

Whatcom County Horticultural Pest & Disease Board (WCHPDB)

Thursday December 15, 2016

1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Location

Lynden, WA

Whatcom County Lynden Library

216 4th St, Lynden, WA 98264

<https://goo.gl/maps/Bm5xXjXNiNz>

Agenda

- Call to order
- Roll call and determination of a quorum
- Public comment
- New business
 - Identification of Chair
 - Review Board purpose
 - Set work priorities/projects for 2016-2017
 - Set meeting schedule for 2016-2017
- Announcements
- Adjourn

Staff contact information

Chris Benedict

Washington State University Extension

360-778-5809

chrisbenedict@wsu.edu

Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Board Members

Melissa Bedlington, Matt McDermott, Allen Brown, Mike Hawley

Quorum Present - Yes

Staff

Chris Benedict

Ex Official/Contributing

Kay Oakley WSDA

Open Session for Public Comments

No members of the public were available for comment.

Approval of Minutes

No minutes were available for approval

New Business

Allen Brown nominated Matt McDermott as chair. Mike Hawley seconded. Motion was passed. Melissa Bedlington will act as alternate in absence of Matt McDermott.

The board purpose was reviewed and discussed amongst members. Matt McDermott asked if over the history of the WCHPDB there has ever been a situation that required action. Chris Benedict was not sure as the historical meeting minutes cannot currently be found. Chris Benedict stated he believed that the process is a bit more flexible than is outlined in the RCW and that actions can progress based on the board's decisions and the severity of the problem. Chris Benedict discussed the educational role the Board can play to prevent issues before they become a problem.

Chris Benedict informed the board that the pest priority list drives the activities of the Board. Pest priorities were discussed amongst members and identified as follows:

- 1 - Blueberry Scorch Virus
- 2 - Potato virus and late blight
- 3 - Apple Maggot

Of Note:

Eastern Filbert Blight

Homeowner herbicide use, issues with drift onto commercial fields

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

Board members discussed building some outreach avenues including a new website and brochures and agree that getting a website together should be the first priority. Chris Benedict will coordinate with WSU Extension staff to begin working on that. The board also discussed having something at the Whatcom County fair for outreach in 2017. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting schedule was discussed and agreed upon. Initially four meetings were scheduled for the Third Thursday of the months of January, February, March. Future meeting times will be discussed at the next.

Old Business

No old business was discussed.

Matt McDermott motioned to adjourn. Mike Hawley seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting Thursday January 19, 2017 at 1:30 Lynden Library.

HANDOUTS

Review Board purpose

State RCW

“Each horticultural pest and disease board shall be comprised of five voting members, four of whom shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners and one of whom shall be appointed by the director. In addition, the chief county extension agent, or a county extension agent appointed by the chief agent, shall be a nonvoting member of the board.

Of the four members appointed by the board of county commissioners, one of such members shall have at least a practical knowledge of horticultural pests and diseases, and the other members shall be residents of the county, shall own land within the county and shall be engaged in the primary and commercial production of a horticultural product or products. Such appointed members shall serve a term of two years and shall serve without salary. If no such qualified candidate resides in the county, a nonresident that owns property in the county and is engaged in the primary and commercial production of a horticultural product or products may be appointed as a member of the horticultural pest and disease board.”

Whatcom

<http://www.whatcomcounty.us/440/Horticultural-Pest-Disease-Board>

The Horticultural Pest and Disease Board is created to enable Whatcom County to more effectively control and prevent the spread of horticultural pests and diseases. The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

- Receive complaints
- Inspect
- Enforce
- Employ persons and purchase goods and equipment as necessary
- Educate the public
- Administrate

Skagit

<http://extension.wsu.edu/skagit/agriculture/pestcontrol/>

The Board is charged with the responsibility of receiving complaints concerning pests and diseases in Skagit County and taking action to control priority pests and diseases that threaten agriculture in the county. The Board operates under the rules of the State of Washington, RCW 15.09.

Chelan

<http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/horticultural-pest-and-disease-board>

The Chelan-Douglas Horticultural Pest and Disease Board enables the counties to more efficiently control and prevent the spread of horticultural pests and diseases. The Chelan-Douglas Pest Board is granted its authority within Washington State Law 15.09. The Chelan-Douglas Pest Board investigates complaints received on unsprayed, neglected or abandoned vegetation. This can be anything from a single backyard tree to commercial orchards. The Chelan-Douglas Horticultural Pest and Disease Board Department is directed by a manager appointed by the board of representative, four representatives from each county.

Mission Statement

To eradicate infested fruit trees that threaten commercial orchards and work with the public to keep back yard fruit trees free from pest infestations.