

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, October 19, 2015
UC Cooperative Extension – Kern County
1031 South Mount Vernon Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93307

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present: Dennis Atkinson, Pam Bond, Greg Coleman, Robert Crudup, Nat DiBuduo, Bill Hammond, Jim Ledbetter, Ryan Metzler, Domonic Rossini

Members Absent: John Crossland, Ben Drake, Keith Horn, Drew Johnson, Steve McIntyre, Steve Schafer

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: Greg Clark, Nat DiBuduo, John Synder, Beth Stone-Smith, Judy Zaninovich

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Jim Cranney, Ben Drake, Deborah Golino, David House, Drew Johnson, Richard Mounts

OTHER ATTENDEES

Ruben Arroyo, Dave Bartels, Jonathan Bash, Barry Bedwell, Patrina Brennan*, Matt Ciomperlik, Matt Daugherty, John Duarte, Ashraf El-Kereamy, Tom Esser, Mike Falasco*, Paul Giboney, Minerva Gonzalez, Beth Grafton-Cardwell, Eddy Greynolds, Mark Harrington*, Kapua Kahumoku, Marilyn Kinoshita, David Morgan, Kathleen Nave, Stacie Oswald, Raj Randhawa*, Ted Rieger*, Youngsoo Son, Roger Spencer, Sean Veling, Bob Wynn

*Denotes attendance via conference call

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Bill Hammond 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 the Board but not the Task Force. Bill Hammond, Board Chair, then asked for introductions of other attendees and guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Chairperson Bill Hammond asked the Board for a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings held on April 28, 2015, June 22, 2015 and August 19, 2015.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the meetings held on April 28, 2015, June 22, 2015 and August 19, 2015.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Dennis Atkinson Second: Jim Ledbetter
In Favor: Atkinson, Bond, Coleman, Crudup, DiBuduo, Hammond, Ledbetter, Metzler, Rossini
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Crossland, Drake, Horn, Johnson, McIntyre, Schafer

The Task Force did not have a quorum present at the meeting; therefore there was no vote on the minutes.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board and Task Force meeting was set for Monday January 25, 2016, in Sacramento and will begin at 10:00 am. It will be held at the CDFA Gateway Oaks office located at 2800 Gateway Oaks Drive in Sacramento.

APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Board Chair Bill Hammond requested from the Board suggestions on members to be part of the nominating committee. The committee makes recommendations to the Board on replacements for the PD/GWSS Board officers.

The current officers are:

Chair: Bill Hammond
Vice-Chair: Nat DiBuduo
Treasurer: Pam Bond

After discussion it was decided that Ben Drake, John Crossland, Ryan Metzler, and Keith Horn will comprise the new nominating committee.

PDCP FISCAL UPDATE

USDA Program Director Beth Stone-Smith reported briefly on the federal funding for the Program.

PDCP Environmental Program Manager II Roger Spencer provided the financial update for the PDCP. He went over PDCP revenues and expenditures from fiscal years 2014-15 and 2015-16 along with projected total expenses.

PDCP Environmental Program Manager I Tom Esser provided the fiscal update for the Board.

AREAWIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Beth Stone-Smith provided updates on the area-wide programs in Fresno, Madera, Kern, Riverside and Tulare counties. She spoke about the current and historical insect counts, noting that there is an increase in insect counts from June 2015 to October 2015 in various locations throughout these counties.

KERN COUNTY PD/GWSS UPDATE

Beth Grafton-Cardwell, IPM Extension Specialist and Research Entomologist, University of California, Riverside (UCR) presented an update on Pierce's disease and the glassy-winged sharpshooter in Kern County. She said that control of the sharpshooter has gone from excellent in the early years to poor in more recent years. Likewise, the incidence of Pierce's disease is increasing, and it appears to be spreading west and north.

OTHER DESIGNATED PESTS OR DISEASES OF WINEGRAPES

Roger Spencer reported that the Other Pest and Disease Designation Committee had met and recommended designating all mealybug pests of winegrapes and grapevine fanleaf virus as serious pests of winegrapes. The discussion included the background and status of the pests and pathogen and the current and potential environmental and fiscal impacts which they posed to the winegrape industry.

- After discussion and consideration, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend designating the following as pests and/or diseases of winegrapes. No funding was allocated at this time.

1. All Mealybug Pests of Winegrapes
2. Grapevine Fanleaf Virus

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Nat DiBuduo Second: Domonic Rossini
In Favor: Atkinson, Bond, Coleman, Crudup, DiBuduo, Hammond, Metzler, Rossini
Against: None
Abstain: Ledbetter
Absent: Crossland, Drake, Horn, Johnson, McIntyre, Schafer

VITICULTURE CONSULTANT UPDATE

Viticulture Consultant Mark Greenspan was not able to attend the meeting, so Tom Esser provided an update on the grapevine field trials. He reported that Mark had inspected the field trial site in Solano County in July and found it to be in good shape. He also said that Deborah Golino had organized an evaluation of the vines for Pierce's disease symptoms on August 25. On October 6 a company interested in developing diagnostic imaging methods for Pierce's disease visited the site, and on October 13 the site was visited by members of the Legislative Analyst's Office and the Department of Finance. David Gilchrist assisted with both of these visits, and Deborah Golino and Andy Walker helped with the second one. Tom also reported that a meeting with the field trial researchers was planned for late October to discuss plans for the future. Lastly, Tom reported that the Riverside grapevine field trials had been discontinued, as requested by the Board.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION UPDATE

Jonathan Bash of Brown-Miller Communications provided an update on recent outreach and education activities.

PDCP STAFF REPORTS

The PDCP Staff provided updates on the latest activities within the program, including the nursery program and rapid response and treatment activities.

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO C.G. SECTION 11126

N/A

RECONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING

N/A

OTHER ITEMS

Tom Esser reported that the request for proposals for a regulatory consultant was released on October 15, with proposals due on November 15.

CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Bill Hammond adjourned the meeting for both the Board and the Task Force at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on January 13, 2016 by

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