

F-I-N-A-L

San Juan County Noxious Weed Control Board
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
Friday, June 7, 2019

08:38 AM CALL TO ORDER

Noxious Weed Board Chair Gregory called the meeting to order at 08:38 AM.

Present: Board Members Bruce Gregory (Chair), Bill Agosta (Vice-Chair), Todd Goldsmith, Brook Brouwer (WSU Extension Director, ex-officio), Bill Watson (SJC Council District 1) and staff members Jason Ontjes and Caroline Wiltz.

1. Review and approval of minutes of the meeting of May 3, 2019. MOVED by Bill Agosta, seconded by Todd, to approve the Noxious Weed Board meeting minutes of Friday, May 3, 2019 as written with no changes. ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED. Staff will send an electronic copy to Sue Kollet (County Council Administrative Specialist).

9:00 AM to 9:15 AM. Public comment time for visitors. No visitors attended this meeting.

2. Presentation and discussion of monthly report. Jason took questions from Board members about the June report.
3. New employee status. Caroline recently became the newest staff member working for the Noxious Weed Board, hired as a seasonal field technician for the summer months. A second would-be seasonal, Erinn Nelson, is still in the preliminary hiring process. Brook suggested that the new Office Manager for WSU Extension will begin in early July, working 32 hours per week. Candidates for that position were interviewed on June 5th.
4. State Parks update. Bill Watson reported that Moran State Park would be closed to visitors during high-wind events (gale force or higher) due to

public safety concerns arising from falling trees. Staff will begin noxious weed control in the park later this month.

5. OPALCO update. Staff will look into liability and safety issues for volunteer workers along County roadsides and OPALCO easements, as recommended by the Board prior to planned Lopez Island Conservation Corps work along Dill Road (Scot's broom removal). Caroline has controlled spurge laurel and Scot's broom in the Deer Harbor area recently, primarily within OPALCO power easements.
6. Youth Conservation Corps update. Staff will work alongside youth corps members on Lopez (June 25-26), Orcas (June 27-28) and San Juan (July 1-2) within the next month, removing noxious weeds from public lands or easements. The program is managed by the Conservation District under Erin Licata.
7. Budget status. The Weed Program has spent 32.21 % of the 2019 budget as of June 5th, according to the Expenditure Status Report provided by Brook. He said that the County will implement a biennial budget for 2020-2021. Board members raised concerns about the annual increases in expenditures for Information Services, which this year will consume \$10,499 of the Board's budget, a boost of \$1863 from 2018.
8. Other business. No other business was discussed.
9. Adjournment. Bill Agosta made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 AM, seconded by Todd. Chairman Gregory declared the meeting's end.

The Board's next meeting is on Friday, July 5, 2019.