expo) – the Weed Board will be represented by Joyce Komac, John Collins, Joanne Weber, Arno Bergstrom, Peg Tillery, Peg Hall and others

VI – Next Meeting is Wednesday May 25 at 7 p.m. at the A-Frame in Silverdale

VII – Joanne Moved to adjourn