

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 Wednesday, June 29, 2022.

Physical Location:

California Department of Food and Agriculture Auditorium
1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
and via Web-conference and Teleconference.

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present: Greg Coleman, William Drayton, Rich Hammond, John "JD" Harkey*, Randy Heinzen*, Kendall Hoxsey-Onysko*, Trey Irwin, Aaron Lange, Jim Ledbetter, Steve McIntyre*, Dominic Rossini, Seth Schwebs, David Teuschler

Members Absent: Jeff Bitter, Bill Hammond

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: Ruben Arroyo*, Tracy Cleveland*, Glenn Fankhauser, Kristin Lowe, Martin Mochizuki, Todd Sanders*, Beth Stone-Smith, Judy Zaninovich

Members Absent: Alyssa Houtby

OTHER ATTENDEES

John Bailey*, Tyler Blackney*, Andrew Cline*, Noelle Cremers*, Leah Gayagas*, Craig Hanes, Mark Harrington*, Matthew Kaiser, Giancarlo LaGiusa, Mark McLoughlin, Michael Miiller, David Morgan*, Stacie Oswalt, David Pegos, Michelle Phillips, Ted Reiger*, Maher Al Rwahnih, Karen Ross, Nicole Shorter*, Youngsoo Son*, Sean Veling, Myrna Villegas, Ed Williams*

*Denotes attendance via web-conference or teleconference.

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board (Board) Chairperson William Drayton and PD Advisory Task Force (Task Force) Chairperson Judy Zaninovich called the joint meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

PD/CP Statewide Coordinator Craig Hanes conducted the roll call for the Board and Task Force. Quorums were present for both the Board and Task Force. Craig Hanes presented a certificate of appreciation to Dominic Rossini for his previous service as Chairperson of the PD/GWSS Board.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

William Drayton welcomed everyone back for the Board and Task Force meeting. No further comments were made at the time.

PD/GWSS BOARD AND ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Craig Hanes provided an update regarding Board and Task Force membership and welcomed Kristin Lowe and Todd Sanders as new Task Force members.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made at this time.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board and Task Force meeting was set for Tuesday, October 25th, at 10:00 AM. The next meeting will be held at Foundation Plant Services (FPS) at UC Davis.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

William Drayton asked the Board for a motion to approve the minutes from the joint Board and Task Force meeting held on April 26th, 2022.

- 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 26th, 2022 as presented.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Domonic Rossini Second: Greg Coleman

In Favor: Coleman, Drayton, Rich Hammond, Harkey, Heinzen, Hoxsey-Onysko, Irwin, Lange, Ledbetter, Rossini, Schwebs, Teuschler

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Bitter, Bill Hammond, McIntyre***

***Denotes member unavailable to vote

Judy Zaninovich asked the Task Force for a motion to approve the minutes from the joint Board and Task Force meeting held on April 26th, 2022.

- 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 26th, 2022 as presented.

Details of Task Force Vote

Motion: Beth Stone-Smith Second: Kristin Lowe

In Favor: Arroyo, Cleveland, Fankhauser, Lowe, Mochizuki, Sanders, Stone-Smith, Zaninovich

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Houtby

FISCAL UPDATES

Beth Stone-Smith provided an update from USDA regarding the federal budget. The federal budget was approved, and the program was funded for \$15.5 million in federal fiscal year (FY) 2022. USDA started the federal budget planning process for federal FY 2023. Stone-Smith highlighted the importance of lobbying and advocacy efforts for ensuring that industry priorities such as GWSS and spotted lanternfly are funded.

Craig Hanes stated the budget for FY 20/21 has remained the same as it was in the

last meeting, which was about \$18.6 million in program expenditures. The budget for FY 21/22 included \$17.38 million in federal funds and \$100,000 in state reserve funds. The Board had previously authorized \$1.65 million in funds that included \$1.2 million for urban activities, \$300,000 for nursery treatments, \$150,000 for rapid response activities in Solano County; an additional \$126,000 was authorized by the board for Solano but not needed due to emergency funds from the Department being made available. Overall, the total program budget for FY 21/22 is \$19.5 million. Year-to-date (YTD) expense figures were \$13.19 million, and they were projected to total \$19.39 million for the remaining year.

Matthew Kaiser provided an update on projected revenues and expenditures from the Board's budget for FY 20/21 and FY 21/22. This year, the Board carried over about \$10.5 million from the prior year and is expecting \$3.5 million in new assessments and interest, totaling a little over \$14 million. An additional \$4.4 million in expenditures is expected in FY 21/22, bringing the net projected balance down to about \$9.6 million. Future year obligations include contracts, outreach, and nursery treatments were projected for a total of \$4.5 million, leaving a future remaining balance of \$5 million. Kaiser went over additional expenditures in detail, which included future research projects, request for proposals (RFP) website assistance, and the research coordinator position. The Program projected the total expenditures for FY 21/22 to exceed the total YTD expenditures of \$2.5 million as additional invoices are submitted.

Jim Ledbetter observed that "County Program Expenses" had only incurred approximately \$510,000 in expenses despite being projected to cost \$1.2 million and asked if the \$690,000 in future expenses was a reasonable figure. Hanes responded that that last year's total of \$940,000 was probably more accurate than \$1.2 million. Kaiser revised the projection for this item to \$900,000 and revised the Board's expected carryover to reflect this change in the proposed FY 22/23 budget discussed later.

RESEARCH PROGRAM UPDATE

Matthew Kaiser explained that he was working with the CDFA Grants Office to get the 16 newly-approved grants fully executed, and that there was one additional submitted proposal that was not voted on at the last meeting and would be presented again today under a later item. He stated he planned to continue to work with the CDFA's new Grant Coordinator for the new RFP cycle, and that external partner grant-making organizations that have used the Unified Grant Management for Viticulture and Enology (UGMVE) website hosted by UC Davis would be welcome to join the PD/GWSS Board in moving to CDFA's new grant portal powered by AmpliFund if they choose to do so. He stated that regular communication with representatives from American Vineyard Foundation had been occurring, and that the Board's RFP would be ready to be advertised through the new AmpliFund portal this year. He stated the upcoming FY budget would include enough funds to cover all current UGMVE users if they decide to move to the new portal.

RESEARCH COORDINATOR AND NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES UPDATE

Kristin Lowe gave an update on the possibility of a National Academy of Sciences (NAS) review of the current RFP and research program, including what new research is needed, focused on grapevine viruses. Lowe presented a draft Statement of Task (SOT) which included Red Blotch Virus and Grapevine Leafroll Virus as the focus. Robin Schoen of NAS reviewed a current draft and provided a ballpark figure of approximately \$750,000 to \$1 million over a two-year period for this type of project. Lowe stated that they are waiting on more detailed budget, timeline, and plan from NAS regarding the implementation of this project. Ways in which such a review could identify new research priorities or foster

collaboration were discussed. William Drayton stated that he was encouraged with what he heard and saw from NAS. He further reiterated that this NAS review is the best solution available to assure the Board that they are getting the best return on their investments in research.

FOUNDATION PLANT SERVICES GREENHOUSE UPDATE

Kristin Lowe worked with from Maher Al Rwahnih of Foundation Plant Services (FPS) at University of California, Davis to prepare an update on the greenhouse project that was discussed at the last PD/GWSS meeting on April 26th which included funding, testing, and staffing requirements for this project. Al Rwahnih explained in detail the background and how this would correspond to the interests of the Board. The project objectives would include to collect, test, and propagate priority selections to eliminate pathogens such as Red Blotch Virus in order to move foundation stock into a new greenhouse facility. Costs and long-term goals were discussed, including the timeline for the project which had been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Al Rwahnih stated that despite delays this project was proceeding and funding for the construction of the greenhouse had already been secured from several other organizations including the California Fruit Tree, Nut tree, & Grapevine Improvement Advisory Board (IAB), California Grape Rootstock Research Foundation, California Grape Rootstock Commission, and internal funds from Found Plant Services (FPS). Once the greenhouse is built and the selections are tested and moved into the facility, FPS operations would be funded from user fees and plant sales.

Jim Ledbetter asked about the length of survivability of the current outdoor location of the foundation vineyard. William Drayton asked about the process of choosing which selections would be moved into the greenhouse. Aaron Lange and Dominic Rossini asked about quality controls designed to prevent insect and disease contamination.

Chairperson William Drayton asked the Board for a motion to approve the proposal entitled “Propagating the Premier US Grape Collection for Protection in a Foundation Greenhouse” at \$647,905 over three years.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to fund the proposal entitled “Propagating the Premier US Grape Collection for Protection in a Foundation Greenhouse” at \$647,905 over three years.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Seth Schwebs Second: Domonic Rossini

In Favor: Coleman, Drayton, Rich Hammond, Harkey, Heinzen, Irwin, Lange,
Ledbetter, Rossini, Schwebs, Teuschler

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Bitter, Bill Hammond, Hoxsey-Onysko**, McIntyre***

**Not present for this action item

***Denotes member unavailable to vote

RESEARCH VINEYARD CONCEPT UPDATE

Kristin Lowe provided a presentation on the scientific need and costs regarding the establishment of a research vineyard as discussed at the last meeting, including whether it be located at the University of California Hopland Research and Extension Center (HREC) or on private leased land. A task force consisting of Seth Schwebs and Steve McIntyre had investigated more details of what such a project would entail. Lowe stated that field studies provide invaluable information in comparison to traditional lab or greenhouse research. . . The advantages of doing such studies at a research property like the HREC as opposed to

existing commercial vineyards were discussed, including duration of long-term research that is often difficult in commercial vineyards. Concerns about movement of pests and diseases being studied between a research vineyard and neighboring properties were discussed. Steve McIntyre stated that research based on traditional field studies in commercial vineyards has been challenging to publish due to difficulty in maintaining controls and treatments over time. John Bailey, Director of HREC, provided additional details of the property and facilities.

Jim Ledbetter reiterated that similar past projects had failed for various reasons. William Drayton and Dominic Rossini requested a more specific proposal and budget be submitted through the RFP process.

PD/GWSS BOARD BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023

Matthew Kaiser gave a briefing on the proposed FY 22/23 Board budget, which included revisions to projections from FY 21/22 requested earlier in the meeting. After eliminating the “symposium support” projection for \$5,000 and adjusting the “urban rapid response” projection to \$900,000, the projected balance after all future obligations increased to about \$5.3 million.

For FY 22/23 items previously approved prior to April 2022 included research projects, nursery treatment, outreach contractor, research coordinator, and website remediation charges totaling \$1.2 million in FY 22/23 and \$621,000 for future years. During the April 2022 Board Meeting, an additional \$2.7 million was approved in new projects which included \$1.9 million in FY 22/23 and approximately \$800,000 in future years.

Kaiser then elaborated on new items for consideration including \$648,000 for the FPS greenhouse virus testing, \$1 million for NAS review, with no funds for the research vineyard concept discussed earlier. Other items included symposium and conference support for \$5,000, grant management portal for electronic submission and review of research proposals for \$30,000, reviewer travel and per diem for \$20,000, a reserve for new projects of \$500,000, county programs for \$1.5 million, a contingency for county backfill of \$2 million, agricultural supplies for \$25,000, Task Force travel and per diem for \$10,000 and administration charges of \$267,000. Overall, the new items in the budget under consideration for FY 22/23 totaled approximately \$5 million and approximately \$934,000 for future years. Kristin Lowe also added that when she had reached out to volunteer scientific reviewers and received a limited response, setting aside funds to cover travel expenses for in-person review panel meetings might help. Kaiser informed the Board that the \$1.5 million for county programs has increased from the prior year to include eradication treatments for Solano County.

Projected carryover after budgeted expenses for FY 22/23 was projected to be \$1.66 million and the Board would need approximately \$5.7 million in future revenues to cover all future year obligations and maintain a \$5 million carryover. Craig Hanes elaborated that the \$5 million carryover is an amount the Department of Finance requested to keep the Program solvent for the foreseeable future. The amount to be used as contingency for county backfill was discussed. Craig Hanes stated that the contingency for county backfill had been in the budget for many years and should remain as a safety net for unexpected expenditures but had only been used rarely. The \$1.5 million listed for country programs is contractually obligated and should not be changed. The Board decided to reduce the “country backfill” budget from \$2 million to \$1.5 million, and agreed on the resulting budget with total budgeted expenditures for FY 22/23 of \$7,703,041. In conclusion, the overall revenue needed to cover current and future FY obligations while maintaining the desired carryover was revised and totaled \$5.2 million.

Drayton asked the Board for a motion to approve PD/GWSS budget of \$7,703,041 for FY 22/23. This budget included items that were previously approved, totaling \$3,131,772 in

fiscal year 2022-23, and new items that were recommended for approval at this meeting, totaling \$4,571,269 in fiscal year 2022-23 and \$933,636 in future years.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the PD/GWSS Board Budget of \$7,703,041 for FY 2022/23.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Aaron Lange Second: Dominic Rossini
In Favor: Coleman, Drayton, Rich Hammond, Harkey, Heinzen, Irwin, Lange, Ledbetter, Rossini, Schwebs, Teuschler
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Bitter, Bill Hammond, Hoxsey-Onysko**, McIntyre***

**Not present for this action item

***Denotes member unavailable to vote

ASSESSMENT RATE FOR 2022 HARVEST

William Drayton stated that based on the budget discussion, the Board would likely require a \$1.25 to \$1.50 assessment rate for the current year. The Board discussed the outlook for the grape harvest for 2022 and what would be an appropriate assessment rate. Matthew Kaiser provided various tables containing past assessment figures and respective years, as well as projected totals for the upcoming year that would be derived under various rate and crop value scenario. The consensus was that 2022 would likely see a comparable or marginally higher crop value than 2021 statewide, but that growers were also facing increased expenses. The Board was hesitant to raise the assessment any more than necessary to cover expenses. After discussion, it was decided to recommend an assessment rate of \$1.25 per \$1,000 of value for the 2022 winegrape crop. This reflects an increase of \$0.25 per \$1,000 of value compared to the 2021 crop year. It was stated that Secretary Ross will need to approve the budget along with the \$1.25 assessment rate after the Board's recommendation.

- It was moved, seconded, and passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary that the assessment rate for the 2022 harvest be \$1.25 (one dollar and twenty-five cents) per \$1,000 of value for winegrapes harvested and crushed in 2022.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Dominic Rossini Second: Trey Irwin
In Favor: Coleman, Drayton, Rich Hammond, Irwin, Lange, Rossini, Schwebs, Teuschler
Against: Harkey, Heinzen, Ledbetter
Abstain: None
Absent: Bitter, Bill Hammond, Hoxsey-Onysko**, McIntyre***

**Not present for this action item

***Denotes member unavailable to vote

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY UPDATE

Andrew Cline, Assistant Director for CDFA Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services Division (PHPPS), stated that the CDFA was actively surveying the state for the spotted

lanternfly (SLF) with its various partners and collaborators. The risk-based annual detection survey will be occurring in August and September 2022, which will probably include 600 new sites including some fairgrounds and rest areas. New survey sites had been selected and some counties are conducting additional survey work. PHPPS was working with the UC Master Gardener program to create a new comprehensive training module that will train participants to identify and report pests of concern, including the SLF. This module will be released over 6,000 master gardeners throughout the state, greatly increasing PHPPS's detection capabilities.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION UPDATE

Nicole Shorter of Brown Miller Communications (BMC) provided an update regarding outreach and education activities for the Program. The current newsletter will be mailed to over 7,000 recipients and also be posted on the Board's website and Facebook page. Shorter highlighted recent media coverage of research funding and the Solano County GWSS eradication project, and thanked Kristin Lowe for her recent interview on the Vineyard Team podcast. BMC planned to buy both print and advertising space for SLF awareness, and will also include links to the UC Davis' Master Gardeners Program training module.

Todd Sanders stated that the Consolidated Central Valley Pest and Disease Control District was moving ahead with installing highway signs about SLF in Kern and Tulare counties, including information about what it looks like and what to do if seen.

Aaron Lange informed the Board that he was scheduled to participate in a short interview that afternoon about SLF, the potential devastating effects it would have on California agriculture. This was partially in response to a study that suggested SLF could reach California by 2027 that received media coverage. Shorter asked about the status of CDFA's action plan regarding SLF to which Mark McLoughlin, the Director of PHPPS stated that an exterior quarantine was in place, a Science Advisory Panel had convened, and a strategic action plan was already under review. As a member of the Western Plant Board, McLoughlin explained that PHPPS will be emphasizing an entire Western State approach to SLF containment. This plan is currently focused on rail pathways that are being surveyed and he reported his efforts to engage and work with rail industry. McLoughlin reiterated that we have never encountered or prepared for a pest like this before and emphasized the importance of working with other states on this issue.

AREA-WIDE PROGRAM UPDATE

Beth Stone-Smith provided an update on area-wide surveillance and suppression. For 2022, Madera County had only 1 trap find in the area-wide program area so far while Fresno County had 392. Beth Stone-Smith stated that she was expecting significant increases in Fresno County over last year since the Trimmer Springs area was not trapped the previous year. Tulare County was also seeing activity and had 1,200 GWSS so far and numbers were expected to increase for the rest of the year.

Kern County has trapped about 3,800 GWSS for 2022 which is a decrease from last year, but it's still very early in the year and numbers may increase for the rest of the year. Stone-Smith stated that increased costs and limited resources, as well as climate and social changes, are continuing to pose a challenge to the program. Area-wide treatments are increasing in cost-per-acre and consuming available resources. CDFA Secretary Karen Ross pointed out concerns about equity and environmental justice particularly in rural areas of the Central Valley.

Drayton asked if they expect GWSS to move forward north to which Stone-Smith responded that she doesn't completely trust the current growth models. There will be a meeting on July 20, 2022 to determine which treatments will be emphasized and where they will be administered.

PDCP STAFF REPORTS

Stacie Oswalt provided an overview of year-to-date nursery stock shipment statistics. Between January 1, 2022, and May 31, 2022, there were 17,852 nursery stock shipments from the GWSS generally infested areas to non-infested areas of the state. This is down by about 1,200 shipments compared to the same timeframe in 2021. One viable GWSS life stage has been found during destination inspection of nursery stock year to date. During outgoing inspections, origin county inspectors have stopped 21 egg masses and 6 nymphs from moving in nursery stock shipments. In the Approved Treatment Program (ATP) there were 5,124 ATP shipments consisting of 1,025,220 plants shipped during the same timeframe. No regulatory actions have been taken year to date in the ATP for viable life stages. Eleven egg masses have been sleeved from ATP shipments by receiving counties year to date, with no successful GWSS emergences.

Oswalt also reported that between February and May of this year, PDCP staff trained 432 county agricultural inspectors from 46 counties, providing information on GWSS, PD, detection trapping, nursery regulations, and other serious agricultural pests to look out for, including spotted lanternfly.

For the rapid response programs, the PDCP continues to work closely with Fresno, Madera, and Tulare County Agricultural Commissioners' offices in preparation of this season's activities.

In Vacaville, Solano County, treatments have concluded on 625 residential properties and 5 common areas. In June, biological control agents (parasitic wasps) were released for the second time this year in the project area. Additional wasps will be released approximately every two months. Treatments will resume this summer in and around areas where there have been GWSS detections. Stacie reported that 67 adults have been found since October 1, 2021, and that number would be increasing with recent samples collected during the delimitation trapping and visual survey. A question was asked about the eradication process. The PDCP requires that approximately two years pass after the last detection and last treatment date prior to declaring eradication.

OTHER ITEMS

Craig Hanes announced his pending retirement at the end of the year. He planned on leaving before the next October Meeting. He thanked everyone for all the hard work and support he has received during his tenure as Statewide Coordinator and 29-year career with CDFA. Secretary Ross, Task Force, and Board members thanked Hanes for his thoughtfulness, honesty, dedication, and service.

CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Board Chairperson Will Drayton and Task Force Chairperson Judy Zaninovich adjourned the meeting at 1:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted on October 18, 2022, by
Giancarlo LaGiusa, Associate Governmental Program Analyst
Pierce's Disease Control Program
California Department of Food and Agriculture