



The Idaho Association of NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL SUPERINTENDENTS

Chair: Dave Wenk Boundary County PO Box 267 Bonners Ferry, ID 83805 208-267-5341	Vice Chair: Adam Schroeder Ada County 975 E. Pine St. Meridian, ID 83642 208-577-4646	Secretary: Chase Youngdahl Bonner County 1500 Hwy 2, Ste. 101 Sandpoint, ID 83864 208-255-5681ext.6	Treasurer: Alan Martinson Latah County 200 S. Almon #105 Moscow, ID 83843 208-883-7210
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SUMMER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES Lake Cascade State Park – Osprey Point, Group Yurt Camp Cascade, ID 838611 Thursday, July 28, 2022 – 9:00AM (MDT)

Attendance – Officers & Executive Board:

Chair – Dave Wenk
Secretary – Chase Youngdahl
Past Chair – Kali Sherrill
Region 1 – Shelby Heiderman, rep
Region 3 – AJ Mondor, rep
Region 5 – ABSENT

Vice Chair – Adam Schroeder
Treasurer – Alan Martinson
Region 2 – Alan Martinson, rep
Region 4 – Terry Lee, alt
Region 6 – Mitch Whitmill, rep

Attendance – Others:

Joe Slichter (Region 2 alternate), Dave Humphreys (Region 3 alternate), Bryce Fowler (Region 6 alternate), Steve Anderson (Valley County), Sharayh Krantz (Lemhi County), Jud Elkington (Bonneville County), Jeremy Johnson (Madison County)

Chairman Wenk called the meeting to order at 9:00AM following introductions

Reports

Minutes from Spring Executive Board Meeting: Motion by AJ to approve the minutes of the spring executive board meeting dated April 6, 2022, as written, second by Mitch. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

Treasurer's Report: Alan presented the financial report and announced some minor tweaks; including a more succinct way to reflect expenses & expenditures, moving the fund balances to the foot of the page and changing the title from 'Budget Report' to 'Financial Report'. Total account balance as of July 28, 2022 is \$19,463.83, and the 2022 actual expenditures to date total \$2,136.43. AJ asks about LIA funding with a response that we will get to LIA later in the meeting. Alan further presented questions to the executive board on how to manage unused line items moving forward. A minor amount of discussion followed without much consensus. Alan will follow-up later with the executive board on this. Motion by Terry to approve the financial report as presented, second by AJ. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

INWCA: Dave & Terry report that the conference will be at the Riverside in 2023 with a \$5.00 increase in the registration fee (\$175 to \$180). Most of the agenda has been set. Mitch asks if any university presentations are secured. Some discussion followed on the topics and speakers. It was announced that the number of credits are projected to be about the same as 2022. May explore other venues for future conferences. Dave mentioned that the scholarship basket raffle participation was way down in 2022 and encouraged better participation in the future. Gift cards now go to the raffle winners instead of a gun, which was the traditional prize. It was acknowledged that the gift cards prize was reportedly less popular than receiving a gun, but obtaining and gifting a gun was becoming a cumbersome process. Some discussion followed about the parameters for the scholarship. AJ may be interested in applying for the scholarship to assist in his pursuit of a master's degree.

State Noxious Weed Advisory Committee: Cogon Grass emergency listing as a noxious weed in the EDRR category was the main topic of conversation at the last meeting. Adam briefly described his course of action on the infestation in Ada County following the emergency listing. Mitch asks why federal noxious weed listings are of no value. Some discussion followed, including nursery wholesaler distributions. Adam mentions that there is really no regulatory authority at the federal level for noxious weeds. A question came up regarding replacement vegetation on the site where the Cogon Grass was killed. Adam has land management plans to work with the landowners on remediation. No further SNWAC updates at this time.

IAC Presentation: Kali reported that Mike Ottley gave the presentation at the Burley meeting last month and that it went over well with lots of questions. Noted it was short, as only a 15 minute time slot was given.

General Business

Cost Share: Discussion took place about current progress for this year's cycle, including disbursements and bidding for CWMA projects. Quarterly reports are becoming long and involved, and in most cases, redundant. Statewide contract was discussed as easier option to the bidding process. Discussion of the mapping requirements came up—only two options are accepted, as stated in the cost share handbook. Adam asks if anyone has used the GIS system and if anyone has received any feedback from ISDA. None of the meeting attendees had any feedback to report. Mitch brought up a rangeland tour that took place in his area sponsored by the Cattleman's Association, where the ISDA Director and the governor were present.

INWCA/IANWCS Calendar: Alan reports that they want to dial in the number produced a little tighter than last year, now that they've gone through the process. The aim is to have these calendars available to distribute at our association's annual meeting in January. Still soliciting for pictures of projects. Reminders will be sent out in the fall. It was reported that Patxi is looking to seek out a sponsor for each month of the calendar. Mitch asks if it's better to go with bulk order pricing and deal with leftovers rather than to procure fewer. Alan said they're still working on determining accurate numbers desired along with exact pricing. Since it was a new concept last year, the distribution process was loose.

By-Laws Changes: Alan presented proposed, edited by-laws with strikethrough marks to old language and replaced with language to reflect how the association will split the treasurer and secretary appointments, as well as voting privileges. Board member removal language was tweaked. The signature sheet is still unsettled, depending on whether the adoption is made prior to, or after, elections for the new vice-chair. Motion by Mitch to move forward with changed by-laws as presented, second by Kali. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

Financial Administrator: Alan drafted proposed fiscal agent duties versus IANWCS duties and presented to the executive board. Terry asks why we decided to go this direction. Alan replied that logistically it's easier and more efficient, especially being that members are spread out all over the state. Kali asks about 501(c)(3) statutes and how it applies to this. Dave answered with a brief summary of the Secretary of State rules. Alan also compiled the responses received from AMG, IAC and Wood River RC&D for managing our treasury and listed out pros & cons for each. Discussion followed... RC&D stability was called into question. We would need our own EIN with AMG, but still unclear with IAC. The overall process would be the same regardless of the fiscal administrator; we would submit bills to Alan and Alan would then submit to

the administrator for payment. Adam thinks that regardless of individual financial administrator requirements, we should have our own EIN moving into the future. Mitch prefers moving forward with IAC—cost is middle-of-the-road and we are already an affiliate. Budget line item management was discussed. It was stressed that this decision needs to be made ASAP! The process for membership dues for 2023 will need to be initiated soon. Motion by Terry to go with IAC as our financial administrator, second by Kali. Further discussion—Adam suggests that this decision should be contingent upon an explanation of how our funds will be stored and any potential filings to be made with state and/or federal tax authorities. Motion carries unanimous.

Secretary Archives: Chase reported that when the secretary switch was completed at the spring meeting, he received all of the files (hard copy & electronic). Included in these files are the 2021 membership certificates that were never distributed due to us opting to cancel our 2021 annual meeting (COVID related). Bonnie advised Chase that she felt it should be the decision of the executive board on whether to distribute them anyway, or destroy them being that it's a full membership year cycle after the fact. AJ asks if the concept of membership certificates is even necessary. Kali talks about some of the history regarding membership certificates. Adam, and others in attendance, mentioned that they display their certificates in their office and that it's a plus to have something tangible related to our membership with the IANWCS. Motion by AJ to destroy the archived 2021 membership certificates, second by Adam. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

Website/Social Media: Chase reported that he added a 'Job Opportunities' tab following a request from Terry Ruby to post the outreach notice for the Tri-County Noxious Weeds Superintendent on our website. Chase told the meeting attendees to feel free to send him links or position descriptions if they are looking for an additional recruitment outlet. Other than that, it's just maintenance and keeping the county contacts as up-to-date as possible. No social media updates.

Russian Olive: There is one state representative (on behalf of one constituent) still pushing this issue. He is hoping to influence Weeds Superintendents on supporting addition of Russian Olive to the Idaho Noxious Weed List. Federal funding is available for control, but the CORP will not fund projects if not listed in Idaho. Rehabilitation on riverbanks of potentially controlled Russian Olive infestations was discussed. Some feel we would be trading one problem for another. The letter that Representative Clow sent to INWCA has suspect language; what local agencies SHALL do versus what they MAY do. Infestations in the Magic Valley was discussed, and the potential logistical challenges if required to control. Control methods were discussed. Adam pointed out that this representative's proposal is not thought all the way through. It was mentioned that some local programs are already in place, including one in southeast Idaho lead by one of the area's tribal governments. Representative Clow is not responding to Weeds Superintendent's emails. This issue has died in previous rulemaking sessions, but Representative Clow is not giving up. Chase asks if the ISDA would just dismiss another petition for the same thing that went through the process and failed. While not certain on how they (ISDA) would handle this particular instance, Adam says that previously failed petitions brought to the ISDA are usually squashed administratively due to lack of support. But again, he reiterated that that's not an automatic action. Patxi was directed by the INWCA board of directors to send a return letter to Representative Clow declining to support his proposal and directing him to go through the petition process again.

Chairman Wenk called a recess at 10:30AM

Chairman Wenk resumed the meeting at 10:43AM

Statewide Biocontrol Task Force: Alan wants to see more participation from IANWCS in this group, and he will keep us updated on future meetings (in Moscow). He handed out a printed email thread from Bethany at ISDA soliciting input on biocontrol features & information on ISDA's website. Some questions on meeting frequency came up, and Alan replied that the task force has traditionally met twice per year, but since activities have resumed following the COVID hiatus, the fall meeting has not happened, resulting in one meeting per year as of right now (in the spring). This task force is important—we can influence researching priorities on weed species. Kali talked about research sites. Alan reported, via Paul Brusven, that *Cyphocleonus achates* agents (for Spotted Knapweed) will be collected and distributed next week.

New Business

Noxious Weed Notice: Alan is pursuing a change to language in the statute on public notice for noxious weed control, to allow the notice to be posted on a county website rather than in a newspaper of general circulation. Patxi advised Alan to seek out a decision from IANWCS on the matter, then wait until after the November general election. Once new committee assignments are made, we can approach representatives and senators about changing the existing statute. Some concern about newspapers losing revenue, primarily in smaller communities, was raised as a potential counter argument. Questions came up about whether this is a general notice or a legal notice—discussion followed. Chase mentioned that he develops his notice as a legal, format-wise, but runs it as a page ad, saving money. There was some talk about a change to this statute having a domino effect on other items, such as bids. Motion by Kali to proceed with pursuing verbiage that would change state statute to allow noxious weed notices on website(s) in lieu of in newspaper(s), second by Alan. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

LIA Tuition Assistance: Sharayh announced that she is going through the application process for the upcoming LIA class and is requesting tuition assistance from the IANWCS for half the amount, if selected. INWCA has already committed to the other half. Motion by Kali for IANWCS to cover half of Sharayh's tuition cost for LIA, if accepted, second by Mitch. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion. Discussion unrelated to the motion included AJ bringing up that he has preliminary approval from his commissioners to have one of his staff members in Canyon County apply for next year's LIA class. Hierarchy was discussed on IANWCS funding priorities for LIA tuition assistance.

Vice Chair Nomination Discussion: Alan wanted to have this as topic of discussion well in advance so that we're not scrambling at the last minute. Kali mentions Mitch as someone that she would encourage to run. Chase requests emails from those interested in seeking the vice chair nomination.

Fall Executive Board Meeting: This is scheduled for Wednesday, October 5 in region 1. Dave announced that he will host in Boundary County. Details to follow later. Dave asks about budget prep for the fall meeting—Alan thinks it will be easy. Chase mentioned that this is the meeting where we shape the agenda for our annual meeting, and encouraged attendance to help with this, or at a minimum to email the officers with desired topics.

Winter Meetings: Winter Executive Board meeting & annual meeting are secured to take place in Caldwell at the Canyon County Administration Building (same location as last year) January 9 & 10. INWCA conference is the following two days at the Riverside Hotel.

Miscellaneous Business: Chase inquires on the presence of and general feelings towards Hairy Vetch across the state; he had a constituent in Bonner County that reached out and requested this information. Alan treats it as a common, widespread nuisance weed, just like several others. Seems that it is widespread throughout regions 1 & 2, but populations are more limited in the southern portion of the state. Dave Humphreys said that in his experiences with it in Elmore County, the poisonings have typically occurred in darker colored cows, while the lighter colored cows seem to not be as susceptible to the poisonous qualities.

Alan announced that Terry Ruby is retiring and requests that the association do something for him as a long time, productive Weeds Superintendent and active IANWCS member. The executive board agrees. Some discussion ensued on potential gifts and how much it should be worth. Motion by Mitch to recognize Terry Ruby's accomplishments and to send him off with \$200 and a certificate of appreciation, second by Terry Lee. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

Alan suggests that the association make a donation to the Lake Cascade State Park for the use of the camp site for our group. The executive board agrees. Discussion ensued on the amount. Motion by Alan to make a donation to the Lake Cascade State Park in the amount of \$200, second by Kali. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

Alan wants to see region updates as a standing agenda item under 'Reports'. Chase made note of the request and agreed to add that item to future executive board meeting agendas.

Adam mentioned that he recently read through the vice chair duties and found that updates to our strategic plan is the responsibility of that officer. He intends on making updates (suggested edits) and will work with the executive board on his drafts.

Chase reminds everyone to start thinking about Weeds Superintendent of the Year nominations.

Chairman Wenk adjourned the meeting at 11:25AM upon no further association business