

DRAFT, to be approved 16 May 2011

THE OKLAHOMA INVASIVE PLANT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE OFFICERS' & BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA
25 FEBRUARY 2011

Karen Hickman, President, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Karen Hickman, Bruce Hoagland, Marla Peek, Chad Cox, Tim Bartram, Jay Pruett, Brad Stumph, Priscilla Crawford, and guest Jeanetta Cooper (ODAFF) were in attendance

The minutes of the 17 December 2010 Board of Directors' meeting were unanimously approved with no revisions necessary.

Bruce Hoagland reported for the Science Committee. He is waiting for responses from the decision matrix for the invasive species list. Comments can still be sent to Bruce. Karen will send out the files again to the BOD via the listserv. So far, Bruce has only received a few comments.

Karen would like us to step back a bit regarding the list and think about our ultimate goal with the list. We may be losing the message with just a technical list of invasives. We also need to think of what our stakeholders need. Jay Pruett believes we should still have a comprehensive list, but we might want to have multiple lists to help us focus on groups of species, such as those that need to be on an early detection list. Marla Peek suggested maybe two lists with one focusing on ecological threat and another on economic threat. Priscilla Crawford suggested making the lists based on stakeholder interests, such as invasives of greatest concern for ranchers or urban landscapers or natural areas managers. Karen said some of her students would be making factsheets on invasive species that could be reproduced for outreach materials. Brad Stumph recommended adding a column to the decision matrix to indicate stakeholders that are impacted by that species. Bruce also remarked that we need to think about how we present the native invaders we have listed. We need to make clear our intention in listing them.

Marla Peek reported for the Policy Committee. Marla felt the biggest message we received from the Senators was they are interested but they don't have the money to allocate to any effort. Marla believes that a good step might be to encourage a rule change that identifies kudzu as a noxious weed. Unless some additional funding is given to her regulatory agency, Jeanetta Cooper (ODAFF) feels that little can actually be done.

Brad and Jay will contact the economist, Chad Settle, at the University of Tulsa to gauge his interest in helping OkIPC generate data on the economic impact of invasives for the state.

Brad reported on his activities with the Education Committee. He found estimates for an event display ranging from \$300 for a simple table top display to \$3000 for a floor display. The BOD agreed to allocate up to \$700 to the Education Committee to purchase and develop a display. Brad also suggested that we develop a database of funding sources for both the council and our stakeholders. This would help us to anticipate upcoming funding opportunities. The BOD encouraged Brad to work on the project. The logistics concerning applying for grants as the OkIPC was briefly discussed. For now, if grant opportunities occur, we could apply through our respective institutions. In the future, we need to determine how best to apply as the OkIPC.

Chad reported on the activities of the Citizen Science Committee. He reported that Curtis Tackett is working on an aquatic invasive handout to be distributed to Blue Thumb groups that are also OkIPC Citizen Scientists. Chad distributed his terrestrial plant guide for Citizen Scientists that he will be training. Upon examination of the list, the BOD had some comments. Marla was concerned that there are plants included in the guide that are used for agricultural purposes. Marla said the Farm Bureau could

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not be associated with a list of plants that are used for commercial purposes, including forage species. These species need to be listed as problems in native areas, not problems everywhere. Marla also commented that commercial crops do not need to be reported to the OkIPC. Tim Bartram stated that many of the species listed occur throughout the state and we know that. We don't need the Citizen Scientists focusing on species that are already statewide and planted commercially. Tim and Priscilla think that there are other species that would be a better use of Citizen Science time, rather than the forage grasses included in this handout. There are invasive species in the state that we have little information for. It was suggested that we produce distribution maps of invasive species that are not based solely on herbarium specimens, but also include observations. Chad will revise the handout to remove the commercially available forage grasses. He will also add a disclaimer regarding the need to have permission to access private property. He will send out the revised document to the BOD via the listserv for their comments and approval.

Tim suggested that we should identify species that we would recommend be prohibited to sell in Oklahoma. Marla, Jeanetta, and Tim would work on coming up with candidates for prohibition.

Priscilla reported on her activities in the Membership and Public Relations Committee. We have two new official members so far in 2011. Priscilla posted on the OkIPC website the PowerPoint Presentation that Karen gave at the Capitol in January. She also mentioned that the www.protectingusnow.com website, which is about invasive pest species, has excellent outreach materials that we might want to use as templates for future OkIPC efforts. Brad suggested that we promote National Invasive Species Awareness Week 2011 and be more proactive in promoting it in 2012. Priscilla will post information on the website and send out information via the listserv.

Karen presented information about possibly putting an advertisement in the Oklahoma Hunting and Fishing Guide (circulation 400,000). The BOD didn't know what we would want to promote at this point. Maybe we will be ready to advertise next year.

Karen reported on the plans for the annual meeting. She would like suggestions for additional sponsors and sponsor fees. It was suggested that we have a sponsorship category as high as \$500. It was recommended that Karen contact the Texas Invasives to gauge what they charge and how they manage sponsorships. Karen also thought we shouldn't charge some meeting attendees; especially people we want to attend. It was suggested that we have a VIP invited registration form that is sent to people we want to highly encourage to attend. Jeanetta has 100 copies of the invasive plant CD from invasives.org for the annual meeting packets. Karen welcomes other publications for the packet.

Chad gave the treasurers report. We currently have \$3774.02 in the account.

Karen discussed the initiation of the Nomination Committee. Karen would like to appoint Tim, Priscilla, and Jim Harris to the committee. Tim and Priscilla agreed. The Committee will be looking for BOD and President-Elect nominations. Karen would also like the BOD members whose term is up to consider being re-nominated and serving another term.

The next BOD meeting will be Monday 16 May 2011 at 9:00 at the Oklahoma Farm Bureau offices in Oklahoma City.

The meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla H. C. Crawford
Secretary