**LANE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS**

**VEGETATION MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE MINUTES**

**January 20, 2015**

Members: Lisa Arkin, George Grier, Julie Knurowski, William Lackey, Glenn Miller, Joel Miller, Ellen Mooney, James Mough, Bitty Roy

Members Absent: George Grier

Guest: James Lakehomer

6:00 p.m. – Schumacher called the meeting to order.

## I. OPENING REMARKS / TASK FORCE FORMATION

## Schumacher welcomed the members and thanked them for volunteering for the task force. He explained the Lane County Board of Commissioners (BCC) goals for the task force, and the Road Maintenance Division’s challenges in conducting roadside vegetation management with both current and future budget constraints.

## Handouts:

## January 20, 2015 meeting agenda

## BCC Agenda Cover Memorandum for an Order to establish the Vegetation Management Task Force dated 10/07/2014.

## Lane Code 15.500 “Roadside Vegetation Management and Last Resort Herbicide Use Policy.”

## Vegetation Management Task Force Meeting Schedule

## II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Lakehomer attended the meeting as a member of the public. He has also expressed his willingness to serve on the task force as a backup if necessary as a representative of the Lane County Health Advisory Committee.

**III. INTRODUCTION OF TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

Each member introduced themselves to the group and provided a background of their professional qualifications, employment histories, and memberships in current and past organizations.

**IV. SET DISCUSSION & RECOMMENDATION PRIORITIES**

Roundtable discussion held to determine the Top Ten issues for future discussion that included the following:

1. Noxious weed control
2. Road maintenance and riparian impacts / interface
3. Weed-free quarry rock and other materials
4. Cleaning equipment (mowers, etc.) of noxious weeds
5. Review existing prescription plan
6. Update noxious weed list
7. Production agriculture protection vs. county weed control processes
8. Health concerns
9. Financial concerns / constraints
10. Early detection and response (EDRR)

11) Methods and Standards. Principles, regulations and laws.

12) Road Safety and how that impacts decisions

13) Adjacent property owner impacts of our program.

**V. TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP**

All members expressed their willingness to maintain a professional and courteous level of decorum at meeting and during discussions. Schumacher expressed his excitement and honor to be involved with such a highly professional and educated group. All of the members bring a very balanced set of perspectives and history in relation to vegetation management.

**VI. NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

1. Elect committee chairperson
2. View Power Point presentation of historical aspects of the implementation of Lane Code 15.500 and the Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM), current practices and equipment used by county personnel in the maintenance of roadside vegetation (Schumacher).
3. Review Top Ten issues list

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Steve Smith, Recording Secretary