

Whatcom County Horticultural Pest & Disease Board (WCHPDB)

Wednesday March 29, 2017

1:30 PM – 2:30 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
- Approval of minutes from February meeting
- New business
 - Review of grievance form, door hanger, 2 pager, and pest recommendations.
 - Future schedule.
- Announcements
- Adjourn

Staff contact information

Chris Benedict

Washington State University Extension

360-778-5809

chrisbenedict@wsu.edu

Meeting Minutes 3/29/17

Attendees

Board Members

Melissa Bedlington, Matt McDermott, Allen Brown

Quorum Present - Yes

Staff

Chris Benedict

Others

Kay Oakley (WSDA)

Open Session for Public Comments

No members of the public were available for comment.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved from February meeting, Melissa motioned and Allen seconded.

New Business

Review of a new version of the grievance form was discussed by board members. Members further discussed the process by which a documented pest issue is dealt with. Outreach materials and website content was presented by Chris Benedict and discussed. Chris outlined the use of pest management guidelines developed by Universities to help guide landowners faced with pest issues (and to act as the guiding steps by the Board). The Board reviewed the landowner information tools (door hanger, 2-page informative notice) and Allen motioned to approve the door hanger and 2-page informative notice and was seconded by Melissa. Discussion around frequency of meetings was raised and it was agreed that the Board would meet annually to handle business (and more often when needed) and more frequently if an issue is found. Matt motioned to approve of this meeting frequency and Melissa seconded. Allen motioned the meeting to be adjourned and Melissa seconded at 2:15 pm.

Handouts

WHATCOM COUNTY PEST AND DISEASE BOARD GREIVANCE FORM

WHATCOM COUNTY HORTICULTURAL PEST AND DISEASE BOARD

WSU Whatcom County Extension Office

1000 N. Forest Ave.

Bellingham, WA 98225

360-778-5809

Dear Board Members:

I own or lease property in Whatcom County and would like to register a grievance with the Whatcom County Horticultural Pest and Disease Board against property owned by _____ and located _____.

Please give a description of the causal pest, the economic impact it is having, and any other specific information that can inform the Board

I desire (check one) non-disclosure disclosure of my identity.

ONLY SIGNED GREIVANCES WILL BE INVESTIGATED

Please print:

Name:

Address:

SIGNED

DATE

NOTICE

Whatcom County Horticultural Pest & Disease Board needs to contact you concerning horticultural pests that may be homesteaded on your property. Please contact us. We want to answer any questions and arrange a visit with you on your property.

Whatcom County Horticultural Pest & Disease Board needs your help. Infestation by pests can cause serious economic damage to commercial farmers in Whatcom County and across the state of Washington as well as impact your home garden.

We visited your property on _____ to inspect for horticulture pests.

On-premises Inspector:

Phone:

Date/Time of first attempt to enter premises:

Date/Time of second attempt to enter premises:

please contact:
Chris Benedict, WSU Extension
Whatcom County Horticultural Pest & Disease Board
360-778-5809

Whatcom County Horticulture Pest and Disease Board (WCHPDB)

Who

The WCHPDB was created to enable Whatcom County to more effectively control and prevent the spread of horticultural pests and diseases. This Board is given authority under Washington State RCW 15.09.030 and is comprised of four members appointed by the County Council. Under this authority one such member 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, one of whom shall be engaged in the production of certified organic produce, if available.

The Board has the following powers and duties:

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

Why

Whatcom County horticulture crops are valued at \$115 million dollars (NASS, 2012) and are threatened by insects, plant diseases, and weeds that can cause economic losses. Insects and plant diseases can spread from plant to plant if left unmanaged. The WCHPDB was created to provide an avenue for horticulture crop producers to raise awareness of these pests and also to provide a mechanism to deal with commercial or home plants that are threatening the commercial horticulture industry.

For more information go to: <http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/edu/whpb/>

Whatcom County Staff Contact: Chris Benedict, WSU Extension, 360-778-5809