

**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 22, 2018  
CDFA Headquarters - Auditorium  
1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

**PD/GWSS BOARD**

Members Present: Pam Bond, John Crossland, Robert Crudup, Nat DiBuduo, Bill Hammond, Keith Horn, Trey Irwin, Steve McIntyre, Ryan Metzler, Domonic Rossini, Steve Schafer

Members Absent: Greg Coleman, Ben Drake, Drew Johnson, Jim Ledbetter

**PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

Members Present: Greg Clark, Nat DiBuduo, Deborah Golino, Cathy Fisher, Judy Zaninovich

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Jim Cranney, Ben Drake, David House, Drew Johnson, Richard Mounts, Beth Stone-Smith

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

Tyler Blackney, Monica Cooper, Pete Downs, Tom Esser, Jim Farrar, Ken Freeze, Craig Hanes, Kapua Kahumoku, Michael Miiller (CAWG), Mike Miller (Brown-Miller) Stacie Oswalt, Ted Rieger, Roger Spencer, Sean Veling, Myrna Villegas, Bob Wynn

\*Denotes attendance via conference call

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Pierce's Disease and Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (PD/GWSS) Board Chair Pam Bond called the meeting to order at 10:06 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). There was a quorum for the Board but not the Task Force. Pam Bond, Board Chair, then asked for introductions of other attendees and guests.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

Pam Bond, Board Chair welcomed and thanked those in attendance for attending the meeting.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board Chair Pam Bond asked the Board for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 27, 2017.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 27, 2017.

### **Details of Board Vote**

Motion: Ryan Metzler      Second: Steve Schafer  
In Favor: Bond, Crossland, Crudup, DiBuduo, Hammond, Irwin, McIntyre, Metzler,  
Rossini, Schafer  
Against: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Coleman, Drake, Johnson Ledbetter

There was no quorum for the Task Force.

## **NEXT MEETING**

It was decided to set the date for the next meeting based on a poll sent to the Board and Task Force members. [Note: The poll results favored holding the meeting on April 23, 2018.]

## **NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Nomination Committee members announced the nominations for the new Board officers. The committee consisted of Pam Bond, John Crossland, Ben Drake, Keith Horn, and Ryan Metzler. The committee nominated the following new Board officers:

Chair: Ryan Metzler  
Vice-Chair: Keith Horn  
Treasurer: Domonic Rossini

## **ELECTION OF PD/GWSS BOARD OFFICERS**

Board Chair Pam Bond asked the Board members to vote on the recommendation from the Nomination Committee on the new Board officers.

Chair: Ryan Metzler  
Vice-Chair: Keith Horn  
Treasurer: Domonic Rossini

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the nominations recommended by the Nomination Committee.

### **Details of Board Vote**

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

Following the vote, Bob Wynn presented outgoing Board Chair Pam Bond with a Certificate of Appreciation, signed by Secretary Karen Ross, for her contributions and services as the Board Chair.

## **BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

Bob Wynn introduced new Board member Trey Irwin to the meeting. Trey is the Vice President of Agriculture at Tejon Ranch. Trey was nominated by Allied Grape Growers and the California Association of Winegrape Growers and he replaces Dennis Atkinson who retired recently. Trey then took a moment to thank the members and briefly talk about his new position. In addition, he mentioned how pests like vine mealybug are a big problem in his area. Afterwards, John Crossland announced that he would be retiring and leaving the Board effective December 31, 2018.

## **PDCP FISCAL UPDATE**

PDCP Statewide Coordinator Bob Wynn asked those members who met with Congressional representatives and USDA officials in Washington, D.C. in late October to talk about their recent trip and the meetings that they attended. The members who attended were Board members Ryan Metzler and Ben Drake and Task Force member Judy Zaninovich, whose organization, the Consolidated Central Valley Table Grape Pest & Disease Control District, paid for her travel costs. The meetings were positive and encouraging. The members attended the D.C. meetings to be able to discuss the progress being made and the need for continued funding. During the discussion it was suggested that talking points be prepared and distributed to help stakeholders communicate an informed and consistent message.

Roger Spencer, PDCP Environmental Program Manager (EPM) II, then provided the financial update for the PDCP. Roger went over revenues and expenditures for FY 2016-17 and 2017-18 and talked about how the \$5 million from the state general fund would be used.

Tom Esser, PDCP EPM I, presented the fiscal update for the Board for fiscal years 2016-17 and 2017-18. He said that some of the expenditures in the Board's budget would be paid instead using the \$5 million from the state general fund, reducing the Board's expenditures. During the discussion the impact of the recent fires in the Napa and Sonoma areas on the yield and value of this year's grape harvest was brought up. On a statewide basis, the crop was not expected to be significantly impacted.

## **UPDATE ON ASSESSMENT COLLECTIONS**

PDCP Environmental Program Manager I Tom Esser provided an update to the Board on the assessment collection process which is conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). NASS has collected the assessment every year since it was first established in 2001. It is conducted in conjunction with collecting data for the annual grape crush report, and requires a great deal of record-keeping, tracking, analysis, and follow up. Following discussion and consideration of available options, the Board decided it would like to continue having NASS collect the annual PD/GWSS assessment.

## **UPDATE ON NATIONAL PLANT BOARD/USDA PROGRAM REVIEW**

Bob Wynn provided an overview of the recent National Plant Board and USDA program review. The review is being done to help the USDA determine if the program is being appropriately funded.

## **OUTREACH & EDUCATION UPDATE**

PDCP EPM I Craig Hanes addressed the Board on the current Outreach and Education contract. The contract with Brown-Miller Communications will expire on April 30, 2018. The Request for Proposal (RFP) process has been finalized for a new Outreach and Education contract. Brown-Miller submitted the winning proposal.

Ken Freeze of Brown-Miller Communications provided an update on outreach and education activities. These included the winter newsletter, e-blasts, wine tasting events, and tradeshow,

including the California Association of Pest Control Advisers Conference and Agri-Expo held October 2017 in Reno, Nevada.

**AREAWIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE**

Craig Hanes provided updates on the area-wide programs in Fresno, Madera, Kern, Riverside, and Tulare counties.

**PDCP STAFF REPORTS**

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**

Topics discussed included the status of the Pierce's disease resistant grapevines developed by Dr. Andy Walker and pre-released to California nurseries in April 2017; the discovery that a few grapevines in the Russell Ranch FPS vineyard were infected with red blotch virus, and the follow-up steps taken to address it; the annual request for research proposals, with submissions due January 31, 2018; a request for proposals for a virus research director, with proposals due February 9, 2018; and the recent posting of the 2017 year-end compendium of research progress reports for Board-funded and related research projects. During the discussion, a request was made for an update and overview of intellectual property issues associated with Board-funded research.

**CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair-Elect Ryan Metzler adjourned the meeting for both the Board and the Task Force at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on April 16, 2018 by

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