



The Idaho Association of WEED CONTROL SUPERINTENDENTS

Chair:
Kali Sherrill
Twin Falls County
1234 Highland Ave.
Twin Falls, ID 83301
(208)734-9000

Vice- Chair:
Dave Wenk
Boundary County
PO Box 267
Bonners Ferry, ID 83805
208-267-5341

Secretary – Treasurer:
Bonnie Davis
Washington County
PO Box 865
Weiser ID 83672
(208)414-1950

FALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Dworshak Dam, Ahsahka, Idaho

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Chair:	Vice Chair: Dave Wenk
Secretary/Treasurer-Bonnie Davis	Past Chair: Terry Lee
Region 1: Chase Youngdahl	Region 2: Alan Martinson
Region 3:	Region 4: Terry Ruby
Region 5:	Region 6: Sharayh Krantz

Others Attending: -Chip Haight-Lewis County, Connie Jensen-Blyth-Idaho County, Desiree Keeney-Ada County, Matt Stanger-Region 6,

In the absence of the chair Vice Chair Dave Wenk will serve as the chair.

Chairman Wenk called meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Pacific Time

General Business

Regarding Minutes of the Summer Meeting-Stanley, Idaho: Chase stated he was not present. Regarding website and Facebook, remove sentence that reads: “that emails are bouncing back and he is not sure why”. Motion by Chase Youngdahl to accept the minutes as amended, second by Alan Martinson. Motion carries. Bonnie stated motions are being made/seconded by individuals not on the board. Alan Martinson suggested at annual meeting the association members be reminded only executive board members and region representatives can make or second motions.

Treasurer’s Report: Motion by Terry Ruby to accept the financial report as presented. Second by Alan Martinson, motion carries.

Reports

IWCA Report- They are working on the annual conference. Kali typically writes the session summaries and they are working on the wordsmithing to receive as many credits as possible.

IWCC- Terry Lee reported they have not had a meeting in a while. The next meeting is scheduled for the afternoon after the Weed Summit.

Chairman’s Update-Kali sent the following report. She attended the recent Negotiated Rules meeting at which AJ Mondor and Michael Ottley were also in attendance. Lloyd Knight stated it was all about combining and condensing like rules as well as cleaning up some of the language. She did have a couple superintendents contact her and they did not see any issues. One question brought to her attention that she did ask about had to do with future funding. Lloyd stated this has nothing to do with funding but he did not anticipate any issues with future funding. Regarding comments to APHIS regarding knotweed. She thought she had sent a letter but had not. She was able to submit comments on behalf of the association online. She does not know how many superintendents submitted comments. She also included a schedule for the upcoming Weed Summit.

Weed Superintendent Handbook-Dave Wenk reported he is currently cleaning up the handbook. Housekeeping items include internet links, names, rules etc. Changes in Idaho Code regarding general purchases etc. He needs our updated bylaws and policies. He will be sending it to the board for review.

Websites of interest will be updated and changes will be highlighted. He would like this to be finalized at the winter meeting.

Old Business

IWCC Contract Details etc. - Bonnie shared details regarding the IWCC contract and that it is not signed annually. The MOU is for 5 years and expires in 202. Rick Waitley's contract is renewed annually and so is Roger's. The board reviewed when former chair, Terry Lee wrote a letter to the IWCC chair requesting information regarding what we are receiving for our annual dues. We did not receive a response back. Bonnie stated we are receiving nothing for our \$650 dollar dues. Alan stated the IWCC is hosting the Weed Summit. There was more discussion of ISDA claiming the IWCC replaced the Noxious Weed Advisory Board. Several feel that IWCC should be done and the Noxious Weed Advisory Committee should be formed and would be more beneficial. Terry Lee reminded the group we must go through Director Gould to request this. Connie Jensen-Blyth feels we need to make a formal request and have a plan. Past history was discussed. Alan suggested the following outline: what can we expect with the upcoming year, plan ahead, what is going on before we enter into another MOU with the IWCC. Terry Lee reminded the group at IWCC meetings when a vote is called for the federal representatives have to abstain and are unable to vote. Terry Lee gave an additional update from the IWCC meeting. They talked about the USFS not getting funding for CWMA's and that is what Chairman John Proctor wanted. Kali is currently our representative on IWCC. Alan suggested if we are planning to pursue this let's continue to work on a plan and see what happens with IWCC at the January meeting.

Old Business

IAWCS Website/Facebook-Chase Youngdahl reported he is doing the best he can to keep the website updated. Matt Stanger stated he is currently the "acting" weed superintendent. Chase requested those that have given presentations at IAC please send them to him and he will post them. He stated we have an outreach tab for job opportunities if you would like them listed. Bonnie stated the renewal for the website will be coming. She asked Chase if he is comfortable with the current host. He is fine with continuing as is.

LIA Update- Dave Wenk announced he was accepted into the upcoming LIA Class of 40. They have a preliminary meeting October 5th in Moscow for them and their spouses. The first session of LIA is November 4-7, 2019. He thanked the group for sponsoring half of his tuition. Alan suggested since we have additional funds we could maybe add some funding for LIA travel? Alan directed Bonnie to place this on the winter meeting agenda to allow travel funds for LIA, we could pay a portion. Alan volunteered to figure this out. Chase is still interested in attending and feels this is a good incentive to send people through. Connie stated she cannot get commissioners support to attend, period! Alan is on the LIA board and stated they had 39 applicants for the upcoming class and accepted 30.

Break

ISDA Communication-Jeremey Varley, ISDA phoned in and apologized for not being present. He explained he is helping with a new milfoil population found in Bear Lake. He reported he is waiting on the final approvals on the Cost Share Handbook. In December the notices will be sent to CWMA's that will be audited in December and January. He touched on the ISDA data portal gateway and to submit your cost share reports through that portal. There are no changes to the cost share this year so the numbers look about the same. Chase asked about the ISDA portal. Jeremey stated from now on they will do everything electronically. Rulemaking-invasive species, noxious weeds, weed free forage was combined. The combined rule does not affect funding. They have found Turkish thistle in Hells Canyon. Do we wish to list this as Oregon does? He would like to know what the weed superintendents think. They have found this on USFS property in Hells Canyon. Jeremey will send a Turkish thistle report. It is a five acre site that is remote and hard to access. Connie thinks it's in Idaho County too, she has to get it identified. Chip stated it's in Lawyer's canyon and is a crossbred with Italian and Plumeless thistle. Connie has not sent hers in for identification yet. Alan feels if we are proposing to put this on the weed list we should have a positive ID on how many populations currently exist. Connie will keep the group updated. Thank you to Jeremey for calling in today.

Knotweed Bio Control Comments-Dave noted Kali's earlier report that she sent comments on behalf of association. Alan was very disappointed with the number of comments that were submitted: 4 anonymous, 10 used their name, 12-14 weed superintendents commented. He stated this is important because APHIS looks at all of these. Bee keeper comments indicate they do not understand biological control. He stated few commented on the rulemaking and the need for more comments. When we have the opportunity to comment it is very important that we do so. Alan gave a brief update on what is being worked on and coming soon for biological agents.

Winter Executive Board Meeting-Bonnie reported the meeting is Monday, January 13, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the downstairs conference room at ISDA. Yes, the room is reserved.

New Business

Elections-Secretary/Treasurer-Bonnie has agreed to continue. Dave asked if anyone else is interested in doing this. No takers at this time. Bonnie reminded them each region will select new region representatives at the annual meeting.

FY 2020 Draft Budget-Bonnie presented the draft budget for the 2020 fiscal year. The 2019 budget totaled \$10,300 and she is proposing a budget of \$10,600 for 2020. The LIA budget line was increased \$300 to accommodate the increase in LIA tuition of \$150 per person. We budget annual funding to sponsor ½ tuition for 2 weed superintendents to attend. Bonnie reported on particular line items in the budget: Lobbyist funding as of 9/24/19=\$3,075. We have not paid a lobbyist since this was adopted in 2016 for 2017. IWAC funding as of 9/24/19=\$1,025. This was not paid in 2019 due to a motion adopted by the board due to poor performance of such items as the website and other issues. Please see motion written by Alan Martinson and adopted at the winter executive board meeting 1-14-2019. It was noted we should revisit the lobbyist funding before the next annual meeting and further discuss IWAC at the winter executive board meeting. Motion by Connie Jensen-Blyth to adopt the 2020 budget as presented. Second by Alan Martinson, motion carries.

Letter of Support for Chip Haight, Lewis County-Connie stated she requested this agenda item and she is asking for a letter of support for Chip. Chip shared this is a part time position, Lewis county is small and 86% of it is farmland and the job does not pay very well. What is Chip's ask. He stated they have not interviewed anyone to his knowledge and he needs support for the position to be contracted. A flat fee would be paid and he would report quarterly to the board of county commissioners. The legality of that was questioned. Chip thinks his budget is currently \$25,000. He feels he has his commissioner's support they are just not comfortable with his request to contract as the weed superintendent. Terry Ruby stated we could support a full time weed superintendent for anyone (not specifically naming Chip) without being specific. We could support Lewis County with a full time weed superintendent. Terry Lee stated Chip needs landowner support. Connie stated she would be happy to write the letter but it must be signed by the chairman. Motion by Terry Ruby to send letter to Lewis County to support a full-time weed superintendent. Second by Terry Lee. Terry Ruby amended motion to say possible vacancy in Lewis County. Vote was called for: amended motion carries. Chip stated he has given the commissioners a dollar figure so they know what he expects. Connie was directed to draft the letter and send it to Bonnie so she can share with executive board for review.

Cost Share Review Representatives-Bonnie explained in 2019 Chase served for Aaron Hull as he was gone on vacation and David Herter served his second year. Aaron has one more year and a new member needs selected. The board directed Bonnie to contact Aaron to see if he would be able to serve for 2020. If he is unable Chase will continue. Sharayh Krantz had volunteered previously and Connie volunteered. If Aaron is not able it will be Chase (2nd year), Sharayh (1st year) and Connie (alternate). Bonnie will let them know ASAP. She will also notify ISDA with the names of those who are going to serve. Chip stated he feels serving on this committee is beneficial to new people and helps them learn the process.

Break

Annual Meeting Planning-see agenda dated 1-13 & 1-14-2020.

Discussion of weed superintendent of the year: send out the criteria ASAP and all nominations are due by November 15, 2019.

Terry Ruby stated in the future he would like to hear “when dealing with those who won’t comply with the weed law such as state agencies. Maybe someone from the governor’s office could present.

Short discussion of requesting cost share funding for education. This request to Celia must be in writing from our Chairman. Possibly do this soon and request it be considered for the 2021 Cost Share cycle as it is too late for this year.

Our thanks to Alan Martinson for hosting today’s meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Bonnie Davis

Approved by Executive Board as written on 1-13-2020