

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 22, 2015

CDFA Gateway Oaks Facility at 2800 Gateway Oaks Drive, Room 267, Sacramento, CA 95833

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present: Dennis Atkinson*, Pam Bond, Greg Coleman, John Crossland, Nat DiBuduo, Ben Drake, Bill Hammond, Keith Horn, David House*, Jim Ledbetter, Ryan Metzler, Domonic Rossini, Steve Schafer

Members Absent: Drew Johnson, Steve McIntyre

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: Nat DiBuduo, Ben Drake, David House*, Richard Mounts, Judy Zaninovich

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Greg Clark, Jim Cranney, Deborah Golino, Drew Johnson, John Snyder, Beth Stone-Smith

OTHER ATTENDEES

John Aguirre, Chris Bock, Monica Cooper, Joe Deviney, Kathy Diaz-Cretu, John Duarte, Tom Esser, Mike Falasco, Ken Freeze, Mark Greenspan, Craig Hanes, Kapua Kahumoku, Paul Kronenberg, Mike Miller, Joe Monson, Stacie Oswald, Ted Rieger, Roger Spencer, Jay Van Rein, Bob Wynn

*Denotes attendance via conference call

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Bill Hammond and PD Advisory Task Force Chairperson Ben Drake 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). 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

Board Member Ben Drake expressed appreciation to everyone involved in the recent PD/GWSS grower referendum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Chairperson Bill Hammond asked the Board for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 28, 2015.

Board member John Crossland asked to have the April 28, 2015 minutes revised to add additional detail about the Riverside County field trial discussion. He said that the minutes should reflect the Board's serious concerns about the management of the field trial.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2015 meeting, provided they are revised to reflect the Board's serious concerns about the management of the Riverside County field trial.

Details of Board Vote

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

The Task Force did not have a quorum present at the meeting, so did not vote on the minutes.

*Denotes attendance via conference call

NEXT MEETING

The next Board and Task Force meeting was set for Monday October 19, 2015, in Sacramento, CA, at the Gateway Oaks Facility, beginning at 10:00 a.m. [Note: this was later changed to Bakersfield, CA, beginning at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will now be held at the Kern County Cooperative Extension office, located at 1031 South Mount Vernon Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93307.]

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Bob Wynn announced that Steve Smit had resigned from the Board. His replacement is Keith Horn, Vice President of Vineyards and Grape Management at Constellation Brands, Inc. Keith was appointed by Secretary Karen Ross, effective June 22, 2015. Keith will represent the Northern San Joaquin Valley production area of the state as a winegrape producer who is also a processor.

Bob also announced that public representative David House will be resigning from the Board soon. His recommended replacement is Robert Crudup. Robert is the President of Valley Crest Tree Company.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend appointing Robert Crudup, President of Valley Crest Tree Company, as the public member of the PD/GWSS Board.

Details of Board Vote

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

*Denotes attendance via conference call

PD CONTINUATION GROWER VOTE - UPDATE

Kathy Diaz-Cretu, CDFA Senior Agricultural Economist, gave an update on the grower referendum and said that the winegrape growers had voted in favor of continuing the PD/GWSS winegrape assessment and Board for another five years. She then answered questions about the referendum process.

FISCAL UPDATE

PDCP Environmental Program Manager II Roger Spencer gave the fiscal report for the PDCP, and PDCP Environmental Program Manager I Tom Esser gave the report for the Board.

PD/GWSS BOARD BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-16

Board Chairperson Bill Hammond asked that all discussions of fiscal importance be discussed prior to the Board discussing and making a recommendation for the new Fiscal Year 2015-16 budget. After all topics were heard the Board voted to recommend the following:

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary that a budget totaling \$8,114,285 be approved as the Board's budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16. The budget includes items that were previously approved, totaling \$3,464,779, and new items that were recommended for approval at the meeting, totaling \$4,649,506.

Details of Board Vote

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

*Denotes attendance via conference call

** Denotes that member was not present during vote

ASSESSMENT RATE FOR 2015 HARVEST

Board Chairperson Bill Hammond led the discussion on the assessment rate to recommend for the 2015 winegrape crop. After discussion, it was decided to recommend an assessment rate of \$0.75 per \$1,000 of value. This is the same assessment rate as the previous two years.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary that the assessment rate for the 2015 harvest be \$0.75 (seventy-five cents) per \$1,000 of value for winegrapes harvested and crushed in 2015.

Details of Board Vote

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

*Denotes attendance via conference call

** Denotes that member was not present during vote

UGMVE PROPOSED CONTRACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-14

PDCP Environmental Program Manager I Tom Esser presented a contract proposal to the Board from Deborah Golino, Director of the UC Davis Unified Grant Management for Viticulture and Enology, to provide support to the Board's annual request for proposals (RFP) process. The proposal totaled \$92,506. The UGMVE proposal was discussed and recommended for funding during the Board's budget discussion.

NURSERY TREATMENT FUNDING

Stacie Oswald, PDCP Senior Environmental Scientist, presented a proposal in the amount of \$300,000 to fund treatments of nursery stock to prevent infestation by the glassy-winged sharpshooter. The proposal was discussed and recommended for funding during the Board's budget discussion.

UPDATE AND FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FIELD TRIALS

Tom Esser gave an update on the research field trials in Riverside and Solano counties. Board members expressed concerns about the management of the field trials. After discussion, the Board voted to discontinue the grapevine field trials being conducted in Riverside County.

- It was moved, seconded, and was passed by the Board to discontinue the Riverside grapevine field trials.

Details of Board Vote

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

Tom also presented the Board with two new proposals for funding consideration. The first, the Golino Disease Evaluation Study, was discussed and recommended for funding during the Board's budget discussion. The second proposal was to supplement the field trial research grant of Dr. Ann Powell. The Board requested that the proposal be revised to only include activities for the Solano County field trial site.

*Denotes attendance via conference call

PROPOSAL FOR ADDRESSING PIERCE'S DISEASE IN NAPA AND SONOMA

Tom Esser presented a three-year proposal from Dr. Rodrigo Almeida at UC Berkeley that would look at evaluating potential shifts in Pierce's disease epidemiology in Napa and Sonoma counties. Following discussion, the Board requested that the proposal be reviewed by the Research Screening Committee and a recommendation be developed for the Board to consider.

OTHER DESIGNATED PESTS AND DISEASES OF WINEGRAPES

Roger Spencer, PDCP Environmental Program Manager II, led the discussion on the proposed designation of Grapevine Leafroll Disease. He said that the Other Pest or Disease Designation Committee had met and recommended it be designated as a serious disease of California winegrapes.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary that Grapevine Leafroll Disease be designated as a serious disease of California winegrapes.

Details of Board Vote

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

During the discussion Board member Nat DiBuduo requested that the Other Pest or Disease Designation Committee review and consider designating Grapevine Fanleaf Virus and Pseudococcus mealybugs as serious threats to California winegrapes.

*Denotes attendance via conference call

** Denotes that member was not present during vote

PIPRA UPDATE

Monica Alandete-Saez gave a brief update on PIPRA's current activities and presented and discussed their final report to the Board, titled "IP Landscape for Pierce's Disease Control Project." The report reviews the intellectual property landscape of technologies associated with strategies for managing Pierce's disease.

VITICULTURE CONSULTANT UPDATE

Mark Greenspan, Viticulture Consultant, updated the Board and Task Force on his recent activities with the grapevine field trials. He stated here and earlier in the meeting that the Solano County field trials were in good shape, but the Riverside County field trials were not and should be discontinued. When asked if a pest control advisor should be hired to advise on pest and disease control in the field trials, Mark indicated that he did not feel it was necessary.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION UPDATE

Ken Freeze of Brown-Miller Communications provided an update on recent outreach and education activities. This included preparing e-blasts and quarterly bulletins and attending trade shows. A question was asked about negative comments being made concerning Pierce's disease research by the University of California. Ken said he was aware of them and had contacted the people involved and sent them information in support of UC's research efforts.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION CONTRACT AND RFP PROCESS

Craig Hanes, PDCP Environmental Program Manager I, informed the Board that the Outreach & Education contract was set to expire in April 2016 and that the RFP process would begin shortly to call for bids and establish a new contract.

AREA-WIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW & UPDATE

Craig Hanes, on behalf of Beth Stone-Smith, provided updates on the area-wide programs in Fresno, Kern, Madera, Riverside, and Tulare, 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

Board Chair Bill Hammond adjourned the meeting for both the Board and the Task Force at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on October 12, 2015 by

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