



4-County CWMA Steering Committee Meeting

April 12th, 2017, 12:00 pm-1:00 pm
EMSWCD

Attendees:

Aaron Shaw, Tualatin SWCD	Jeff Lesh, Clackamas SWCD
Casey Gozart, Clark County	Michelle Delepine, WMSWCD
Chelsea Brainard-White, East Multnomah SWCD	Sam Leininger, Clackamas SWCD
Elaine Stewart, Metro	Sarah Hamilton, 4-County CWMA

Welcome, Approve Agenda

Agenda, Minutes approved.

Chairperson Election

Elaine Stewart

- Elaine is stepping back from the chair position.
- **Action:** Elect a new chairperson
- Brief description of the Chair position: Get the agenda together. Keep the committee moving forward on the work plan. Facilitate meetings. The position requires about 1 hour a month outside of meetings, but there are times when it gets more intense.
- **Jeff Merrill is replacing Elaine on the Steering Committee.** Elaine will be attending Tech and Pull-Together planning meetings.
- **Decision:** Michelle and Casey are co-chairs. The position will last for 1 year from their first meeting.
- **Action:** Develop a rotating schedule on the work plan for the chair position, so we don't need to rely on volunteers.

Tualatin SWCD

Aaron Shaw

- Aaron would like feedback from the group as Tualatin SWCD ramps up their weed management program. See attachment for more information.
- Urban conservation
- Rural Conservation
- Forests
- Invasive species

The goal of this discussion is to think about this program regionally and to get feedback as TSWCD develops their program. They want to be a resource for the ag community and will include invasive animals as well as plants.

There was discussion about the development of a weed board, which requires a relationship with the County Commissioner. A Weed Board cannot be formed without county involvement. It is a regulatory organization, and most SWCDs avoid regulatory situations. There is no disadvantage to the board if there is a separate weed board.

High-priority needs:

- TSWCD should perform an assessment to find what the customers need.
- Upland weed management is a huge gap. CWS manages riparian areas.
- For most SWCDs, priority weeds are treated throughout the landscape: upland, riparian, etc. Lower-priority weed treatments are site driven.
- Most SWCDs also have priority areas where lower priority weeds are treated in a 'Protect the Best' scenario.
- Are Washington County weeds mapped? Surveying is a top priority in any invasives program. It is recommended to get weed locations from as many partner organizations as possible. One suggestion is having a GIS and Data Management position that supports the entire staff. The data management builds a better image of what is being done and why.
- When prioritizing weeds, get the priority lists from partner organizations.
- It's much more efficient to operate as a weed board than a voluntary program.
- You will get calls about common plants. You need to be able to say no, but send them to resources to help them.

Add to Pull-Together suggestions:

Potential pros and cons of weed boards and developing county weed boards.

Grow Smart, Grow Safe

Michelle,

GSGS is an online resource that is diminishing. There is no protocol for making adjustments. It is owned by Thurston County, King County, and Metro. Thurston County does the designations.

The usefulness of the program has declined. For example, Grow Smart GS gives glyphosate a red light instead of a green one. Is there a way that the CWMA can support it?

- Michelle suggests Elaine, as a metro employee, might have some traction in getting updates done. Elaine disagrees.
- The group agrees that if updates don't happen, GSGS will no longer be used, but GSGS is filling a need. Michelle would like to work with it.

- Sam: The CWMA should find out who is administering the contract and invite them for a conversation. Elaine: the CWMA technical group was good at evaluating the MIP model, and suggests the GSGS updates will be assigned to the tech committee.

Weed Free Gravel

Michelle Delepine

The survey will be sent soon.

Finances

Sam Leininger

The partners have all paid up for fiscal year 16-17. After June the CWMA will be charged for the coordinator. In November, the financial ask will happen. The CWMA should write thank you letters for the funders. Sarah will write the letter and send it to the chair to edit.

Other Business

Chelsea: The Education & Outreach Committee is developing a stand-up banner saying 'Got Weeds' The price for the banner is \$250.

Decision: Approval for up to \$40 in snacks will be allocated for committee meetings.

Next Steering Committee Meeting

August 9th, 2017 12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Multnomah County