

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, June 21, 2013

CDFA Gateway Oaks Facility Room 267 at 2800 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA

PD/GWSS BOARD

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

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, David House

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: Jim Cranney, Nat DiBuduo, Ben Drake, Scott Hudson, Nancy Irelan, Drew Johnson, Richard Mounts, Beth Stone-Smith, Judy Zaninovich

Members Absent: Kassim Al-Khatib, Kevin Andrew, David House, Corky Roche, John Synder, David Whitmer

OTHER ATTENDEES

John Aguirre, Fred Crowder, John Duarte, Tom Esser, Ken Freeze, Craig Hanes, Paul Kronenberg, Peter Matlock, Stacie Oswald, Raj Randhawa, Ted Reiger, Tia Russell, Roger Spencer, Myrna Villegas, Sean Veling, Bob Wynn

*Denotes attendance via conference call

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Drew Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.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). Quorums were present for the Board and the Task Force. Drew Johnson then asked for introductions of other attendees and guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Chairperson Drew Johnson asked the Board for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 29, 2013.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the April 29, 2013 meeting.

Details of Board Vote

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

Task Force Member Ben Drake (in Task Force Chairperson Kevin Andrew's absence) asked the

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Task Force to approve the minutes from the April 29, 2013 meeting.

Details of Task Force Vote

Motion: Nancy Irelan Second: Judy Zaninovich
In Favor: DiBuduo, Drake, Hudson, Irelan, Johnson, Mounts, Stone-Smith,
Zaninovich
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Al-Khatib, Andrew, Cranney, House, Roche, Snyder, Whitmer

NEXT MEETING

The next Board and Task Force meeting was set for Monday October 21, 2013, in Sacramento and will begin at 1:00 pm. It will be held at the CDFA Gateway Oaks Facility located at 2800 Gateway Oaks Drive in Sacramento.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Bob Wynn gave a brief update on the Board membership. He said that one or two Board members will be leaving soon, so we will be asking industry for nominations to replace them. He and Drew Johnson then presented Nancy Irelan with a Certificate of Appreciation for her meritorious service and contributions over the last seven years as Research Director of the Pierce's disease research effort. Nancy will be stepping down to pursue other endeavors.

PRESENTATION – DR. DAVID TRICOLI

David Tricoli of the UC Davis Plant Transformation Facility made a presentation on his Board-funded project to develop a grape tissue culture and transformation platform for the California grape research community.

RESEARCH DIRECTOR UPDATE

Research Director Nancy Irelan stated she will be stepping down from the Research Director position to focus on other activities. She thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as Research Director and acknowledged the importance and progress made in the Pierce's disease research effort.

PIPRA CONTRACT, GRAPEVINE FIELD TRIALS, AND NEW FIELD TRIAL PROPOSAL

Steve McIntyre reported on recent developments with the grapevine field trials. He said that PIPRA has been overseeing the field trials since they began in 2010. This included managing the USDA permit for the trials. This arrangement has proved to be challenging, and PIPRA has decided to discontinue its involvement in the trials. Following discussion by the Board and input from Peter Matlock, the Pierce's Disease Technology Facilitator, a working group was appointed to develop a proposal for moving forward with the trials. Steve McIntyre is the chair of the working

group, and the members include Drew Johnson, Nancy Irelan, Bob Wynn, George Bruening, and Tom Esser.

PDCP FISCAL UPDATE

USDA PD/GWSS Program Director Beth Stone-Smith reported briefly on the federal funding for the Program. She reviewed the financial situation, including the sequestration and the federal appropriations.

PDCP Branch Chief Roger Spencer presented the financial report for the PDCP and the Board. He discussed PDCP revenues and expenditures from fiscal years 2012-13 and 2013-14 along with projected total expenses. He also reviewed the current Board budget and projected spending.

PD/GWSS BOARD BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-14

Board Chairperson Drew Johnson led the discussion on the proposed Board budget for fiscal year 2013-14. The budget includes items that were previously approved, totaling \$1,722,532, and new items for consideration at this meeting, totaling \$4,573,095. The new items included a contract with the Unified Grant Management for Viticulture and Enology Program at UC Davis to help with this year's request for and review of research proposals, and funding to cover nursery treatments in GWSS-infested areas. After discussion, the PD/GWSS Board took the following action:

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary that a budget totaling \$6,295,627, be approved as the Board budget for Fiscal Year 2013-14. This budget includes items that were previously approved, totaling \$1,722,532, and new items that were recommended for approval at this meeting, totaling \$4,573,095.

Details of Board Vote

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

UGMVE PROPOSED CONTRACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-14

This item was discussed during the budget discussion.

NURSERY TREATMENT FUNDING

This item was discussed during the budget discussion.

ASSESSMENT RATE FOR 2013 HARVEST

Board Chairperson Drew Johnson led the discussion on the assessment rate to recommend for the 2013 winegrape crop. After discussion, it was decided to recommend an assessment rate of \$0.75 per \$1,000 of value. This represents a decrease of \$0.25 per \$1,000 of value from last year's assessment rate of \$1.00 per \$1,000 of value.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary that the assessment rate for the 2013 harvest be \$0.75 (seventy-five cents) per \$1,000 of value for winegrapes harvested and crushed in 2013.

Details of Board Vote

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

OTHER DESIGNATED PESTS AND DISEASES OF WINEGRAPES – RED BLOTCH

Steve McIntyre, Chair of the Board's Winegrape Pest and Disease Designation Committee, started the discussion by reviewing the background and status of red blotch in California. The discussion included testimony on the impact that red blotch concerns were having in the grapevine nursery trade and on planting decisions of growers. The status of current research on red blotch was also discussed.

- After discussion and consideration, the Board voted twice on whether or not to recommend designating red blotch as a serious disease of California winegrapes. Both votes resulted in a tie and it was decided to see what the current research on red blotch reveals and before bringing the topic back for further discussion and consideration.

Details of Board Vote #1

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

Details of Board Vote #2

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

(** Steve McIntyre had to leave the meeting early, prior to the vote taking place, and therefore was not able to vote.)

OUTREACH & EDUCATION UPDATE

Ken Freeze of Brown-Miller Communications provided an update on recent outreach and education activities and showed a video about GWSS suppression activities in Fresno County.

AREA-WIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW & UPDATE

Beth Stone-Smith provided updates on the area-wide programs in Kern, Tulare, Fresno, Riverside, and Madera counties.

PDCP STAFF REPORTS

Because written reports on recent Program activities were already provided by PDCP staff, presentations were not made for this agenda item.

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 for both the Board and the Task Force by Board Chair Drew Johnson at 2:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on September 12, 2013 by

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