



The Idaho Association of WEED CONTROL SUPERINTENDENTS

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SPRING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES CONFERENCE CALL DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

Chair: Kali Sherrill	Vice Chair: Dave Wenk
Secretary/Treasurer: Bonnie Davis	Past Chair: Terry Lee
Region 1: Chase Youngdahl	Region 2: Alan Martinson
Region 3: Adam Schroeder	Region 4: Michael Ottley
Region 5: Michael LaRue	Region 6: Mitch Whitmill

Others Attending: Connie Jensen-Blyth-Region 2 alternate, Terry Ruby-Tri-County.
Chairman Sherrill called meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Mountain Time

General Business

Regarding Minutes of the Winter Meeting-ISDA, Boise, Idaho: Motion by Terry Lee to accept the minutes of the winter meeting dated January 13, 2020 as presented, second by Michael LaRue. Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report: Bonnie presented the current financial report for 2020. Expenses to date \$3,737.91. balance of budgeted funds \$6,862.09, current checkbook balance \$15,186.58. Bonnie reported the Weed Superintendent of the Year cash award reimbursement has been received from Fremont County as they have taken the credit card payments for this since we do not have the means to do so. Award was sponsored by Trent Brusseau-Corteva and Kent Pittard-Bayer. Alan Martinson inquired as to what counties have not paid their 2020 dues. All counties have paid their dues with the exception of Caribou, Franklin and Nez Perce. She communicated with Dwight Lloyd in February who promised he would get that taken of but she has not received it yet. She will rebill Franklin County now that they have a new weed superintendent and Nez Perce County is not a member of our association but we do continue to invoice them annually. Motion by Chase Youngdahl to accept the current expenditures report as presented, second by Alan Martinson. Motion carries.

Reports

INWCA Report-Terry Lee reported they are working on the 2021 Annual Noxious Weed Conference all presentation slots are now filled. Waiting to send letter to director to notify her the IWCC has been disband. They are holding off until after the coronavirus has passed and people are back at their office. They sent one earlier in support of this after Kali sent one our association. Terry stated he testified at a hearing on HB 487 that was supported by the Aviation Association. Originally INWCA opposed this bill and then supported the bill with revisions at a later date. The governor vetoed this bill when it hit his desk. Adam asked what has been done about the Noxious Weed Advisory Board. Have we heard back from Director any other information on that? Jeremy Varley, ISDA reported after the Director received our letter encouraging formation of the Noxious Weed Advisory Board there was a white paper from the ISDA Plant Division that was sent to the Director this was all pre-Covid-19. The Plant Division supported the formation of the NWAC.

ISDA Communication- Jeremey Varley, ISDA Agriculture Section Manager Noxious Weeds reported they are still in the process of finalizing agreements. He is trying to make sure all agreements are in good standing with legal and his department. CWMA's should see something soon, no budget restrictions will affect the CWMA awards at this time due to Covid-19. If Covid-19 does affect your activities that's why we have an alternative plan in AOP's. He stated there are a few changes with this year's award.

1. This year there will be no award letter only an award email. They did this to reduce redundant language. Email with agreement attached will be sent to each CWMA.
2. One of the changes deals with supporting documentation that was submitted making more clarifications including those who reimburse landowners for product purchased or services purchased. Some are over the \$10,000 bid limit. ISDA will not be forcing the bid requirement on private landowners. Supporting documentation changes will include what will be required and what was received this past cost share year. Some people had great documents others not as stellar. They want to make sure everyone knows what is expected of them and they (ISDA) want each agreement to be more-sound. This will help CWMA's in their audit.

Jeremey reported they did some testing of the new Turkish thistle from the Hells Canyon area. This species is new to the US continent and has been identified from DNA. They are looking into a temporary listing based on info from Oregon and the risk assessment they performed on this species. He reminded the board this was all pre Covid. The Director of Ag can temporary list a weed based on recommendation for 15 months and then it must go through Negotiated Rulemaking. ISDA is working with the University of Idaho. Connie has suspect thistle confirmed east of the current known location.

Chairman's Update-IAC Winter Presentation to the county commissioners. She heard a lot of positive comments but asking if there was any negative. Mitch and Alan's thought it was very good. Kali said the room was very full. She questioned her own first. Pretty soon were asking each other questions. She felt it was a positive thing to get them talking about the departments. Mitch asked if we could access the info from the questionnaire that Kali send out. She only received 28 of these back and based her info on these 28. She will share the spreadsheet with whoever would like it. Regarding Seth not showing up for our annual meeting. He stated he remembered speaking with her but didn't write it down. Maybe week before double check with speakers-he asked if we felt like we need another presentation in June for the elected officials. Seth said we could do both meetings or do 30 minutes at the winter meeting. Dave Wenk said he will speak this next January and plans to concentrate on what was done the past year, rather than what the law is show them what we do and what was done. Connie inquired about a quarterly newsletter? Maybe be included in a short blurb through email or otherwise. Someone from our association could insert a short blurb to keep it in fresh in their mind. We could check on this. Cathy Ackerman is the Idaho County Clerk and vice chair of IAC. Maybe she could work with her on getting an article in their newsletter. Connie will follow up on this.

Alan encouraged superintendents if you get an opportunity to talk with the county commissioners at district meetings do it. He highlighted what their CWMA was doing and it was very good. Encourage Seth as a reminder that we could be a possible topic for district meetings as well.

INWCA Legislative Luncheon-board members hosted a legislative luncheon but there was not a lot of time but focused on CWMA success stories. What happens at this luncheon? We have lunch and present success stories and Jeremey talked about the program itself and showed them what is being done. 17 legislators were in attendance. Maybe discuss this again next year with INWCA board Terry Lee agreed.

IAWCS Website/Facebook-Chase Youngdahl, webmaster has renewed our website with Network Solutions for another 3 years with our current website platform. He is trying to keep up with changing faces and contact info. He has loaded numerous photos on Facebook of awards, annual service etc. He might find a place on the website to do something similar. Kali thanked him-for all his work.

Weed Superintendent Handbook-Dave Wenk reported he did make numerous changes. If we see things that need changed please let him know. I asked about strikethrough's etc. He has some strikethrough's that he can change he reported it looked like they used word and PDF to create it and experienced difficulties importing and exporting. He will send another copy out to the board. Changes were questioned so he will attach the old one and highlight what he changed. He asked if we are going to change the name of our association to reflect noxious weeds. That would need to go before the general membership.

Questions for Dave:

Regarding the Calendar-Board Meetings: April –Spring in Eastern Idaho, Fall Northern, Winter in Boise and the Summer meeting moves around the state. The current version he shared does not list that and it was pointed out this is addressed in the policies. Terry Lee feels it would be advantageous on the contact list to have our region specialists from ISDA listed on that page and he pointed out that Warren Ririe is no longer with the USFS and now it's John Proctor. Connie would like a copy in word form and she would like a copy of the emergency response plan.

Discussion of pesticide license categories.

Page 11- treatment could be currently says should be.

Pg. 12 9.6.4-usage of herbicide generally last tool to use. Take that out.

Kali thanked Dave for all his hard work on this. We appreciate it. He will make the above changes and send both the old and new superintendent's handbook to the board.

Chase is not sure if we went through the job description appendix. Under classification it says non-exempt. Classification: say non-exempt or exempt. Strike it or say both.

General Business

Cost Share Education Ask for 2021- Cost Share education ask for 2021-Kali said it came up last summer at our meeting. She would like to create a subcommittee of three people to get together via emails conference calls or meetings. They would create a draft proposal for our approval so that we have a plan in place. It was suggested the committee members be from throughout the state. Volunteers: Chase, Dave and Mitch that will ensure there is both a northern and eastern perspective reflected in the plan.

Dave Wenk explained when he and Kali met with the Director about using up to 10% of the cost share funding for education, she requested this committee put a proposal together. The ask will be to allow money to be available to pay for speakers at seminars, educational materials and media. The proposal from the committee will be voted upon at our summer meeting.

Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign- Brad Elsberg is working on it for IWAC and in the process of putting out new website. There is still no date when it is going to be done which they have been saying this for about a year. Some things have been fixed. Dave moves we freeze funding on IWAC for remainder of year and revisit at time of the new website completion. Second by Alan Martinson.

Discussion-before we give funding to Roger we see what he has done, justify what he is going to provide. Alan wants to justify his salary. Dave feels we base it on the program. Alan thinks Roger should justify his salary and the product he is putting out. Connie asked if the association would consider drafting up the expectations on what he is putting out. See if Roger's approach is going to meet the expectations we have, she suggested we say these are our asks. Alan feels this responsibility falls on Roger and it is up to us at that time. Call for vote-motion passes.

We have budgeted \$1,025 annually as a contribution to IWAC.

IAWCS Policies- Policies-

Bonnie's suggestions:

Regarding Awards: IV. Weed Superintendent Recognition for Years of Service. 5 years:

current=certificate change this to small plaque. 25 years: current= \$25 gift card-change to check and the same with the 30 years. Add-35 years framed certificate and a \$100 check. This will provide consistency for years to come.

Alan-Financial Assistance for LIA page 2 he struck all of VIII and rewrote as follows:

VIII. Financial Assistance for Leadership Idaho Agriculture (LIA)

- A. Applicant's County must be a current dues paying member of IAWCS.
- B. Requests for financial assistance should be made in writing to the IAWCS **Chair as soon as possible**, and should include the following:
 - a. Reasons for wanting to attend LIA.
 - b. How attending LIA will benefit the applicant and IAWCS.
 - c. Other financial support applicant has or is requesting.
 - d. A letter of support from applicant's commissioners.
- C. **Financial assistance may be used for tuition, lodging, and /or travel expenses.**
- D. **Financial assistance may be granted to more than one person per year.**
- E. Weed Superintendents shall have 1st priority, with preference given to Exec Board members.
- F. The IAWCS Chair will bring the request to the Executive Board, who will make a decision on granting financial assistance **in a timely manner.**
- G. The amount of financial assistance will be **determined by the Executive Board.**

Suggestions: add under financial applicant must complete all LIA sessions. Will be reimbursed after each session upon receipts. Discussion-assistance could be denied. Agreed executive board needs to determine the amount. Under C. insert Lodging and or travel will be reimbursed after the travel/lodging has occurred. Kali thanked Bonnie and Alan for their work. Motion by Dave Wenk to accept policy changes as presented, second by Mitch Whitmill. Motion carries.

Summer Meeting- Chase feels we have a 50/50 chance of this happening. Go ahead and if can't happen Kali can set up a conference call. Cancellation policy is not a big deal just let Chase know. The cost is \$15 in drop box when you arrive on July 24th. He would love to have everyone come. Contingency plan is same as we are doing today. Alan asked if the association is going to purchase meat for Saturday night? Alan moves if we have the summer meeting the association buy the meat for Friday and Saturday night, second Chase. Motion carries.

New Business-

LIA Nomination(s) for 2020-2021- Kali asked if anyone is interested if it is held next year.

Adam has expressed some interest but is hesitant as there is no lift on the travel restrictions yet, pending change on travel or stay at home orders. Connie has interest as well. Applications due August 1st. Normally LIA limits organizations to 2 people attending per Alan.

IAWCS Winter Meeting January 2021-

Winter Meeting-location. Go ahead and reserve now! Jeremey will begin working on that. January 11-12, 2021.

Weed Conference is January 13-14, 2021.

Other Business/Announcements-

Please do not send emails to LaRue's Gmail account. Please use o.c.weeds@outlook.com

Kali-we will discuss the possible name change for IAWCS to IANWCS at the summer meeting. Bonnie was directed to place this item on the summer agenda will discuss again at the fall meeting and take it before the general membership at the annual winter meeting. We are not a 5013C organization.

Dave Wenk inquired about a photo of each weed superintendent maybe a picture directory that would help him remember names & faces? Connie is not comfortable with this being on the website which was indicated by several. We could possibly have a private directory. Chase would be happy to produce this internally with photo ID, it might be similar to the legislative directories.

Discussed follow up on each dues paying member receiving a hat, cup or something, Kali introduced this idea at the winter meeting and explained the association used to do this years ago. Dave Wenk asked about doing gifts for our speakers at the annual meeting, something with our association logo on it. Dave will look at some inexpensive items and will get some proposals to have available at the winter meeting. Bonnie shared a comment on the annual meeting evaluations asking about the organization, our purpose, what we do etc. Kali suggested we do a short explanation at the beginning of the business meeting to educate our fellow superintendents and help them to learn a bit more about us including the how and why

of our association. A newsletter was briefly discussed with Kali and Bonnie talking about how it was done in the past. Dave would volunteer to do a small newsletter once a year. This announcement will be made at our annual meeting. Chase suggested that educating our fellow members be the responsibility of the region reps. Chase does a follow up email to his region after he attends the meetings. No one has to be assigned extra work! It was suggested we give them copy of the handbook at the winter meeting and include other documentation defining what we are all about. Put all this together and everyone would have it.

Get a handbook and welcome letter from us to each new superintendent. Mitch stated he received that when he came on board. It was noted we do have the weed sup handbook on the website. Kali adjourned meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Bonnie Davis

DRAFT