

California Department of Food & Agriculture

Minutes

of the Meeting

of the Pierce's Disease and Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board

and Pierce's Disease Advisory Task Force

Held on Tuesday, July 7, 2020

CDFA Gateway Oaks Facility

2800 Gateway Oaks Drive, Room 267, Sacramento, CA 95833

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present: Pam Bond*, Greg Coleman*, Robert Crudup*, William Drayton*, Bill Hammond*, Rich Hammond*, John Harkey*, Randy Heinzen*, Trey Irwin*, Aaron Lange*, Steve McIntyre*, Domonic Rossini

Members Absent: Jeff Bitter, Keith Horn, Jim Ledbetter

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: Cathy Fisher*, Deborah Golino*, A. Humberto Izquierdo*, Beth Stone-Smith*, Judy Zaninovich*

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Jean-Mari Peltier

OTHER ATTENDEES

Tyler Blackney*, Chris Bock, Andrew Cline, Noelle Cremers*, Pete Downs*, Sandy Elles*, Tom Esser*, Leah Gayagas*, Craig Hanes, Mark Harrington*, Michael Miiller*, Mike Miller*, David Morgan*, Stacie Oswald, Allen Proxmire*, Ted Reiger*, Nicole Shorter*, Youngsoo Son*, Chris Tsuji*, Jay Van Rein*, Sean Veling*, Myrna Villegas

*Denotes attendance via web conference or teleconference.

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Domonic Rossini and PD Advisory Task Force Chairperson Judy Zaninovich called the joint meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Acting Statewide Coordinator Andrew Cline conducted the roll call for the PD/GWSS Board (Board) and the PD Advisory Task Force (Task Force). Quorums were present for both the Board and the Task Force.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Board Chairperson Domonic Rossini and Task Force Chairperson Judy Zaninovich welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked attendees for their participation. Acting Statewide Coordinator Andrew Cline introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Domonic reported that he has been in discussion with Andrew and CDFA Secretary Ross to discuss efforts needed to fill current PDCP vacancies previously occupied by Roger Spencer and Tom Esser.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Domonic Rossini asked the Board for a motion to approve the minutes from the joint Board and Task Force meeting held on April 23, 2020.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the joint Board and Task Force meeting held on April 23, 2020.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Irwin* Second: Lange*
In Favor: Bond*, Coleman*, Crudup*, Drayton*, Rich Hammond*, Harkey*,
Heinzen*, Irwin*, Lange*, McIntyre*, Rossini
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Bitter, Bill Hammond, Horn, Ledbetter

Judy Zaninovich asked the Task Force for a motion to approve the minutes from the joint Board and Task Force meeting held on April 23, 2020.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Task Force to approve the minutes from the joint Board and Task Force meeting held on April 23, 2020.

Details of Task Force Vote

Motion: Stone-Smith* Second: Izquierdo*
In Favor: Golino*, Izquierdo*, Stone-Smith*, Zaninovich*
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Andrew, Fisher, Peltier

NEXT MEETING

The next Board and Task Force meeting was set for Monday, November 9, 2020 in Sacramento and will begin at 10:00 AM.

REFERENDUM VOTE UPDATE

Andrew Cline provided background information regarding Food and Agriculture code, what related criteria applies to the continued operation of the Pierce's Disease and Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board, and how it governs the referendum process. Andrew said that, for the 2020 referendum vote, a total of 3,128 completed ballots were received from eligible participants, 49.21% of participants responded with a vote, and 78.13% of votes were in favor of continuation of the program. As a result, the program will remain operational for an additional five years.

AREA-WIDE PROGRAM UPDATE

USDA California Assistant State Plant Health Director Beth Stone-Smith introduced USDA APHIS National Policy Manager Allen Proxmire and provided a status update on program activities taking place in Madera, Fresno, Tulare, and Kern counties including trap find numbers and increased adult and egg mass counts from last year.

Judy Zaninovich added that, due to having an additional surplus of chemicals on hand, treatment coordinators were able to conduct additional spring treatments in some southern

areas of Tulare County, and that approximately 78% of total GWSS numbers are coming from organic acreage and untreated southern portions of that region.

FISCAL UPDATES

Beth Stone-Smith reported briefly on the federal funding for the Program. Federal funding has not changed since the last meeting.

PDCP Environmental Program Manager I Craig Hanes presented the financial update for the PDCP. Craig said that not all state FY 17/18 general funds were spent during that year, and the remaining general funds were encumbered under FY 18/19 and FY 19/20 on items the Board has previously covered. This explained why budgeted amounts for FY 20/21 of Board funds were higher than the past two fiscal years.

Craig Hanes presented the fiscal update for the Board. He reported carryover, FY 19/20 revenues from the assessment, earned interest, future fiscal year obligations, and current & projected expenditures.

RESEARCH PROGRAM UPDATES

Research Screening Committee (RSC) Chair Steve McIntyre provided an overview of the RSC meeting which took place on May 19th, 2020. Items discussed during the meeting included Dr. Jim Farrar being unavailable to provide research project review and evaluation efforts in 2021 and how the RSC is evaluating different options to allow Dr. Farrar's work to continue, the Research Coordinator position Request for Proposal (RFP), Vine mealybug and Grape Leafroll target research proposals, international RFP distribution, the postponement of the 2020 Pierce's Disease Research Symposium, and research proposal confidentiality.

PD/GWSS BOARD BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21

Craig Hanes presented the proposed Board budget for FY 2020-21 along with background information and supplemental documents. The proposed budget consisted of items that were approved at previous meetings and new items for consideration at this meeting. New items included funding for research components to include RFP assistance and a Research Coordinator position, symposium and conference support, website remediation, reserve for new projects, a new public outreach contract, county programs & PDCP operations, contingency for county backfill, agricultural supplies, Task Force travel and per diem, and administration costs.

- After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend a budget totaling \$7,891,514 for FY 2020-21. This budget includes items that were previously approved, totaling \$3,380,514, and new items that were recommended for approval at this meeting, totaling \$4,511,000.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Rich Hammond* Second: Drayton*

In Favor: Bond*, Coleman*, Crudup*, Drayton*, Bill Hammond*, Rich Hammond*, Harkey*, Heinzen*, Irwin*, Lange*, McIntyre*, Rossini

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Bitter, Horn, Ledbetter

ASSESSMENT RATE FOR 2020 HARVEST

Board members discussed the likely value of the 2020 winegrape crop and the assessment rate that would be needed to cover anticipated expenses and maintain a prudent reserve. It was estimated that the 2020 crop would be similar in value to the 2019 crop.

- After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board that the assessment rate for wine grapes harvested and crushed in 2020 remain at \$1.00 per \$1,000 of value.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Rich Hammond* Second: McIntyre*
In Favor: Bond*, Coleman*, Crudup*, Drayton*, Bill Hammond*, Rich Hammond*, Harkey*, Heinzen*, Irwin*, Lange*, McIntyre*, Rossini
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Bitter, Horn, Ledbetter

PD/GWSS BOARD AND ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Andrew Cline announced Keith Horn's resignation from the Board and recognized Keith for his many years of dedicated service, numerous contributions, and support to the Department of Food and Agriculture, PD/GWSS Board, and the grape & wine industry. Andrew said that efforts would begin to fill Keith's vacancy.

Judy Zaninovich said that efforts are underway to increase Task Force participation and ensure the Task Force's continued ability to provide experience required to advise the Board on key industry issues. Judy said that she is working with CDFA to identify and contact potential Task Force candidates and is hoping to have new members present at the next joint Board and Task Force meeting.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION UPDATE AND NEW CONTRACT

Craig Hanes announced that, with the previous outreach and education contract having expired on June 30th 2020, work is being completed to award a new three-year contract, that one vendor proposal had been received and, with approval of the FY 2020-21 Board budget, a vote would be required to move forward with awarding the new contract.

- After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend awarding a new outreach and education contract spanning three years and with a total value of \$600,000.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Rich Hammond* Second: Drayton*
In Favor: Bond*, Coleman*, Crudup*, Drayton*, Bill Hammond*, Rich Hammond*, Harkey*, Heinzen*, Lange*, McIntyre*, Rossini
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Bitter, Horn, Irwin**, Ledbetter

**not present for this action item

Nicole Shorter of Brown-Miller Communications provided an update on recent outreach and education activities including details on the distribution of Spring and Summer newsletters, attendance of a recent spotted lanternfly (SLF) informational session hosted by the California Association of Winegrape Growers (CAWG) and CDFA, and the distribution of a media coverage report.

Andrew Cline added that the CAWG/CDFA SLF presentation included over 75 attendees, provided general information on insect distribution and biology, news on the state of Pennsylvania's SLF suppression efforts, a comparison and contrast to European grapevine moth control efforts, and related CDFA efforts currently in development. The presentation resulted in the proposal of several draft action items/activities to include the formation of a stakeholder working group to evaluate the concept of using a Tree of Heaven biocontrol agent, development of national economic impact analysis with emphasis on grapes to support state funding for related program operations, engagement with USDA leadership to provide state funding to ensure availability of adequate resources to detect, control, and prevent artificial movement of SLF, and several others. The CAWG/CDFA presentation is available in its entirety on the CAWG website.

COUNTY AG COMMISSIONER SURVEY RESULTS

Senior Environmental Scientist Stacie Oswald provided an update on the status of county ag commissioner shipment inspections. Stacie said that counties have reported very few delays in clearance of nursery stock shipments and are doing a tremendous job inspecting, certifying, and clearing nursery shipments throughout the state, as well as conducting trapping programs at origin nurseries and in non-infested counties.

PDCP STAFF UPDATES

Stacie Oswald provided updates on program activities including rapid response and treatment activities in Fresno, Madera, and Tulare counties, nursery stock shipment numbers, origin county inspection efforts, and approved treatment program numbers.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Miiller, with CAWG, talked about AB 2028 which applies to all regulatory and state boards, commissions, committees, and any groups which host public meetings for the purpose of developing policy. AB 2028 amends the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and requests that any information provided by staff to a Board must also be made available to the public 48 hours prior to the commencement of applicable public meetings. Michael said that AB 2028 is currently under Senate review.

James O'Connor, an Agricultural Economist with Inphatec, announced that their injectable bacteriophage XylPhi-PD is now fully registered in California for the treatment and prevention of Pierce's disease. Trials are currently underway in Texas and California. James offered to provide related technical presentations to interested parties and mentioned the upcoming virtual tour of a XylPhi-PD treated area taking place in September.

OTHER ITEMS

None.

CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Board Chairperson Domonic Rossini and Task Force Chairperson Judy Zaninovich adjourned the meeting at 11:52 AM.

Respectfully submitted on October 28th, 2020 by

Christopher Bock, Associate Governmental Program Analyst
Pierce's Disease Control Program
California Department of Food and Agriculture