

MINUTES
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
January 8, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bingham, Karen Bodner, Paul Clements, Doug Graves, Mike Kesling,
Chris Melotti
MEMBERS ABSENT: Jack Harris, Molly Hoffer, Mike Koivula
STAFF PRESENT: Mike Perkins, Sonny Chickering, Doug Putschler, Bill Manewal, Caroline Manewal
BCC PRESENT: Anna Morrison

Chair Karen Bodner called the meeting to order.

- I. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.
- II. INTRODUCTIONS – New members Paul Clements and Mike Kesling were welcomed, then members and staff introduced themselves around the table.
- III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS *[T1S1-091]*

Nominations for Chair – Melotti nominated Bodner. Bodner noted she'd prefer someone else had a turn. No second. Bodner nominated Koivula, adding that she had asked him and he was willing. Seconded. VOTE: 6-0 for Koivula. Mike Koivula will be Chair for 2003.

Since Koivula was not present, Bodner continued to chair the meeting.

Nominations for Vice-chair – Bodner nominated Melotti. Seconded. Melotti nominated Bodner. No second. VOTE: 5-1 for Melotti, Melotti dissenting. Chris Melotti will be Vice-chair for 2003.

Melotti took over chairing the meeting.

- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Dec. 11, 2002

MOTION: Bodner moved to approve the December 11, 2002 Minutes as written. Graves seconded. All present voted in favor, motion carried.

Bodner asked staff to bring conference informational brochures, etc. back to share with VMAC.

- V. IVM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Equipment update – Perkins turned members' attention out the window to the parking lot where one of four new CAT Integrated Toolcarrier (IT) 14G tractor/mowers was sitting. The new ITs are about 1 foot longer and 1 foot narrower than the 9035's they will be replacing, and they will be more versatile. Perkins distributed copies of the IT14G information sheet. Perkins and Manewal summarized benefits of the ITs, including the hydrostatic transmission. Manewal noted the 9035's were not traded in, but would be offered for sale, with other small counties and cities getting first notification.

Operations update – Perkins explained he will do a more detailed overview of mowing practices at a future meeting. He reported that this time of year the crew is usually doing mostly heavy brush mowing, however, there's been an increased, competing demand on their time regarding hazard tree removals.

Training – Training is on-going. Perkins distributed information on upcoming joint ISA/USFS trainings on "How to Prevent Hazard Trees." Classes will be held 2/4 in Albany, 2/11 in Roseburg, and 2/12 in Coos Bay. Perkins reviewed the agenda. Perkins noted half the vegetation crew will attend in Albany, and the other half will go to Roseburg. Perkins also announced the Pacific Northwest Weed Short Course, an herbicide credit class, will be held at the Fairgrounds on January 14-15, adding that licensed herbicide applicators who need credits will be attending.

Tree projects

- Junction City area has been completed; staff received an excellent thank you letter from an involved resident. Staff will include the letter in the next agenda packet.
- Carthage/Kingsbury project has also been completed.
- Ruby/Quince project – Currently working on scheduling this work. Morrison noted an involved resident has asked her about the different sidewalk width requirement and costs. Perkins explained the process and said to refer the citizen to PW's Permits Section regarding sidewalks.
- Irving Street property owners' request for tree removals – Public meeting is scheduled for January 22. Staff will be presenting their findings and talking about not removing the trees.

VI. IVM PROGRAM BROCHURE [T1S2-001]

Members reviewed the second draft IVM Program brochure section by section. Staff will incorporate the suggestions/corrections as appropriate. The next draft will be for review of formatting and layout design.

VII. DRAFT 2003 WORK PLAN – deferred to February.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS [T2S1-214]

February 12, 2003 agenda items

- Draft 2003 Work Plan
- Review text and layout design of draft IVM Brochure
- Review VMAC vacancy process
- No Spray Area overview

West Nile Virus – Morrison announced the Board will be having a work session on West Nile Virus next Tuesday, 1/14, at 9:00 a.m. Morrison invited interested members to attend.

Federal Title II money – Morrison noted there is work being done regarding noxious weeds through the Title II process; that the BLM and USFS Resource Advisory Committees have allocated money to begin treatment of specific areas. There is also an aerial mapping project in process. Morrison stated we hope to know soon, more about how this may impact Lane County and how the County might possibly get involved in controlling noxious weeds.

Pesticide Use Reporting System – Morrison reported the last Legislative proposal is to possibly add some kind of tax or fee in order to help fund the reporting system, e.g. a license fee for businesses that bring pesticides into the State, etc.

Staff distributed copies of the most current VMAC Bylaws, which reflect the change in meeting time. Members requested that staff 3-hole punch future VMAC materials.

Meeting adjourned at or about 7:20 p.m.

Recording Secretary