

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 11, 2012
CDFA Auditorium at 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present: Kevin Andrew, Ben Drake, David House*, Drew Johnson, Jim Ledbetter, Steve McIntyre, Dana Merrill*, Al Rossini,

Members Absent: Dennis Atkinson, Greg Coleman, Nat DiBuduo, Pete Downs, Steve Schafer, Herb Schmidt, Marilyn Wolf

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: Kassim Al-Khatib, Kevin Andrew, Jim Cranney, Ben Drake, David House*, Scott Hudson, Nancy Irelan*, Drew Johnson, Richard Mounts, Corky Roche, Beth Stone-Smith, David Whitmer, Judy Zaninovich

Members Absent: Nat DiBuduo, John Snyder

OTHER ATTENDEES

John Aguirre, Monica Alandete-Saez, Tom Esser, Ken Freeze, Craig Hanes, Hal Huffsmith, Kapua Kahumoku, Paul Kronenberg, Matt Myers, David Morgan*, Stacie Oswalt, Raj Randhawa, Roger Spencer, Myrna Villegas, Dustin Wiley*, Bob Wynn

*Denotes attendance via conference call

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Steve McIntyre and PD Advisory Task Force Chairperson Kevin Andrew called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Wynn, CDFAs 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 both the Board and the Task Force. Steve McIntyre then asked for introductions of other attendees and guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Kronenberg, President of Family Winemakers of California, spoke about Assembly Joint Resolution No. 29 (AJR 29). This Measure would urge federal and state pesticide regulatory agencies to ban the sale and use of neonicotinoid insecticides because of concerns about their effects on honeybees and other pollinators. AJR 29 is due to go in front of the Assembly Agricultural Committee in June.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Steve McIntyre asked the Board for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 23, 2012.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2012.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Jim Ledbetter Second: Al Rossini
In Favor: Andrew, Drake, House*, Johnson, Ledbetter, McIntyre, Merrill, Rossini
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Atkinson, Coleman, DiBuduo, Downs, Schafer, Schmidt, Wolf

Chairperson Kevin Andrew asked the Task Force for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 23, 2012.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Task Force to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2012 meeting.

Details of Task Force Vote

Motion: David Whitmer Second: Corky Roche
In Favor: Al-Khatib, Andrew, Cranney, Drake, House*, Hudson, Irelan*, Johnson, Mounts, Roche, Stewart-Leslie, Stone-Smith, Whitmer
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: DiBuduo, Snyder

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board and Task Force was set for Monday, October 29, 2012, in Sacramento, and will begin at 10:00 am. It will be held either at CDFA headquarters at 1220 N Street, or at the PDCP's new office location at 2800 Gateway Oaks Drive.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Bob Wynn reported that the recommendation for a new Board member had been approved. The new Board member is Nat DiBuduo who will represent winegrape producers in the North Valley area. Nat is also a member of the Advisory Task Force.

Bob said there may be another vacancy coming that would enable the Board to meet its goal of 1-2 new members per year. More information should be available at the next meeting.

OTHER DESIGNATED PESTS AND DISEASES OF WINEGRAPES – RING NEMATODE AND LEAFROLL VIRUS

Board Chairperson Steve McIntyre reported that the Other Pest or Disease Designation Committee had met and discussed two threats that had been nominated for designation by a stakeholder: ring nematode and grapevine leafroll virus. During the discussion it was decided to remove ring nematode from consideration, and to request additional information on current research funding for grapevine leafroll virus. It was also decided that an evaluation was needed of the potential economic impact of grapevine leafroll virus in California.

PIPRA UPDATE

Monica Alandete-Saez from PIPRA (Public Intellectual Property Resource for Agriculture) reported on their recent activities. She said that an independent panel had been created to compare trait

performance among the four leading PD control strategies that were currently undergoing field-testing. She also provided an update on the field trials.

RESEARCH DIRECTOR REPORT

Research Director Nancy Irelan discussed her recent activities. She has completed the scope of work for a facilitator to oversee development of research discoveries into PD management solutions available to growers. PIPRA is willing to house the position as a subcontract or service provider.

Dr. David Morgan, PDCP Program Supervisor, provided an update on development of a degree-day model for GWSS, and Judy Zaninovich, Advisory Task Force member, provided an update on the screening of pesticides for control of GWSS in organic citrus.

PDCP FISCAL UPDATE

PDCP Branch Chief Roger Spencer provided financial updates for the PDCP and the PD/GWSS Board. He went over revenue and expenditures from FY 11/12 and we proposed a budget for FY 12/13. (In FY 12/13 the budget for personal services, operating costs, and county treatments were substantially cut). PDCP will ask the PD/GWSS Board for funding to help backfill operational costs due to budget cuts.

USDA PD/GWSS Program Director Beth Stone-Smith reported briefly on the federal funding for the Program. She said there were no changes in the fiscal year 2012-appropriation figures from the last meeting. She also stated that funding for lower risk area-wide programs may be moved to help fund treatments in Kern County where GWSS counts are currently considerably higher.

Bob Wynn discussed the Department's budget situation. He reported that federal funding for PD/GWSS is now combined into the same line item with other specialty crop pests, which includes Light brown apple moth (LBAM) and European grapevine moth (EGVM), etc. USDA APHIS allocates funding as necessary. The Department is facing an additional \$2.5 million budget reduction for FY 12/13. This will not have an effect on PDCP, since it no longer receives state general funds.

PD/GWSS BOARD BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-13

Roger Spencer began by reviewing the Board's budget for FY 2011-12. He then presented the template and draft for 12/13 fiscal year's proposed budget. Expenditures amounting to \$2,860,880 had already been recommended by the Board and approved for FY 2012-13 for research-related items, public outreach, and other designated pests and diseases. At today's meeting, the Board decided to recommend an additional \$4,767,000 in spending as indicated in the attached Recommended Board Budget. In addition, the Board decided to recommend allocating \$40,000 for trapping supplies for FY 2011/12. Although \$150,000 was originally allocated, actual costs exceeded that amount. The additional \$40,000 was moved from the county programs and PDCP operations line item to cover the additional trapping supply expenses in FY 11/12.

After the budget discussion, the PD/GWSS Board took the following action:

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary that the new items stated above be added to the Board budget for FY 2012-13. These new items total \$4,767,000.00 million in FY 12/13.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Drew Johnson Second: Al Rossini
In Favor: Andrew, Drake, House*, Johnson, Ledbetter, McIntyre, Merrill, Rossini

Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Atkinson, Coleman, DiBuduo, Downs, Schafer, Schmidt, Wolf

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary that an additional \$40,000 for FY 2011/12 be allocated for agricultural trapping supplies.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Al Rossini Second: Jim Ledbetter
In Favor: Andrew, Drake, House*, Johnson, Ledbetter, McIntyre, Merrill, Rossini
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Atkinson, Coleman, DiBuduo, Downs, Schafer, Schmidt, Wolf

ASSESSMENT RATE FOR 2012 HARVEST

Board Chairperson Steve McIntyre and Board Treasurer Drew Johnson led the discussion on the assessment rate to recommend for the 2012 winegrape crop. After discussion, it was decided to recommend an assessment rate of \$1.00 per \$1,000 of value. This is an increase from last year's assessment rate of \$0.75 per \$1,000 of value.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary that the assessment rate for the 2012 harvest be \$1.00 (one dollar) per \$1,000 of value for winegrapes harvested and crushed in 2012.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Al Rossini Second: Ben Drake
In Favor: Andrew, Drake, House*, Johnson, Ledbetter, McIntyre, Merrill, Rossini
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Atkinson, Coleman, DiBuduo, Downs, Schafer, Schmidt, Wolf

POTENTIAL FUTURE EXPENDITURES

PDCP Special Assistant Tom Esser briefly discussed potential future expenditures, which included a contract with the University of California for assistance with the Board's annual PD/GWSS Research Proposal RFP process, University review of the draft documents prepared on landscape hosts of *Xylella fastidiosa* and GWSS, and preparation and issuance of an RFP for a new Research Director contract to enable services to continue after the current contract expires.

Tom also mentioned the annual PD Research Symposium and said they will be taking a close look at whether it should be held this year and, if so, how it should be structured to maximize its benefits to winegrape stakeholders and researchers.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION UPDATE

Ken Freeze of Brown-Miller Communications provided an update on their outreach and education activities. This included a new layout for the newsletter and brochures.

AREA-WIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW & UPDATE

Beth Stone-Smith reported on recent trapping and treatment activities in the area-wide programs in Riverside, Kern, Tulare, and Fresno counties. In Temecula, 69 GWSS have been trapped this year and 600 acres of citrus were treated with AdmirePro. In Coachella, eight GWSS were trapped. In Kern County, 41,265 GWSS were trapped on the east side. The General Beale area is still a problem, and monies may have to be shifted from unaffected areas to help with treatment around the Highway 65 area. The Western Zone has been quiet. In Tulare County, 242 GWSS have been trapped to date. In Fresno, there were three GWSS trapped and treatments were conducted on May 21, 2012 where two of the GWSS were found.

PDCP STAFF REPORTS

Nursery: Stacie Oswald reported that PDCP staff have been working with all enforcing (non-infested or partially infested) counties regarding reductions in workplan activities due to recent budget cuts. These reductions include the elimination of overwinter trapping in receiving nurseries, reduction in the number of ATP and free-from nursery destination inspections, delaying the trapping season, extending the trap service cycle, and eliminating all visual surveys unless they are part of a delimitation effort.

Rapid Response: Craig Hanes reported on GWSS rapid response activities. In Madera County, treatments in the Rolling Hills neighborhood were completed on June 7, 2012. A total of 167 properties were treated. These treatments are in response to GWSS finds from last fall. In Fresno County through May of this year, 1,411 urban/rural residential properties have been treated.

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

A motion by Al Rossini was made to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was then adjourned by Board Chairperson Steve McIntyre and Task Force Chairperson Kevin Andrew at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on Tuesday, July 3, 2012 by

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