

MINUTES
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 12, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Graham, Mike Koivula, Chris Melotti, Jan Nelson, Kai Williams, Ross Penhallegon, John Sundquist

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim LaRue

STAFF PRESENT: Orin Schumacher, Marsha Miller, Arno Nelson, Debby Woodruff

B/CC PRESENT:

GUESTS PRESENT:

PUBLIC PRESENT:

Koivula called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Melotti moved to approve the Minutes of September 10, 2008 as amended. Graham seconded. All present voted in favor. Motion passed.

III. GENERAL COMMENT

Graham asked about cars and boats for sale parked in the County right of way.

A. Nelson stated that it is illegal to park in the row. The Weigh masters mark the cars and they usually have to be moved within 72 hours or be towed. This becomes a big issue during leaf pickup season and road surface treatments.

Melotti stated that there is an invasive weed in the row along Bob Straub Parkway.

Schumacher stated that there is a population of knotweed along the road on the right. He said the row is really wide and difficult to mow.

Jan Nelson handed out literature on Aminopyralid.

IV. VMAC COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Schumacher explained that we had not received any applications by the deadline. He asked the committee what their thoughts were. He explained that Ross, Jim, John, and Kai would be the returning members. He explained to J. Nelson that she needed to reapply and he had emailed her and called her telling her this.

J. Nelson stated that she did not receive the messages. She also stated that in the past, staff contacted previous applicants.

Woodruff explained that staff only does that for applicants less than 12 months old and there were none at this time.

Schumacher explained that he has notified the Board of the status of applications.

Melotti stated that this meeting is the last chance to vote on the issue.

Motion: J. Nelson moved that staff re-open applications and advertise more widely and contact

previous applicants who have expressed interest in the past.

Koivula seconded. VOTE: 5 in favor, 1 opposed

Schumacher explained that the ad is posted in the Register Guard. Staff sends the information on the vacancies to staff downtown and they do the posting. He explained that we did the same advertising as in the past and this time is the first time no applications were received. The postings last for 30 days.

V. COMMITTEE COSTS - SCHUMACHER

Schumacher stated that Sundquist requested cost information on what other committees cost.

Schumacher explained that this was a road block. Unless it is requested by the Board or County administration, he cannot get those costs at this time.

VI. ILLEGAL ROADSIDE SPRAY – SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

J. Nelson stated there was nothing to report at this time. She is planning to contact County legal on ideas on how to educate people and how to enforce the policy.

VII. IVM COORDINATOR UPDATE - SCHUMACHER

J. Nelson asked about the financial status now that the feds have given money to the Counties.

Melotti stated that he guesses that no decisions will be made until the new County Commissioner is seated. He also stated that there is \$1.3 million coming in Title 2 funds.

A. Nelson stated that the Roads Dept. will be looking at 3 fish culverts projects which would run about \$.5 M. These projects deal with the Forestry department.

Penhallegon stated that he guesses that a lot of the money will be socked away and some used to pay bills and pave roads.

Miller stated that the Board has been clear that for the General Fund, it will be a 90/80/70% and the 4th year is unknown but may be 40%. The Board wants to look at the 70% and only program ½ of that money. The Road Fund is separate, but may be dealt with the same as the General Fund. She stated that they will still be looking at some reductions.

Schumacher showed some slide pictures of fabric work projects done to combat Knotweed populations. He showed some pix. of N. Game Farm Rd., and Christianson Rd fabric control work. He showed some pix. of the guardrail work that has been done.

Sundquist asked if there would be inmate crews again.

A. Nelson explained that this is a Union issue and we can't bring back the inmate work crew if we have any layoffs in the union per the 626 contract.

Schumacher explained that the veg. crew at Delta will be getting 5 temporary positions and Florence gets 2 positions to do manual vegetation work.

Schumacher explained that a letter was mailed out to all NSA people notifying them that the no spray signs will be removed by crews.

J. Nelson stated that she went to a community meeting Faye Stewart held and there were positive comments from citizens about the good work the veg. crews are doing.

VIII. ROAD MAINTENANCE UPDATE - NELSON

A. Nelson explained the crews went back to the 5-8hr days for the winter to provide better coverage. There are 85 miles of chip seal, 20 miles of overlays and 7 miles of slurry seal to do. They will begin doing preparation work for these projects. There are 3 roads in the Marcola area that are gravel and will be converted to hard surface in 2009. He explained that a slurry seal is a project using an emulsion product that seals the top surface of the road. The slurry seal projects are contracted out.

IX. WORK PLAN UPDATE - COMMITTEE

Sundquist asked if the CMS (Cascade Mycological Society) mycoremediation was a discussion or action.

Melotti explained that it was a discussion.

Workplan was updated.

X. FAREWELL TO MEMBERS - COMMITTEE

Schumacher presented appreciation letters and certificates from the Board to Mike Koivula, Chris Melotti, and Peter Graham.

Outgoing members shared there gratitude and thoughts on their experience on the committee.

XI. NEW ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING – WED., JANUARY 21, 2009

None discussed. Meeting ended early

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Debby Woodruff, Recording Secretary