**VEGETATION MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE**

**LANE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS**

**July 21st, 2015 Minutes**

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

Absent: Julie Knurowski, Glenn Miller

Guest: James Lakehomer

Staff: Orin Schumacher

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6:02 p.m. – Chairperson Mooney called the meeting to order

1. **OPENING REMARKS**
   1. Chairperson Mooney discussed the following:
      1. Mentioned the recent retirement of Steve Smith from Lane County. Steve had been covering the minutes for our meetings.
      2. George Grier mentioned he did not have a copy of the minutes from the May meeting to review. The minutes were posted to the group on the digital projector and reviewed at the meeting in lieu of paper copies.
      3. The Task force members reviewed changes made at the May meeting to the Last Resort Policy document and decided this meeting (July) would work to continue edits where we left off in May, all agreed.
      4. A copy of the previous edits was desired for further review by committee members, it was agreed that I would send a digital copy to all members for further review. Task Force members decided to continue with edits until previous document could be reviewed.
      5. Bitty Roy mentioned concerns with the use of Biological controls as a tool to control vegetation. Task Force members agreed to remove the term “biological” from the document.
      6. The term “thresholds” was concerning to some members, something that was difficult to define, lacking clear definition. Lisa Arkin brought up hoe the City of Eugene uses Thresholds for managing pests at the Owen Rose Garden. They use 70% viability as the threshold for when to use insecticides. It was agreed by the group that the current Management Prescription Plan would define thresholds.
      7. Lisa Arkin asked with all the edits that were happening if it would be possible to have the original documents for comparison. Bitty Roy mentioned a process called “document merge” that could allow this. We will follow up on this process at the next meeting.
      8. James Mough questioned the future of the Vegetation Management Advisory Committee. He thought that that a committee should be brought back to support the public need and work in conjunction with the Public Health Advisory Committee.
      9. Ellen Mooney asked if this role could be blended into the Roads Advisory Committee, all agreed this could be proposed to the Board for review.
      10. The Committee worked on the completing edits through section 2, and began working on both sections 3 and 4. It was decided through consensus that these two section required more time for review and discussion. This would be placed on the August agenda.
      11. Determine the Task Force’s decision-making process for final recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC)
          1. Majority Rule or Consensus were the options discussed
          2. Consensus was chosen as the preferred method
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   1. No members of the public were in attendance
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
   1. Motion: Without a current staff member to support this group the draft minutes were not provided in copy, they had been sent electronically for review. Seeing that not all members had a chance to review the minutes it was decided we would review the draft minutes from the May meeting will be reviewed at the August meeting
4. **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**
   * 1. There were no adjustments to the agenda.
5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS / PRESENTATIONS**
   1. Review the “Roadside Vegetation Management and Last Resort Herbicide Use Policy (Lane Code 15.500 – .530)”
      1. Discussed updating the policy title, as “Last Resort” considered not to be an accurate description
         1. Policy title change discussion postponed until after content reviewed

Text revised

1. **NEXT MEETING AGENDA**
   1. Review DRAFT changes made to the “Roadside Vegetation Management and Last Resort Herbicide Use Policy (Lane Code 15.500 – .510)”
   2. Continue review and update to the “Roadside Vegetation Management and Last Resort Herbicide Use Policy (Lane Code 15.500 – 15.530)”
2. **ADJOURNMENT**
   1. Chair Mooney adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Orin Schumacher, Minutes Recorder