



# The Idaho Association of NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL SUPERINTENDENTS

<b>Chair:</b> <b>Dave Wenk</b> Boundary County PO Box 267 Bonners Ferry, ID 83805 208-267-5341	<b>Vice Chair:</b> <b>Adam Schroeder</b> Ada County 975 E. Pine St. Meridian, ID 83642 208-577-4646	<b>Secretary:</b> <b>Chase Youngdahl</b> Bonner County 1500 Hwy 2, Ste. 101 Sandpoint, ID 83864 208-255-5681 ext.6	<b>Treasurer:</b> <b>Alan Martinson</b> Latah County 200 S. Almon #105 Moscow, ID 83843 208-883-7210
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## WINTER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Canyon County Fleet Shop  
1323 E. Chicago St. – Caldwell, ID 83605  
**Monday, January 9, 2023 – 9:00AM (MST)**

### Attendance – Officers & Executive Board:

**Chair** – Dave Wenk  
**Secretary** – Chase Youngdahl  
**Past Chair** – Kali Sherrill  
**Region 1** – Chase Youngdahl, alt  
**Region 3** – AJ Mondor, rep  
**Region 5** – Travis Ashby, rep

**Vice Chair** – Adam Schroeder  
**Treasurer** – Alan Martinson  
**Region 2** – Alan Martinson, rep  
**Region 4** – Mike Ottley, rep  
**Region 6** – Mitch Whitmill, rep

### Attendance – Others:

Bryce Fowler (Region 6 alternate), Sharayh Krantz (Lemhi County), Bonnie Davis (Washington County), Jason Parker (Tri-County), Denise Helsley (Tri-County), Cory Flat (Canyon County)

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

### Reports

**Minutes from Fall Executive Board Meeting:** Motion by Alan to approve the minutes of the fall executive board meeting dated October 5, 2022, as written, second by AJ. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

**Treasurer's Report:** Alan presented the financial report as of 9/30/2022 for the previous fiscal year (already approved, it was just presented as part of the overall treasury switch); we ended with a checkbook balance of \$17,566.32, with a regular fund balance of \$10,391.32 (total balance minus the contingency fund). The expenses totaled \$4,034.94, and the income totaled \$6,975.00. Alan then presented the financial report for the current fiscal year as of 12/31/2022; total fund balance is \$21,407.44, with a regular fund balance of \$12,449.83 (total balance minus the contingency fund). There is \$2,068.34 in total expenses, and \$6,000.00 in income. Alan stated that Bonnie successfully closed our Wells Fargo account and deposited the remainder of the balance, \$1,782.61, into the IAC managed account.

Dave asked which dues were missing. Alan replied that Teton has opted to not pay until they fill the currently vacant Weeds Superintendent position, and that Minidoka has not paid and not been responsive to attempted contact. Mitch asked how the transition to IAC has gone, to which Alan replied there were some kinks to work through initially but that it has smoothed out and that Amanda has been great to work with. Alan explained the methods of payment and procedure for paying bills. It's pretty flexible, and mostly vendor preference. Dave asked about the fee process for IAC, to which Alan replied it's indeterminate as to when it will be paid. Bonnie briefed us on the bank policy changes that resulted in no longer needing two signatures to close an account. She was able to sign off on it without needing to coordinate with Kali to accompany her for a second signature. She then presented a document detailing all of the previous year's expenditures from the Wells Fargo account. Motion by AJ to approve the current financial report as presented, second by Mitch. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

**INWCA:** Dave reported that all is ready to go for the conference this week and that calendars are here and will be distributed at our annual meeting. Order forms for the new edition of the UI Extension Noxious Weed booklets will also be made available at our annual meeting.

**State Noxious Weed Advisory Committee:** There was a meeting right before Christmas to confirm the new members and the incumbents serving another term. Sharayh and Bryce took over the regions previously represented by Kali and Mitch, respectively. Alan and Bonnie are serving another term in their respective regions. Cost share packets were sent to committee members, and the review meetings will be held on January 25 & 26. The December meeting also covered updates on Cogon Grass, Turkish Thistle and aquatics. Kali asked how much is being requested for cost share. No one has really had a chance to review their packets yet, so no answer. AJ mentioned that the NRCS has some funding available for projects in Sage Grouse habitat through the Cheat Grass Challenge program, and that the application & reporting process is very simple.

**Website:** Chase reported that the web host, Weebly, has been paid for the upcoming year of service and that he continually works on keeping information as up-to-date as possible.

#### **Regional Updates:**

Region 1 – Chase reported that he contacted the Commissioner's Office in Benewah County to gain clarity on their Weeds Superintendent situation. The deputy clerk confirmed that Carl Richel had indeed retired following the 2021 season, and that Benewah County hired a private applicator to treat their roadsides and county properties in the 2022 season with plans to continue managing their noxious weeds operation that way in the future. Benewah BOCC Chairman, Phil Lampert, will be the designated Weeds Superintendent (similar to the structure in Owyhee County).

Region 2 – Alan reported that Denny Williams retired from Clearwater County last month and that the replacement is unclear at this time. Also noted that there is interest in Nez Perce County for more robust participation with noxious weeds moving forward.

Region 3 – AJ reported that Canyon County has elected 2 new commissioners, and also reported that he is doing more to bolster his education & outreach programs. Adam reported that he is following up on Cogon Grass leads from 2022 in Ada County, and also reported that former state representative, Tom Dayley, was elected as an Ada County Commissioner.

Region 4 – Mike reported that Blaine County reached out to Cassia County asking what the department does other than spray weeds. Implied that there could be issues brewing there with commissioners. Business as usual in the region, aside from that.

Region 5 – Travis reported that there is a new Superintendent in Oneida County. Nothing else to report in the region.

Region 6 – Mitch reported that things are stable in the region, with the exception of Teton County being influx. Bonneville County is getting their feet under them, and Jud is doing well moving things along there. Bryce reported that Henry’s Fork and Upper Snake CWMAs are looking to combine. Sharayh is looking to fill a full-time assistant position. There was discussion about lack of affordable housing statewide impacting the ability to fill positions. Mitch said that he now has an Operations Assistant to train as his eventual successor in Jefferson County. Some general discussion surrounding personnel and hiring followed.

*\*Adam Schroeder exited the meeting at 9:30AM*

### **General Business**

**IAC Presentation:** There was no room on the winter meeting agenda, they wouldn’t even entertain us as an alternate. Alan suggests we press Seth Grigg on getting a spot on the winter agenda, as it is the best attended. Alan & Mike both pointed out that previous presentations at the summer meetings have been overwhelmingly positive.

**INWCA/IANWCS Calendar:** They are here and ready to disburse. It was mentioned that they are a good tool to showcase our activities. Alan reminded everyone to keep new pictures coming in during the upcoming field season for the next calendar.

**By-Laws Changes, Secretary/Treasurer Split:** Alan presented proposed changes to the association By-Laws separating the Secretary & Treasurer positions. This was presented, discussed and voted on at the spring and summer meetings, then reviewed at the fall meeting. Alan made some minor changes to the position descriptions related to duties, and addressed a correction needed to the location of the principal office. This document will be presented to the general membership during the business portion of our annual meeting to seek full ratification of the changes.

**Noxious Weed Notice:** Currently, the statute regarding annual noxious weed control notices states that it is required to be run in a newspaper, and Alan has been working towards bringing a proposal forward to allow posting the annual notice on a website in lieu of a newspaper. Alan presented two legislative proposals; one drafted by Patxi with AMG and one drafted by a Deputy Prosecutor with Latah County. Seth with IAC supports the concept. Patxi has indicated that he is willing to lobby on this issue and will approach Representative Moyle about bringing this before committee. Alan mentioned that some of us may need to contact our legislators to solicit support for this. Since the projected potential pushback is the loss of revenue for newspapers, Alan urges us to avoid the cost argument, and instead push the information accessibility argument.

**Noxious Weed Statute, Enforcements:** Mike followed up on a trespassing lawsuit in Cassia County that he initially discussed at the fall meeting. Initially, the Cassia County BOCC wanted to settle, but ended up not settling after lawyers met and all parties ended up paying their fines. Mike and Joe recently visited with Jeremy Varley about the issue of the Idaho Trespass Law conflicting with the job of a County Weeds Superintendent. Jeremy then visited with the landowner’s attorney about this conflict. It was agreed upon that some language needs to be cleaned up so that we can do our job without violating the Trespass Law. The primary question in the Cassia County lawsuit revolves around whether the notice was actually served. Mike presented a draft statute change that proposes that if a notice shows up at the destination, it’s considered served, without needing to receive a response. Mike brought this issue to Patxi’s attention, who recommended bringing it up once again with the IANWCS, then bringing a clean version of proposed updated language when we present the public notice—to kill two birds with one stone. Dave asked Mike if he is willing to testify in committee on this issue, to which he replied that he is and that this proposal equates to basic housekeeping. The hope is that this will solve the absentee landowner issue. AJ shared a story where a work order and an enforcement action conflicted in Canyon County, since his program offers ‘for hire’ services. The landowner responded to a served noxious weed enforcement with a work order request to the Noxious Weeds Department. Some discussion followed. Motion by Alan to approve Mike’s draft language change to Title 22, Chapter 24 – 2405 (4) as presented, second by Mitch. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

*Chairman Wenk called a recess at 10:27AM*

*Chairman Wenk resumed the meeting at 10:43AM*

**LIA Update:** Sharayh reported that she has loved the LIA experience and expressed that she waited too long to do it! She was nervous about the public speaking aspect of the program, but ended up doing well and shared that she spoke on invasive species boat check stations, and was selected as a co-chair on a caucus for dam breaching. Some discussion followed about tours and sessions. She further reported having done well on her donations for the Gala. Some LIA experiences from past participants were shared.

**Vice Chair Nominations:** While the meeting was in progress, and following his departure, Adam emailed the officers his official resignation from the Vice Chair position. Motion by Mike to accept Adam's resignation, second by Alan. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

Mitch had shown interest in serving as Vice Chair when the solicitations began earlier in the year. Motion by Kali to install Mitch as Vice Chair effective immediately, second by Mike. Motion carries unanimous. No further discussion.

Kali then suggested Mike as the incoming Vice Chair. Mike agreed to the position barring any other interest when on the floor at the annual meeting. Motion by Kali to nominate Mike as incoming Vice Chair, second by Alan. Further discussion—It was clarified that Mitch is Vice Chair effective immediately due to the sudden vacancy created by Adam's resignation, and will only serve as Vice Chair for 1 day, until the Chair position is handed off to him at the conclusion of the general membership business at the annual meeting. Motion carries unanimous.

### **New Business**

#### **Schedule 2023 Executive Board Meeting:**

Spring Meeting – To be held on Wednesday, April 5 in Salmon

Summer Meeting – To be held on Thursday, July 27 at a location TBD in Region 6

Fall Meeting – To be held on Wednesday, October 4 in Sandpoint

**Other/Open Discussion:** AJ announced that the previous year's caterer that provided lunch for our annual meeting is unavailable this year, but that he has secured a similar backup caterer.

*Chairman Wenk adjourned the meeting at 11:20AM upon no further business or discussion*