

Oregon State Weed Board
Conference Call Minutes
November 17, 2008
Salem, Oregon

Attendance:

Weed Board Members Present

Bill Hansell, (Chairman)	Jim Harris (Vice-chair)	Amy Peters
Dan Hilburn	Mark Krautman	Jerry Erstrom
Patti Milne		

Attendees

Tim Butler, ODA
Jo Davis, ODA
Shannon Brubaker, ODA

November 17, 2008

Bill Hansell (OSWB-Chair) called the meeting to order. Introductions were made and Potential Conflict of Interest Statement was read.

Potential Conflict of Interest Statement

As Chairman of the Oregon State Weed Board, I make the following statement on behalf of the entire Board. All members of the Board agree, if there is an item the Board is taking action on which is a potential conflict of interest to that member, such member will abstain from voting on such action. When a member believes there is a potential conflict of interest, said member shall indicate to the Chairman and will be officially recorded in the minutes. State Law defines potential conflict of interest as:

"Any means of action or any decision or recommendation by a person acting in a capacity as a public official, the effect of which could be to the private pecuniary benefit or detriment of the person or the person's relative, or a business with which the person or person's relative is associated."

In addition, to ensure that there is equal opportunity to all grant applicants, the Oregon State Weed Board has adopted the following guidelines:

- During grant award discussion, the public present at the meeting shall not address the Board unless specifically asked for input, comment, or clarification on a particular item.
- ODA staff is present to provide input to the Board on information that was used in making a particular grant recommendation. The discussion between staff and the Board is intended to assist the Board in making an informed decision to fund or not fund a particular grant.
- The Board expects that the applicants present will refrain from lobbying for grants during breaks and other interactions with the members of the Board.

The intent of these guidelines is to help ensure that one applicant does not have an advantage over another because they are present at the meeting to lobby for their grant(s). This statement is read and entered into the minutes of the Oregon State Weed Board on November 17, 2008.

Tim Butler, ODA – Aquatic Noxious Weed Control through Portland State University (PSU)

Many of you are aware the Oregon Dept. Of Agriculture works closely with Portland State University for their expertise in aquatic noxious weed identification, survey, monitoring, and guidance for control options. For the past 3 biennia the Department has contracted with PSU for survey, monitoring and project development work with funding within the Weed Control Programs Lottery Capital Services and Supplies budget. After recent budget vs. actual numbers it has come to our attention that this fund is nearly depleted which makes funding the next phase of our aquatic noxious weed program a challenge however, the budget vs. actual numbers for Oregon State Weed Board grants is higher then expected, so the Department would like to request funding for this portion of our program in the amount of \$34,150 out of the OSWB budget.

By taking this action we are securing the following projects:

- Spartina Survey and Control along the Oregon Coast: a new site of *Spartina alterniflora* has been detected at Young's Bay, it has been treated and further monitoring and survey work are necessary. In addition, PSU will continue monitoring and survey work at Cox Island for *Spartina Patens*. The increased threat of *Spartina densiflora* from California and Washington will add a stronger survey effort to the Oregon Coast area.
- Hydrilla Survey throughout Oregon's waterways: with the imminent threat of Hydrilla in Idaho, Oregon will be stepping up surveys in all waterways in the state. An updated hydrilla response plan will also be a product of PSU's work.
- Yellow floating heart: 2 known sites in Oregon will continue to be treated. PSU will head up survey efforts throughout the state.

Discussion:

Board members expressed concern that this type of emergency funding will start a precedent for future grant applications. Tim Butler explained that due to the increase in prices in gas and chemicals there was not enough funds to cover the \$34,150 that PSU needed to continue their invasive aquatic weeds projects. Shannon Brubaker expressed that if prices continue to rise and budget decreases, PSU might have to go to the open-competitive grant process in the future. The Board expressed understanding that this is a unique situation and the importance of the PSU projects to Oregon's watershed.

Bill Hansell moved the motion to be carried, seconded by Jerry Erstrom. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Hansell asked for public comment. No public comment recorded.

Meeting adjourned.