

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 17, 2017
2800 Gateway Oaks Drive, Room 267
Sacramento, CA 95833

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present: Pam Bond, Greg Coleman, John Crossland, Robert Crudup, Nat DiBuduo*, Ben Drake, Steve McIntyre, Steve Schafer

Members Absent: Bill Hammond, Keith Horn, Drew Johnson, Jim Ledbetter, Ryan Metzler, Domonic Rossini

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: Nat DiBuduo*, Ben Drake, Deborah Golino, Richard Mounts, Beth Stone-Smith, Judy Zaninovich

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Greg Clark, Jim Cranney, Cathy Fisher, David House, Drew Johnson

OTHER ATTENDEES

John Aguirre, Chris Bock, Pete Downs, Tom Esser, Jim Farrar, Ken Freeze, Craig Hanes, Mark Harrington, Kapua Kahumoku, Michael Miiller (CAWG), Stacie Oswald, Mary Palm*, Ted Rieger, Tim Schmelzer, Roger Spencer, Robert Steinhauer, Sean Veling, Myrna Villegas, Andrew Wilds*, Bob Wynn

*Denotes attendance via conference call

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Pam Bond called the joint Board and Task Force 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). A quorum was present for the Board but not the Task Force. Board Chairperson Pam Bond then asked for introductions of other attendees and guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Board Chairperson Pam Bond welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Chairperson Pam Bond asked the Board for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 19, 2017.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 19, 2017.

Details of Board Vote

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

NEXT MEETING

The next Board and Task Force meeting was set for Monday January 22, 2018, in Sacramento and will begin at 10:00 am. It will be held at the CDFA Headquarters office located at 1220 N Street in Sacramento.

APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Board Chairperson Pam Bond requested suggestions and volunteers to be part of the nominating committee for the next set of Board officers.

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

PD/GWSS BOARD MEMBERSHIP

PDCP Statewide Coordinator Bob Wynn announced that Board member Dennis Atkinson would be retiring and leaving the Board soon. The Program is currently looking for a replacement.

FISCAL UPDATE

USDA Program Director Beth Stone-Smith reported briefly on the federal funding for the Program. She said that the federal government is under continuing resolution through December 8, 2017 so the current funding for the Program is \$2,943,000 (18.9% of the amount for the previous fiscal year).

PDCP Statewide Coordinator Bob Wynn talked about the situation with federal funding and said that he, Pam Bond, Ben Drake, Ryan Metzler and Judy Zaninovich would be traveling to Washington DC in late October to meet with Congressional and USDA representatives to discuss the Program. 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 the \$5 million from the state general fund may be used.

PDCP EPM I Tom Esser then presented the fiscal update for the Board. During the discussion, and based on the current anticipated value of the 2017 winegrape crop, it was decided to reduce the assessment revenue projection for FY 2017-18 by \$1 million.

ASSESSMENT COLLECTIONS

Tom Esser discussed the assessment collection process and possible adjustments to it. He said the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) has collected the assessment every year since it was first established in 2001. This has worked well. However, the PD/GWSS Board law includes authority to charge fees and penalties for late payment of the assessment, and this part of the law

has not been enforced. Discussions with NASS indicate that it cannot enforce the late payment provisions, nor can it share information on late or nonpayment of assessments. The PDCP is therefore currently evaluating the situation. During discussion the Board indicated it was in favor of the late fees and penalties being collected. The Board requested that the PDCP look further into the issue and provide an update at the next meeting.

GRAPEVINE REDLEAF VIRUS INITIATIVE UPDATE

Board Research Screening Committee Chairperson Steve McIntyre and Task Force member Deborah Golino provided an update on the Grapevine Redleaf Virus Initiative. A meeting of virus researchers was held in May and the report from that meeting is in today's packets. It's time now to decide next steps. After discussion, it was decided to ask PDCP staff to prepare and release a request for proposals for a research director who would guide and facilitate research directed towards finding solutions to grapevine redleaf virus diseases.

RESEARCH PROPOSALS FOR FUNDING CONSIDERATION

Steve McIntyre presented two research proposals for funding consideration. Both were revisions of proposals submitted earlier, during the last request for proposals cycle. After discussion, the Board voted in favor of funding both proposals.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to fund the following two proposals:
 - Ecology of Grapevine Red Blotch Associated Virus by Dr. Marc Fuchs at Cornell University in the amount of \$185,715 for one year.
 - Genome Editing of *TAS4*, *MIR828*, and Targets *MYBA6/A7*: A Critical Test of *Xylella fastidiosa* Infection and Spreading Mechanisms in Pierce's Disease by Dr. Chris Rock at Texas Tech in the amount of \$205,165 for 1½ years.

Details of Board Vote

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

OUTREACH & EDUCATION UPDATE

Nicole Shorter of Brown-Miller Communications provided an update on outreach and education activities, and showed a video that was recently produced about the nursery stock approved treatment program.

AREAWIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Beth Stone-Smith provided updates on the area-wide programs in Fresno, Kern, Madera, Riverside, and Tulare counties. This included information on trap catches and insecticide treatments in each program area.

PDCP STAFF REPORTS

PDCP Staff reported on recent Program activities, including the nursery program and rapid response and treatment activities.

OTHER ITEMS

Steve McIntyre asked about the situation with brown marmorated stink bug. Task Force member Judy Zaninovich said that Dr. Mark Hoddle at UC Riverside was working on biological control of the stink bug, and that limited statewide trapping was being conducted.

CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Pam Bond adjourned the meeting for both the Board and the Task Force at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on January 16, 2018 by

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