

**MINUTES  
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
March 9, 2011**

**(QUORUM NOT PRESENT)**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jan Nelson, Jan Wroncy, David Rosenblatt

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ross Penhallegon

STAFF PRESENT: Marsha Miller, Orin Schumacher, Steve Smith

B/CC PRESENT:

GUESTS PRESENT:

PUBLIC PRESENT:

Jan Wroncy called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

**I. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

None

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Wroncy suggested adding “on the webpage” at the end of the sentence (page 1, Item III.3) that reads in part, “. . . BCC wanted the explanatory statement upfront and centered.”

J. Nelson suggested clarifying the sentence (page 2, Item III. 4) that both the IVM Coordinator and the recording secretary were paid by the hour. Additionally, she noted that the sentence (page 4, III.8.) about the vacant committee positions should read that they’re “appointed” rather than “posted.”

Rosenblatt and J. Nelson said that the sentence (page 4, Item IV.) regarding City of Eugene strip maintenance should be attributed to David Rosenblatt not Jan Nelson.

Wroncy said that since there was no quorum present, the approval of the January 12, 2011 minutes would be postponed until the next meeting.

**IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

Wroncy said that she is developing the minutes from the last subcommittee meeting.

J. Nelson said that she previously distributed draft language for the 2011 Work Plan. She suggested that it be sent to the committee members so they can review.

Schumacher said that minutes from the subcommittee meetings were required.

J. Nelson and Rosenblatt said that the work plan was the only item discussed at the last subcommittee meeting.

Wroncy said that the subcommittee meeting yesterday was not cancelled in advance. She added that there was no meeting as no one attended with John Sundquist.

Schumacher said that one of the active VMAC members must chair the subcommittee meetings, and that John Sundquist cannot since he is no longer an active member of VMAC.

Miller said that the subcommittee meeting is a public meeting, that it must be cancelled one week in advance by notifying Lane County Administration, and that the subcommittee contact person, Jan Nelson, would be responsible for reporting any meeting cancellations.

Wroncy said that the subcommittee status should be discussed, but not at this meeting since a quorum was not present. She will add it to the next agenda.

Schumacher said that he was not sure if the formation of the subcommittee was ever voted on by VMAC. In the past other subcommittees existed, but the current subcommittee is the last one still in existence.

Rosenblatt asked if the subcommittee would meet on April 12.

J. Nelson said that the meeting would be held as scheduled, and that she would contact County Administration if the meeting was subsequently cancelled.

#### **V. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA**

None.

#### **VI. COUNTY ADVISORY – OPEN VMAC POSITIONS**

#### **VII. GENERAL COMMENT**

Wroncy said that there was a state and federal enforcement policies workshop at the Oregon Department of Forestry on March 10, 2011 from 8 am to Noon.

J. Nelson inquired if there had been any response from the Oregon Department of Agriculture to the BCC's no-spray letter.

Wroncy said that she had not yet spoken with Commissioner Handy.

Miller said that she had not heard of any response; however, there may not be a response since the letter did not request one. She distributed copies of the BCC's letter.

Rosenblatt commented that he liked the look of the draft Adopt-A-Roadway pamphlet.

Miller said that the Policies & Procedures Committee was reviewing a list of all internal and external non-mandated committees to determine their scope and if they should be continued. They are also seeking input from members of the various other committees to see if some committees could be combined, hold joint meetings, and share communications. She distributed copies of an email (dated March 9, 2011 from Judy W. Williams) that discussed the request, and that she will send the email electronically so the members can use the included internet link to see a list of all the committees being reviewed. As an example she provided copies of the Public Health Advisory and the Roads Advisory Committee's web pages. The requested response deadline is April 1, 2011.

J. Nelson asked how often did the Policy & Procedures Committee meet, and if the membership included department heads?

Miller said that they do not yet have a regular meeting schedule; she expected the next meeting to be held prior to April 1, and that they will probably start with meetings once per month. The committee consists of Commissioners Handy and Bozievich, the County Administrator, and department heads.

**VIII. TEMPERATURE OF THE COMMUNITY**

Rosenblatt reported that he recently gave a speech about VMAC and County right of ways at Ross Penhallegon's Lane Community College class. He added that a presenter from Benton County considered volunteers to be "troublesome" and should be "discouraged." Mr. Rosenblatt disagreed with that opinion, and he added that it should not be Lane County's policy.

**IX. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ADVISORY****X. VEGETATION COORDINATOR & STAFF UPDATES**

Schumacher said that the Integrated Vegetation Management Program 2010-2011 Annual Report had been pulled from the BCC February 2 agenda by Commissioner Handy. It has not yet been rescheduled.

J. Nelson said that a memo had been attached to the BCC packet that she viewed online.

Schumacher replied that it was the motion memo used each year to file the annual report. The attachments to the memo change each year, but the section concerning the herbicide use reductions numbers of the Last Resort Policy does not change as none are used.

J. Nelson asked the status of the committee's BCC recommendation that the annual reports be suspended, as it was not included in the current annual report packet.

Schumacher said that an addendum could be made to the current report or it could be submitted as a separate action. It could also be brought up during the agenda rescheduling discussion.

J. Nelson inquired if staff had heard any additional information about the pulled packet.

Schumacher said that the packet was pulled to have an additional discussion, but he was on vacation so it was postponed.

Rosenblatt inquired if the county was using concrete curb strips around guardrail posts, and if fabric was being used.

Schumacher said that so many guardrails are smashed each year that the cost to replace the concrete was too high, and that the fabric test site research was ongoing. He continued to report that spring mowing should start during the first or second week of April, and that focus was now on tree work projects that included advance public outreach door hangings. Tree work areas included Irvington Road and River Road to the County Line where they had the recent large project of tree removal and replacement. Additionally, brush mowing and storm clean up were being completed.

**XI. ADOPT-A-ROADWAY PROGRAM**

Schumacher distributed and presented the forms and informational pamphlet for the program.

The forms included a How to Adopt-a-Roadway contact/cover sheet, an Application form, Application Instruction form, a Noxious Weed Removal Plan form, a Permit Provisions form, an Equipment Check Out List form, Liability Release forms (Individual and Group), and a Frequently Asked Questions sheet. He also presented the packet with the motion memo that will recommend that the BCC adopt the noxious weed program; however, it must be reviewed by the division manager, department head, and county counsel before it goes to the BCC.

Wroncy asked if the packet would be ready to present to the BCC by April 16, as she would like the program operational in the early Spring if possible. She also suggested that if the program proves popular, then perhaps the State could be asked for a portion of their noxious weed funds.

Miller said that the packets must be submitted for BCC review three weeks in advance.

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Schumacher said that the current safety video for the Adopt-A-Road program will be used for the Adopt-A-Roadway and the County will provide safety equipment. The informational pamphlet will be revised to show that a participant must be 18 years of age or older.

Rosenblatt inquired if the trash removal would include seed heads. J. Nelson asked if the County would pick up the trash at the job sites.

Schumacher said that the County will pick up all trash bags left onsite by the adoptee. When they call to request a removal, they will be asked how many bags and the location(s).

Wroncy said that the committee had already voted to recommend program adoption to the BCC.

Rosenblatt said that when the program is approved he will promote it to the membership of a community action group to which he belongs.

J. Nelson said the Long Tom Council is organizing a noxious weed identification event, with either live plants or pictures, from 8:00 a.m. to Noon on April 30. She suggested that the committee could provide Adopt-A-Roadway pamphlets for the event if the program is approved by the BCC in time.

**XII. 2011 WORK PLAN UPDATE**

Postponed to next meeting

**XIII. 2011 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Wroncy said that she would bring a list of 2011 year accomplishments to the next meeting.

**XIV. FINAL COMMENTS**

**XV. SPECIAL MEETING**

Chair called for a special VMAC meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 13 at 5:30 p.m. Staff is to notify County Administration.

**XVI. AGENDA SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING**

1. David Rosenblatt said that he will send Tania Siemens of the Nature Conservancy an invitation to attend the April 13 meeting.
2. The BCC no-spray letter sent to the ODA.
3. Subcommittee status.
4. Wroncy said that she would present a helpful fifteen-minute invasive species video from a law conference that she had attended. She recommended regular informational presentations at future committee meetings whenever possible.
5. Work Plan update.
6. 2011 year work plan accomplishments.
7. Approval of Minutes: January 12 (revised) and March 9, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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**Steve Smith**

Recording Secretary