

MINUTES
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
September 10, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Graham, Mike Koivula, Jim LaRue, Jan Nelson, Ross Penhallegon, John Sundquist

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chris Melotti, Kai Williams

STAFF PRESENT: Orin Schumacher, Stephonee Freeman

B/CC PRESENT:

GUESTS PRESENT:

PUBLIC PRESENT: Jan Wroncy

Koivula called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jan Wroncy asked for the actual label for dustac. Penhallegon said he would contact SureCrop on behalf of her request because she said she did not want to contact them herself.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Sundquist moved to approve the Minutes of August 14, 2008, as amended. Graham seconded. All present voted in favor. Motion passed.

III. GENERAL COMMENT

Graham asked what County policy related to mowing right-of-ways and how garbage is handled. Schumacher said it is to be removed by County personnel or reported.

LaRue asked about the distance from the roadway that is mowed and Schumacher said at the first pass (end of April through the end of June) mowing is at 10' of fog line; 2nd pass (full width) is set at full right-of-way, leaving a buffer.

Koivula asked about AFSCME negotiations and if there are any discussions related to the Vegetation Crew. Schumacher clarified that all road maintenance crews are 626 Union and not related to current unions involved in negotiations with the County.

Jan Nelson said that ODA issued 2007 Pesticide report and recommended an article in latest National Geographic.

IV. ITEMIZED COST OF VMAC

Sundquist asked to review budget figures, specifically food costs. Schumacher briefly explained that VMAC Committee has its own project number that only expenses related to the committee is charged to that project number. The cost accounting system pulled cost by the VMAC project number, within the timeline requested, to gather the data on the report presented. NSA has its own project number and is charged separately. Sundquist asked about the County cost accounting system, such as is it used by other counties, and can the committee get 2008/2009

budget and actual costs. Schumacher explained that it is possible to get current fiscal year costs itemizing activities. Freeman briefly explained that the cost accounting system is currently being reviewed and will be replaced, hopefully at the beginning of the next fiscal year.

Koivula motioned that County provide a general cost report for comparable citizen advisory committees. Jan Nelson seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

V. IVM REPORT – SCHUMACHER

Schumacher reported that full-width mowing is $\frac{3}{4}$ done county-wide and should be complete by November; road maintenance crews recently returned from OACES Rodeo educator and operator training school, which is held annually and is a statewide event; tree removal complete on W. Cross Road (form of willow tree had been planted by citizens in right-of-way some years ago); guardrail work in progress; Vegetation will be hiring 6-month extra help positions (three fall, four summer) to assist in mowing, trimming, and other manual work. Budget has been completed for this current fiscal year and spending is on hold for any additional mowers.

VI. LIGNIN – SUNDQUIST

Sundquist invited Jan Wroncy to the table to give a report and she discussed internet information she pulled, such as a spill of dustac in 2003 that produced a fish kill because a contractor had allowed the chemical to enter a stream in large quantities; she said large amounts of dioxin is found in lignin agents and is always toxic and never okay to spread throughout the environment and added that there are other potential health hazards for these products of dust control. Jan Wroncy also referenced some internet sites she found regarding dioxins and other chemicals. Schumacher explained that this is a roads issue, not a VMAC issue, and suggested that Wroncy take her comments to the Roads Advisory Committee.

VII. DISCUSSION ON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' DECISION

Schumacher reported back regarding VMAC Committee. The Board of Commissioners (BCC) chose the option to meet less frequently, specifically every other month instead of the current monthly schedule. Next meeting scheduled, based on the BCC decision, is November. Jan Nelson said that bylaws need to be updated to reflect this change. Sundquist pointed out that Dwyer's statement to the BCC is that if the committee's work exceeds the time given, then the committee should meet more frequently. Koivula said that he thought the committee would have a workload that warranted meeting more often. Sundquist asked the committee to consider if this change would affect the current meeting process.

VIII. WORK PLAN UPDATE

Updated.

IX. ROAD MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Postponed to next meeting.

X. NEW ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING – NOVEMBER 12, 2008

APPROVED: FINAL

1. Report on VMAC Vacancies and Appointment Process (Koivula, Melotti, and Graham will be leaving at end of 2008, and two of the three positions will be filled); Koivula motioned that advertising for the upcoming available positions should begin as soon as possible. One against, 5 in favor. Motion passed.
2. Review Committee Membership List (expiration dates) – Committee
3. Cost Analysis Report/Other Citizen Advisory Committees
4. Bylaws Discussion (is it necessary to revise due to change in frequency of meetings and membership total from 9 to 7) – Committee
5. Illegal Roadside Spray - Subcommittee
6. Review IVM Policy Document (Updated 2000) – Committee
7. Discuss ROW/Development Maintenance Agreements (???) – Schumacher
8. ODF Buffer Strips/Logging Impacts on County Right-of-Way – Schumacher
- 9.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Stephonee Freeman
Substitute Recording Secretary