

**Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Board
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, November 21st, 5:00-7:00 pm, Tri-Area Community Center, Chimacum

Board Members Present:

Bob Hoyle, Patricia Robinson and Jill Silver.

Others Present:

Eve Dixon (coordinator).

▪ **Introductions:**

None necessary.

▪ **Approval of Minutes of August 15th:**

Pat proposed to approve the minutes as presented. Bob seconded.

▪ **Coordinator's Report:**

There was some discussion about the budget, and the Board asked Eve to send them copies of the budget request which was recently submitted to the County. There was also discussion about possibly buying more weed signs (sandwich boards), a new Garmin GPS unit and/or a projector.

The County Road Report accompanied the Coordinator's Report and gave rise to some discussion. Eve said that timing of spraying for wild chervil is problematic, because seeds can germinate at any time, it bolts and flowers so quickly, and spraying is best done pre-bloom. We should endeavor to spray in a more timely fashion next year and be aware that wild chervil needs several treatments. Jill said that she worked with the Puget Sound Corps to spray and/or pull wild chervil on Center, Beaver Valley, Boulton and Leland Valley Roads on sites with landowner notification and permission. She estimated that a patch which can be sprayed in 1 minute takes 120 minutes to dig. The Board asked about regrowth—how much is coming back in areas that were sprayed, and is it regrowth from roots that did not get killed, or is it seeds germinating? Eve will check.

A question was asked about the length of life of tansy ragwort seeds (*apparently can be up to 15 years, especially ones which are below 2 cm deep*). Bob mentioned bio-controls for tansy ragwort—cinnabar moths which he sees on Pope land. Eve said she often sees them when pulling tansy ragwort and does not pull plants if they have caterpillars on them.

Bob commented that he cut the meadow knapweed on West Valley Road.

Teasel was discussed—we need a strategy for dealing with it—digging rosettes or spraying are probably the best options.

Jill asked if Eve could re-format some of the County Road Report, add some pictures and resend it to Public Works and the Commissioners.

▪ **Board Member Reports**

Jill has been working on re-vegetation projects, using grasses and low-growing forbs. She hopes to have seed mixes ready which could be used on roadsides.

- A meeting of the Scotch Broom Working Group will be held at Jamestown on December 12th. Eve will put a notice of it on the website.
- Reed canarygrass is spreading in and near rivers.
- She has given presentations to The Jefferson County Rotary club, the Port Townsend Rotary Club, Washington Invasive Species Council, and has one coming up at the Tri-Area Garden Club. At the PT Rotary there was lot of discussion about butterfly bush—some people are still surprised to find it is a noxious weed.
- She continues to work with Port Townsend School District on their poison hemlock problem. John Haas has made progress, but other weeds, mainly bur chervil, Canada thistle and mustard species are taking over.

▪ **Additions and Changes to 2014 Weed List:**

There was no discussion on this topic.

▪ **Other Business**

Jill and Bob will contact Marrowstone Island Garden Club—try to present there and organize a weed pull.

We still need two Weed Board members. Eve will try to find people willing to serve.

Jill is experimenting with cutting Scotch broom, using chain saws or loppers. Cutting disturbs the ground less than pulling does, and therefore may not encourage germination of seeds already in the soil. Bob mentioned there are patches of Scotch broom on the Larry Scott Trail that people have adopted and pull or cut regularly and they are looking good. Jill commented that if everyone would pull two small plants each day it would make a big difference. Bob mentioned that Port Hadlock has one of the worst Scotch broom infestations in the county and it is in his area.

▪ **Schedule Next Meeting/Adjourn**

The next meeting will be February 20th, 5-7 pm, Tri-Area Community Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40

Minutes respectfully submitted by Eve Dixon, Noxious Weed Control Coordinator.