

**Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Board
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, August 17th 2010, 5:00-7:00 pm, WSU Office, Port Hadlock

Board Members Present:

Linda Davis and Jill Silver (by conference call)

Others Present:

Mike Bowen, Esko Cate and Eve Dixon

▪ **Introductions:**

Mike Bowen introduced himself—he is a farmer from Port Townsend with an interest in noxious weed control.

▪ **Approval of Minutes of the February meeting:**

Linda moved, and Jill seconded, to accept the minutes as presented. All were in favor.

▪ **Re-appointment of Board Member:**

Richard Hild's term on the Board expired some time ago. He has re-applied and the next part of the process is for the board to approve his application and pass it on to the Commissioners. Jill moved, and Linda seconded, to approve Richard's application to be reinstated on the Weed Board. The other board members asked Eve to let them know when their terms expire.

Linda Davis handed in a letter of resignation from the Board, feeling that she does not have enough time to devote to the position. Everyone will be sad to see he go. Eve will attempt to find a replacement.

▪ **Coordinator's Report:**

No comments on the report.

▪ **Board Member Reports:**

Jill reported that she has been working in the west end, mainly on knotweed control but has also been pulling tansy ragwort and foxglove. Linda asked why foxglove was a problem. Jill replied that it is non-native and can become very invasive—the large rosettes it forms can out-compete other plants. Jill will be back in late October.

▪ **Budget and Funding:**

As discussed at the last meeting, Eve had drafted a letter to the County Commissioners, asking them to increase our budget. She will send it out again by email for comments and edits.

▪ **Letter of Support for Quinault Indian Nation:**

The Quinault Indian Nation are applying for funding to support two new staff members for salmon habitat restoration. This will include noxious weed control, especially knotweed control. Eve had already written a letter of support and the Board agreed that she should sign it on their behalf and submit it.

▪ **Other Business**

Eve had written a short Thank-You note to WSU, thanking them for the help and support they give to the Weed Board. She will eventually get all the Board members to sign it. Linda Davis, being the only Board member physically present, signed it.

Mike Bowen spoke a little about his interest in weed control—he thinks that the concept still sounds strange to many people on the street and we need to focus on education. Particularly, he thinks we need to start with young people, doing presentations in schools. Jill mentioned that the New Zealand Weed Busters program has a strong educational component, suitable for school children. We could take it to schools annually and make children aware of how weeds spread and the damage they can do. Linda mentioned that one local teacher who works with home-schooled children has led them on weed-related field trips and encouraged them to pull weeds, but she did not want them to work on toxic plants such as tansy ragwort.

Mike also commented that he has found that asking for volunteer help is non-productive—people do not want to work for nothing.

Eve mentioned that she met with someone from the Jefferson Land Trust at Tamanous Rack, discussing weed control. As well as knotweed, there is a great deal of Scotch broom, everlasting peavine and ivy there. The Land Trust is working on a weed management plan and Eve will help when possible..

▪ **Schedule Next Meeting/Adjourn**

Tuesday, November 16th at 5 pm

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Eve Dixon, Noxious Weed Control Coordinator.