

**MINUTES**  
**VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**May 11, 2005**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Karen Bodner, Paul Clements, Molly Hoffer, Mike Koivula, Chris Melotti, Douglass Moser

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** David Bingham, Susan Forester, Mike Kesling

**STAFF PRESENT:** Sonny Chickering, Stephonee Freeman, Bill Manewal, Arno Nelson, John Petsch

**BCC LIAISON PRESENT:**

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Jan Wroncy, Jan Nelson

Chair, Chris Melotti, called the meeting to order.

**I. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jan Wroncy: She referred to pictures she shared at the last VMAC meeting showing places along Clear Lake Road that were sprayed by private landowners (provided copies of the photos to VMAC at this meeting). She said there is a lot of private spraying happening now, and she thinks they're using phenoxy herbicide (leaves are twisting and distorting). She said she has spoken with Ollie (Snowden), who told her that landowners need a spray permit to use herbicide (at this time, she provided a copy to VMAC of the LM 15.205, "Activities Requiring a Facility Permit"). She strongly suggested that the County curtail spraying in the right of way by private parties. She said that spraying is happening at Clear lake Road, between Childers and Highway 99, and most of Green Hill Road. She has reported inappropriate spray in public right of ways to the ODA and did so last year to Lane County.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: Hoffer moved to approve the Minutes of April 13, 2005, as corrected. Moser seconded. All present voted in favor. Motion passed.

**III. COMMITTEE COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS FOR J&S REPORT**

VMAC Members agreed to follow the outline of the Staff Response (February 25, 2005, Chickering) to provide their own recommendations via group consensus:

Proposed Modifications to Ordinance 12-03:

1. LC 15.51(3)(e): Committee agrees with Staff Response. Also agreed with suggestion by Chickering that the County report individually on each herbicide used.
2. LC 15.510 (4)(d): Committee agrees with Staff Response.
3. LC 15.520(1): Committee agrees with Staff Response. See Motion in Item 4, as it applies

to this item as well.

Comments include: Bodner said she felt the first sign should be larger with the revised information that was recommended being put on it, and drivers should be able to get the phone number; that placement might be at intersections coming into the roadway (1/2 mile is way too close). Clements asked if it was a hassle for Staff to pull signs off posts, and Manewal said yes. Clements pointed out that the ordinance says 7 days to place and remove signs, not clarifying work days or business days. Koivula recommended that the ordinance wording for signing should be dismissed, and that type, size, lettering, wording, etc., should involve the County Sign Shop and Traffic Engineer. Melotti summarized consensus that VMAC would defer to Staff regarding frequency and size of signs, as it would be location specific.

4. LC 15.520(2): Committee agrees with Staff Response.

Koivula motioned that Staff consult with the County Traffic Engineer regarding size, readability, and positioning of signs, check into the feasibility of developing a temporary sign post that would not require locates and be easy to set up, and also that signs be constructed from sheet aluminum. Clements seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Committee agreed and/or made comment on the following:

- Wording of signs: Committee agrees that the word “warning” has EPA implications, and that “attention” or some other wording should be used on spray trucks/signs.
- Size of signs: See Motion above. Committee agrees that the signage should be bigger.
- Active Ingredient listed on sign: Not necessary.
- Known Inert Ingredients: Not necessary.
- Product Name (Common): Yes.
- Proposed/Actual Date of Application: Yes.
- EPA registration number of herbicide application added to signs: Not necessary (NCAP said it is extremely important).

5. LC 15.520(3): Committee agrees with Staff Response.

6. Adoption of Proposed Definitions: Committee agrees with Staff Response.

7. Proposed Review of Existing Standards for Roadside Vegetation Control Thresholds: Chickering recommended that VMAC review the thresholds. Committee agrees with Staff Response.

8. Proposed Improvements to Roadside Vegetation Monitoring Practices: Committee agrees with Staff Response.

9. Proposed New Technologies or Methods to be Investigated: Committee agrees with Staff Response, with the exclusion of spark-less bark. Research and investigation of other technologies and methods should be ongoing as they are discovered.

Committee agreed to defer discussion of remaining Staff Response items to June Meeting.

**IV. GRANT INFORMATION – CLEMENTS**

Clements provided to Committee and Staff a handout titled Coastal Initiative, Request For Proposals, Siuslaw Stewardship Fund, and said the current grant proposal expires June 1.

**V. SIUSLAW WATERSHED – MANEWAL**

Item deferred to June meeting.

**VI. IVM COORDINATOR POSITION – CHICKERING**

Item deferred to June meeting.

**VII. ROAD MAINTENANCE / OPERATIONS UPDATE – MANEWAL, NELSON**

Item deferred to June meeting.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Agenda items for next meeting on June 8, 2005:**

- Committee Comments/Recommendations for J&S Report – Continued
- Siuslaw Watershed – Manewal
- IVM Coordinator Position – Chickering
- Discuss Summer Calendar – Committee/Staff

**2. Agenda items for meeting July 13, 2005:**

- Soil Biology Presentation: (Mycorrhizal Business) Pat Patterson and/or Jeff Choate

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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Recording Secretary