



The Idaho Association of WEED CONTROL SUPERINTENDENTS

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FALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Bonner County Administration Building-Sandpoint, Idaho & via Zoom

Thursday, October 8, 2020

Chair: Kali Sherrill
Secretary/Treasurer: Bonnie Davis
Region 1: Chase Youngdahl
Region 3: Adam Schroeder
Region 5:

Vice Chair: Dave Wenk
Past Chair: Terry Lee
Region 2: Alan Martinson
Region 4: Michael Ottley
Region 6: Sharayh Krantz

Others Attending: Shelby Heiderman-Region 1 Alternate, Jeremy Varley-ISDA.

Chairman Sherrill called meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Mountain Time

General Business

Regarding Minutes of the Spring Meeting-ISDA, Boise, Idaho: Motion by Michael Ottley to accept the minutes of the summer meeting dated July 23, 2020 as presented, second by Dave Wenk. Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report: Bonnie presented the final financial report for 2020 dated 9-30-2020. Expenses to date \$3,792.91, balance of budgeted funds \$6,807.09, current checkbook balance \$18,381.58 which includes \$2,400 in 2021 dues received this fiscal year. Motion by Alan Martinson to accept the final expenditure report as presented, second by Terry Lee. Motion carries.

Reports

INWCA Report-Kali reported the board met yesterday and decided the conference will be all virtual for 2021 no in person attendance. They are striving to receive 10-12 credits and it will be held the same days as originally scheduled. They are working on giving those registering an opportunity to leave the conference open for one week so that attendees do not have to sit in front of a computer for 2 days straight. They are working with ISDA to get a registry and passcode to watch which would then generate the credits. The conference fee will be \$175. Kali stated she has nothing to do with the credits. Adam questioned if it is only the flat fee of \$175 or possibly be able to choose ala carte. No one knows the answer to that. AMG will be sending out a postcard this week and it will outline the plan.

ISDA Communication-Jeremy has been delayed so the board will return to this once he has joined the meeting.

Chairman's Update-Kali announced that both Adam Schroeder and Connie Jensen Blythe have been accepted into LIA and will each receive \$675 from the Idaho Noxious Weed Control Association. Adam thanked both boards (IAWCS & INWCA for their continued support of LIA candidates. He appreciates the support for the tuition.

Weed Superintendent Handbook-Dave reported he is waiting for the updated logo for the manual. He will get this to Chase to place on the website. He will also be adding the Open Meeting Laws to the handbook. Kali thanked him for all his work on this.

General Business

IAWCS Name Change Proposal/Logo Update-Kali stated the board has discussed changing the name of the association to Idaho Association of Noxious Weed Control Superintendents and was voted on at both our spring and summer meeting to move forth with this change. It must now go before the general

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membership for a vote at our annual meeting. Terry Lee stated he would like to see us add the N and move forward. The board reviewed the draft that Kali had sent for preview and Alan stated he would like to see the letters larger so it stands out more. Kali brought up getting a hat or mug or something to hand out at the annual meeting to all of our dues paying members. Dave reported he has done some checking and prices vary up to \$20 for both hats and mugs. He feels something nicer that would last longer and mean more to someone. Dave has a logo shop he is working with and a nice stainless vacuum sealed mug is \$14 each and maybe do the new logo as a decal, he stated engraving would be quite a bit more. A good hat is \$15. It was suggested possibly doing mugs and hats. These would be given to guest speakers as well as to dues paying members. There is not a setup fee with the shop he is working with. It was stated higher quality would be preferred. Alan would like to see mugs done for this year possibly ordering 50 or so. There are 41 active dues paying members. Motion by Alan Martinson to spend up to \$1,000 for mugs, second by Terry Lee. Motion carries.

Update By-Laws, Policies, Executive Board Duties and Timelines-Alan explained he has added the word noxious to the name of the association throughout the various documents. There were no questions on the By Laws. Regarding policies he added the word noxious to the name throughout the document. He stated he did change the LIA Assistance portion. He noticed in the minutes reimbursement has to be after graduation or each session. Dave Wenk feels after graduation to protect us in the case someone doesn't finish. Discussion of when this occurred in the past and to ensure someone doesn't drop out of the program. VIII. Addresses Financial Assistance for LIA. Motion by Adam Schroeder to accept C. sub-letter b. Policy Draft changes dated 9/30/2020. Policy draft reads: C. Financial assistance may be used for tuition, lodging, and/or travel expenses. b. Lodging and/or travel expenses will be reimbursed after LIA graduation upon submission of receipts and are subject to policy VIII G below. Terry Lee likes the flexibility of using it where you need to. Alan asked for clarification if this would be after graduation Adam stated yes. Second by Alan Martinson, motion carries. Alan Martinson moved that if the association's name is changed to the Idaho Association of Noxious Weed Control Superintendents we adopt the policies written as draft on 9/23/2020. Second by Chase Youngdahl. For clarification Alan explained once the association agrees to change the name it will make these valid so we won't have to revisit the issue. Motion carries.

Regarding Board Duties and Timelines. Alan stated he has added the word noxious there as well. He removed references to the Weeder's Retreat and under chair description he redid #9 to make it more general. Original language: Represent IAWCS on the Idaho Weed Control Association (IWCA) Board, and send a meeting summary to the IAWCS membership. New language: 9. Represent IANWCS on boards, committees, or other groups (INWCA), etc.) which have an interest in noxious weeds and report back to the Executive Board/IANWCS membership. Discussion: Terry Lee brought up January timeline reads nominations for Weed Superintendent of the year, does that need to be noxious weed superintendent. Page 3-timelines and duties of Secretary-Treasurer-January. Chase Youngdahl moved to adopt with upcoming edits including the word noxious where needed throughout the document. Second by Michael Ottley, motion carries.

Bryce Fowler- Fremont county and Mitch Whitmill-Madison county joined the meeting.

IAWCS Website/Facebook-Chase Youngdahl, webmaster he has nothing new to report today. The board thanked Chase for his work and Michael Ottley asked if he will be updating the lettering at this time. This will be done after the annual meeting of the general membership and after the vote is taken.

Financial Assistance to LIA-Kali stated we will have two weed superintendents attending this year which has happened once before when she and Alan Martinson were in the same class. She had a different sponsor that year while Alan had the IAWCS and Idaho Weed Control Association (this was the name at the time). Connie Jensen Blyth and Adam Schroeder will both be attending. Alan stated INWCA will support 25% of each of their tuition as that group only supports funding for one person. They will each receive \$675. He would like our association to pick up the balance and added we have the ability to do so. Connie stated her Board of County Commissioners would appreciate whatever is available for funding assistance. She feels she could get funding approved and paid for by the commissioners, that was her IAWCS Fall Exec. Board Meeting, Sandpoint, ID in person & Zoom due to Covid-19 10-8-20

understanding before she applied. Adam stated Ada County is in the same position. Dave asked if the association will cover other expenses. Alan stated they have only asked for tuition. Mike Ottley asked if they have went to any other sponsors to request funding assistance and stated he had two different sponsors when he attended. Alan noted the total for two to attend is \$4,050. Chase asked about the format this session due to Covid restrictions. Alan reported they are not sure about tours yet or alumni regional events. Classes will remain the same with 30 in the class. They are moving the eastern Idaho session to Idaho Falls. They will have to deal with mask issues and the restrictions/limitations will be ever evolving. Motion by Alan Martinson that we support Adam Schroeder and Connie Jensen Blyth, second by Chase Youngdahl. Call for vote: motion carries.

2021 Cost Share Program/Update on Education Funding for CWMA's/proposal-Kali asked that Chase review this. Chase shared he does not have the bullet points he sent to Kali last month. Chase stated he has not heard from anyone else on the committee. Mitch Whitmill stated he did get the email from Chase and did apologize for not getting back to them. He feels it is probably too late for this year and it is the wrong time to attempt it. Adam stated the current policy works for education through cost share funding. This came from a previous governor's directive of boots on the ground and that might have changed with the new governor. Dave Wenk stated he would be willing to draft the letter to send to the director. Chase stated that Dave Wenk had a meeting with the director and she thought it was reasonable for 5-10% of the cost share request be used for education. Kali will write the draft today and share the email with us.

Winter Executive Board Meeting-Bonnie reported ISDA is not going to allow any outside meetings at their facility this year. There were 21 responses to the email that was sent. Alan and Dave wondered if we should move it to Canyon County. Bonnie explained Southwest District Health and the fact that just because they do not have a county wide mask mandate businesses are able to require that. She also stated they are currently in the red due to high community spread and positivity rates. Dave stated he feels we still need to provide the virtual option for people who cannot attend. Michael Ottley stated we are going to have to do some mandates of what is expected to limit the liability. Kali addressed the hybrid idea and the reason why INWCA did not do this is because of the use of the hotel and having someone like Brad Elsberg hired to take care of things. Chase asked from the cost standpoint we will need to choose one or the other for our annual meeting. Adam stated if it's a matter of having some people come to the treasure valley and having Zoom ability depending on the number of folks he could easily set that up with their IT folks at Ada County. To allow for social distancing in Adam's conference room 16 would be optimal and 20 would be pushing it. They could take precautions for all guests to keep them separated from the limited staff that is working at the office. They have to follow Central District Health and CDC guidelines regardless. Kali stated we need to give the board the ability to be in the room so they would have first priority. It would be superintendents only no assistant's or staff for this year. Adam stated they do have a mask mandate and you must wear them inside the building at all times. Adam asked if the INWCA has gone virtual why we would want to meet in person. Dave stated the reason they went virtual is due to the numbers. This is not hypocritical of us, the hotel won't allow it and then there are the costs. I discussed the fact that Idaho Association of Counties have been doing all virtual. It was discussed we could do it all in one day-do the executive board meeting in the morning and have the annual meeting in the afternoon to deal with business that has to be taken care of. Chase asked what the internet capabilities of some of the more remote counties as far as our general membership. Would we have any kind of a decent turnout if we were to do it all virtual? Adam stated you can attend Zoom or Webex meetings on your cell phone. Web conferencing is probably less of an issue than we may think. Connie agreed travel for a half day meeting in January is tough. Dave asked if at the annual meeting we have to have a quorum. In person or virtual we must have 50% plus one in attendance to conduct business at the annual business meeting. Alan stated we need to have a meeting if we are going to move forward with the name change for the association. Motion by Dave Wenk to do a hybrid annual meeting either Zoom or in person. Second by Alan Martinson. Discussion: Alan asked Adam to get a more definitive number and then poll the association to ask if they will attend in person or virtual. Executive in the morning and general session in the afternoon. IAWCS Fall Exec. Board Meeting, Sandpoint, ID in person & Zoom due to Covid-19 10-8-20

Motion carries. Region representatives were asked to get with their people after the meeting and see how they feel about this. Adam reiterated they must require a face covering and 6 feet social distancing stated in the Ada County order signed on August 11, 2020.

Jeremey Varley joined the meeting.

2021 Cost Share Program-Jeremey Varley, ISDA stated there are new changes for the Cost Share Review group. He shared that ISDA has added 2 new species to the list. Turkish thistle and goatsrue have been temporarily listed for 15 months. Last year when ISDA went through the Red Tape Reduction to get rid of redundant rules the Idaho Noxious Weed rule was combined with Invasive Species and Noxious Weed Free Hay and Forage since they are doing a zero based rule policy. Every 5 years it will be up for negotiated rulemaking. The first generation of this for our rule will be starting after the conclusion of the next legislative cycle. Rulemaking will play into the two new weeds and the entire rule. This association will play a pivotal role in all of that. He wants to make sure we are ready to come through with additions or removals to the rule. He alerted the group to be prepared and be thinking what you would like deleted and added. Regarding the Cost Share Handbook and Review Committee for this year, there will be a lot of changes. This is mainly due to the fact that letters are just about to go out to our new noxious weed advisory committee. The committee was approved by the director and letters will be sent out to the different groups. There will be a change from how things were done from the past. There will no longer be representatives from our board on the Cost Share Review Committee. There will be positions from the new Noxious Weed Advisory Committee on the new Cost Share Review committee and they will be announced by Kali and the locations they represent. This will follow the region map as the ISDA has them designated with representatives. There will be one from each ISDA region, north, west, central and eastern. It will follow Cole, Aaron, Bethany and Kim's region areas. The white paper for this is not yet completed. He just had another meeting on the Cost Share Handbook this afternoon and hopes to have that available online by the end of the month. Jeremey will send an email regarding changes in the book and most will reflect what is changed in this year's agreements such as back up documentation. Kali explained "our ask" regarding educational funding and that a percentage of our ask could be for education. Jeremey thinks when that request is sent to the director be very specific about projects for education and prevention that you wish to have considered for funding. Chase asked about removing one or two weeds from the list in order to add new ones? Jeremey stated that is all up during the negotiations. Michael Ottley asked about the federal money that will be available. Is that just for federal lands or private only? Federal funds are coming from the Forest Service for use on all lands under a CWMA's jurisdiction on state, private as long as the CWMA follows the guidelines in the Cost Share Handbook. The forest cannot apply for those funds it must be organized by the CWMA. Connie asked if the federal funds only apply to sage grouse areas like last year. Jeremey stated this is different it's the way the forest funds used to come. It is not tied to particular projects this is for general weed control as it was years ago. Connie asked do we ask for the federal funds or is it up to the committee to decide those things. Jeremey stated it us up to the committee to make that decision. This will be the last year of the Sage Grouse funds and those specifics are still contained within the Cost Share Handbook and that is for both sage grouse and flowering rush projects. Kali thanked Jeremey for the updates and we look forward to receiving the letters.

New Business-

FY 2021 Draft Budget-Bonnie explained the draft budget she has prepared. She stated she is showing in the 2021 line the total amount that has been allocated to date and not used (per board) for the Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign and the Lobbyist line item. Alan stated he feels we should allocate zero funding for IWAC and not budget any funds for them. If Roger wants money let him come and ask. He also feels we should decrease travel and conferences. If someone needs to travel to represent us they can ask for funds to do so. Instead we could have a reserve line item. Alan does not see the need to spend money on a lobbyist, show that and if we need to spend money on that we can do so. Michael Ottley stated if we are going to open up the weed law we may need money for a lobbyist. He understands we have the reserve there but we may want to leave that line item as well. Alan stated we could have an emergency board meeting if we need to hire a lobbyist and set the amount to spend at that time. Everyone knows if it's not IAWCS Fall Exec. Board Meeting, Sandpoint, ID in person & Zoom due to Covid-19 10-8-20

earmarked it seems to go someplace else. It was suggested we could earmark the balance in a contingency fund line item. Dave Wenk stated he would like to leave \$1,025 in the lobbyist line. Adam supports removing IWAC but leave the \$1,025 for the lobbyist. He does not see a need for a lobbyist at this time so the \$1,025 would be fine. Connie likes the financial statements the way they are and she would like to leave the line items listed instead of getting rid of them. This demonstrates to folks down the road the board decided to un-fund these line items instead of it just going away. Connie wants zero for the lobbyist. Maybe add an additional contingency line item making it clear that a certain amount of carryover is maintained so we have a rainy day fund. Chase stated he feels the only line item we should get rid of is IWCC. Alan moved to budget \$4,050 for LIA, \$500 for travel and conferences, zero for IWAC and zero for lobbyist and remove IWCC from the budget then move the balance of those lines into contingency. Second by Dave Wenk. Discussion: Mike asked will the funds go into the contingency fund. Yes, Kali clarified this to be used as needed. Call for vote: motion carries.

IAC Winter Presentation-Kali has spoken with Seth Grigg and told him we need at least 30 minutes for a presentation. She knows sometimes they do these things pre-recorded for virtual presentations. She will find out how they plan to do this if it will be in person or virtual.

Annual Winter Meeting Planning-Discussion we will hold the Executive Board meeting in the morning and general session in the afternoon. There is no value to a program. The date was discussed as the meeting was originally scheduled for January 11 & 12. The board consensus is the 12th to prevent Sunday traveling. Adam's conference room is available for the 12th. Alan volunteered bio updates with Joey or Paul either in person or virtual. 15-30 minutes for bio and maybe an hour for Jeremy. It will be a short meeting. The general session will begin at 1:00 p.m. Chase feels we should pencil out the time for the general membership. They would like to see the new weed superintendent portion included in this schedule. Adam announced that Doug Morrow, current Ada County Pest Compliance Officer has been named the new Gem County Weed Superintendent as Jake Wyant is retiring. He will be starting Tuesday, October 13, 2020. Nominations for Vice Chair will be accepted. Adam Schroeder has contacted Kali and is interested in the vice chair position and willing to serve the association. Kali reminded all this will happen at our annual meeting. Will we still award the Weed Superintendent of the Year, the consensus of the group is to continue with this. Kali asked that each region send the information out to those in their regions so that we receive more nominations. Please send all nomination's to Bonne. They will be due by December 1st. Chase has these available on the website for easy access.

Other Business-

Superintendent Photo Directory-Dave Wenk explained a photo directory would be beneficial to superintendents featuring a photo and short bio on each sup. He will put them together and mail to all superintendents. Dave likes to have a face to put with the name. This would be a private document and would not be on the website or accessible by the public.

Adam referred back to Jeremy's rulemaking comments. Are there any species we are concerned with removing or adding or changes we would like to suggest as the IANWCS. We need to be thinking about this. Region representatives please ask your group if they have any concerns.

Connie stated the CWMA steering committees in Idaho County have asked about adding and removing species from the list. Dave asked what they would like to see removed, Connie stated Canada thistle and add ventenata, dogs rose and sweetbriar rose. Discussion of removals and additions and how they affect different areas. Connie asked if we add one do we need to take one off the list. No they do not think so. She went on to explain the challenges with ventenata and the lack of funding available for weed control outside the state noxious weed list. She has no funding to get these projects going, their only funding is coming from the Cost Share program. Chase feels we need to look at fee based funding which would be more flexible. This could be a sticker fee or something similar to that program.

Meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by-Bonnie Davis

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DRAFT