

**California Department of Food & Agriculture**

**Minutes**

of the Joint Meeting / Conference Call  
of the Pierce's Disease and Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board  
and Pierce's Disease Advisory Task Force  
Held on Monday, January 28, 2013  
CDFA Auditorium at 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA

**PD/GWSS BOARD**

Members Present: Dennis Atkinson, Pam Bond, Greg Coleman, Nat DiBuduo, Ben Drake, Bill Hammond, David House\*, Drew Johnson, Jim Ledbetter, Steve McIntyre, Al Rossini, Steve Schafer, Marilyn Wolf

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Dana Merrill

**PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

Members Present: Nat DiBuduo, Ben Drake, David House\*, Scott Hudson, Nancy Irelan, Drew Johnson, Beth Stone-Smith, David Whitmer, Judy Zaninovich

Members Absent: Kassim Al-Khatib, Kevin Andrew, Jim Cranney, Richard Mounts, Corky Roche, John Snyder

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

John Aguirre, Jim Barnes, Alex Camacho, Cecilia Chi-Ham, Tom Esser, Mike Falasco, Ken Freeze, Deborah Golino, Craig Hanes, Kapua Kahumoku, Paul Kronenberg, Mike Miller, Matt Myers, Stacie Oswalt, Raj Randhawa, Karen Ross, Roger Spencer, Myrna Villegas, Bob Wynn

\*Denotes attendance via conference call

-----  
**CALL TO ORDER**

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Steve McIntyre called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

**ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Bob Wynn, CDFA Statewide Coordinator, conducted the roll call for the PD/GWSS Board (Board) and the PD Advisory Task Force (Task Force). A quorum was present for both the Board and the Task Force. Steve McIntyre then asked for introductions of other attendees and guests.

Bob Wynn then introduced two new Board members: Pam Bond from Swanson Vineyards and Bill Hammond from Jackson Family Wines.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Paul Kronenberg, President of Family Winemakers of California, suggested that the Board discuss renewing the enabling legislation for the Program, Board, assessment, and Task Force beyond the current sunset date of March 2016. New legislation would need to be introduced in 2014 to achieve this.

**WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

Secretary Karen Ross thanked the Board and Task Force members for their continuing efforts. She said this has been a model Program and partnership between the public and private sectors. She also thanked former Board members Herb Schmidt and Pete Downs for their extensive





## **CONTINUING THE GRAPEVINE FIELD TRAILS**

PDCP Special Assistant Tom Esser reviewed the ongoing grapevine field trials which began in March 2010. The trials have generated useful information but there is general consensus that more could be gained by allowing the trials to continue for another growing season. After discussions with the researchers, it was determined that the funding needed would total \$180,538. The current contracts are scheduled to end on February 28, 2013. Tom said the extensions for the field trials would be until June 30, 2014, and an additional six months would be needed to monitor the growing sites after the trials were completed and the vines removed.

After some discussion, the Board voted:

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend the continuation of the grapevine field trials with a stipulation that the researchers consider the guidance and recommendations of the Trait Evaluation Committee.

### **Details of Board Vote**

Motion: Steve McIntyre            Second: Ben Drake  
In Favor: Atkinson, Bond, Coleman, DiBuduo, Drake, House\*, Johnson, McIntyre,  
Rossini, Schafer, Hammond, Wolf  
Against: Jim Ledbetter  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Andrew, Merrill

## **UPDATE ON RESEARCH PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS**

Dr. Deborah Golino, Director for the Unified Grant Management for Viticulture & Enology (UGMVE) Program, discussed the progress of this year's PD/GWSS Request for Proposals (RFP) process. She said there were seven proposals received this year and they are currently under review.

## **OTHER DESIGNATED PESTS AND DISEASES OF WINEGRAPES**

PDCP Branch Chief Roger Spencer reported that the Winegrape Pest and Disease Designation Committee met last week and discussed the potential economic impact of grapevine leafroll virus in California. After discussion, the Board voted to not recommend designating grapevine leafroll virus as a designated disease of winegrapes.

### **Details of Board Vote**

Motion: Al Rossini            Second: Dennis Atkinson  
In Favor: Atkinson, Bond, Coleman, DiBuduo, Drake, House\*, Johnson, McIntyre,  
Rossini, Schafer, Hammond, Wolf  
Against: Jim Ledbetter  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Andrew, Merrill

Red blotch virus was brought up during this discussion and it was requested by the Board to consider evaluating red blotch virus as a designated disease of winegrapes.

## **RESEARCH DIRECTOR REPORT**

Research Director Nancy Irelan discussed her recent activities. She reported that the Research Scientific Advisory Panel (RSAP) has a new member, Dr. Ron R. Walcott. She also reported that she will not be seeking renewal of her contract, which is due to end on June 30, 2013.

## **OUTREACH & EDUCATION UPDATE**

Ken Freeze of Brown-Miller Communications provided an update on their recent outreach and education activities.

## **AREA-WIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW & UPDATE**

Beth Stone-Smith provided updates on the area-wide programs in Riverside, Kern, Tulare, Fresno, and Madera counties. She also gave an update on the status of the treatment coordinators which had to go out for bid for a few of the areas.

## **PDCP STAFF REPORTS**

**Nursery:** Stacie Oswalt reported that the PDCP staff has been working with all non-infested or partially infested counties regarding reductions in work plan activities due to recent budget cuts. These reductions include the elimination of winter trapping in receiving nurseries, reduction in the number of ATP and free-from nursery destination inspections, delaying the start of the trapping season, extending the trap service cycle, and eliminating all visual surveys unless they are part of a delimitation effort.

**Rapid Response:** Craig Hanes reported on recent rapid response activities. In Santa Clara County, the infestation in the Meridian area of San Jose was declared eradicated in December 2012. This is the 16th incipient GWSS infestation that has been eradicated since the start of the PDCP. The Capitol area of San Jose had a GWSS find inside the infested area in November 2012. The find was on a trap that was thought to be missing, and the specimen appeared to have been on the trap for awhile. More delimitation traps were placed around the find with no additional GWSS found by year end. In San Luis Obispo County, no GWSS were found in the San Luis Obispo infested area in 2012. The last GWSS find in this area was on August 31, 2011. This infestation will be eligible to be declared eradicated after October 31, 2013 if no more GWSS are found. In Fresno and Madera counties, the PDCP continues to work closely with the Agricultural Commissioners and the USDA to manage urban and rural-residential GWSS populations in both counties.

## **CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO C.G. SECTION 11126**

N/A

## **RECONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING**

N/A

## **OTHER ITEMS**

N/A

## **CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

A motion by Al Rossini was made to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was then adjourned by Board Chairperson-elect Drew Johnson at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 by

Kapua Kahumoku, Associate Governmental Program Analyst  
Pierce's Disease Control Program  
Department of Food and Agriculture