

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 23, 2014

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

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present: Dennis Atkinson, Pam Bond, John Crossland, Nat DiBuduo, Ben Drake, Bill Hammond, Drew Johnson, Jim Ledbetter, Steve McIntyre, Steve Schafer

Members Absent: Greg Coleman, David House, Ryan Metzler, Al Rossini, Steve Smit

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: Nat DiBuduo, Ben Drake, Drew Johnson, Richard Mounts, John Synder*, Beth Stone-Smith, Judy Zaninovich, Greg Clark, Deborah Golino

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Jim Cranney, David House

OTHER ATTENDEES

John Aguirre, Jonathan Bash, Tom Esser, Mike Falasco, Ken Freeze, Kapua Kahumoku, Paul Kronenberg, Peter Matlock, Stacie Oswald, Raj Randhawa, Ted Rieger, Roger Spencer, Myrna Villegas, Sean Veling, Bob Wynn

*Denotes attendance via conference call

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Steve Schafer called the meeting to order at 10:04 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). Quorums were present for the Board and the Task Force. Steve Schafer, Board Chair, then asked for introductions of other attendees and guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Kronenberg, President of Family Winemakers of California, updated the Board and Task Force members on the status of AB 1642, the bill which would continue the PDCP, the PD/GWSS Board, the assessment, and the Task Force for another five years.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Chairperson Steve Schafer asked the Board for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 28, 2014.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2014 meeting.

Details of Board Vote

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

Task Force Chairperson Ben Drake asked the Task Force for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 28, 2014.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Task Force to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2014 meeting.

Details of Task Force Vote

Motion: Deborah Golino Second: Richard Mounts
In Favor: DiBuduo, Drake, Golino, Johnson, Mounts, Snyder, Stone-Smith, Zaninovich
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Andrew, Cranney, House, Clark**

** Denotes that member was not present during vote

NEXT MEETING

The next Board and Task Force meeting was set for Monday October 27, 2014, in Sacramento and will begin at 10:00 am. It will be held at the CDFA Gateway Oaks Facility located at 2800 Gateway Oaks Drive in Sacramento.

PIERCE’S DISEASE ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

Bob Wynn introduced two new Task Force members, Napa County Agricultural Commissioner Greg Clark and Director of Foundation Plant Services at UC Davis Dr. Deborah Golino. They were appointed effective June 23, 2014.

CONGRESSIONAL AND USDA VISIT UPDATE

CDFA Statewide Coordinator Bob Wynn and three California delegates (Peter Matlock, Technology Facilitator, Robert L. Crudup, President of Valley Crest Tree Company, and Board member Drew Johnson) traveled to Washington, D.C. and met with Congressional and USDA representatives. The purpose of this trip was to report on the activities and progress being made on Pierce’s disease. Bob Wynn, Drew Johnson, and Peter Matlock also made a presentation at the 2014 National Wine & Grape Policy conference that was held in Washington, D.C.

FISCAL UPDATE

USDA PD/GWSS Program Director Beth Stone-Smith reported briefly on the federal funding for the Program. Federal funding in FY 2014 was able to be increased by \$507,000 which brought the funding back to what it was in FY 2013. The new funding was added to the cooperative agreement and at the time of the meeting the agreement was awaiting finalization.

PDCP Branch Chief Roger Spencer presented the financial report for the PDCP. He discussed PDCP revenues and expenditures from fiscal years 2013-14 and 2014-15 along with projected total expenses.

PDCP Special Assistant Tom Esser reported on the current Board budget and projected spending.

PD/GWSS BOARD BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-15

Board Chairperson Steve Schafer led the discussion on the proposed Board budget for fiscal year 2014-15. The budget includes items that were previously approved and new items for consideration at this meeting. The new items included a contract with the Unified Grant Management for Viticulture and Enology Program at UC Davis to help with this year's request for and review of research proposals, funding to cover nursery treatments in GWSS-infested areas, funding for a grower vote in spring 2015 if AB 1642 passes, funding for new and current research and field projects, and other items. After 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 a budget totaling \$8,693,859, be approved as the Board budget for Fiscal Year 2014-15. This budget includes items that were previously approved, totaling \$3,232,162, and new items that were recommended for approval at this meeting, totaling \$5,461,697.

Details of Board Vote

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

** Denotes that member was not present during vote

ASSESSMENT RATE FOR 2014 HARVEST

Board Chairperson Steve Schafer led the discussion on the assessment rate to recommend for the 2014 winegrape crop. After discussion, it was decided to recommend an assessment rate of \$0.75 per \$1,000 of value. This represents no change from last year's assessment rate.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary that the assessment rate for the 2014 harvest be \$0.75 (seventy-five cents) per \$1,000 of value for winegrapes harvested and crushed in 2014.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Steve McIntyre Second: Drew Johnson
In Favor: Atkinson, Bond, Crossland, DiBuduo, Drake, Hammond, Johnson, Ledbetter, McIntyre, Schafer
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Coleman, House, Metzler, Rossini, Smit

** Denotes that member was not present during vote

UGMVE PROPOSED CONTRACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-14

Deborah Golino presented a contract proposal to the Board to provide support to the Board's annual request for proposals (RFP) process. The proposal totaled \$54,521 and would support the call for and evaluation of research proposals on PD/GWSS. During discussion it was decided to expand this year's request for proposals to include three newly-designated pests and diseases of winegrapes: grapevine red blotch, brown marmorated stink bug, and vine mealybug. Deborah estimated this would increase the cost to \$100,000, which the Board voted to approve during its vote on the Board budget.

NURSERY TREATMENT FUNDING

The nursery treatment funding budget was discussed and voted on during the Board budget.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATION FOR RESEARCH AND FIELD TRIAL PROPOSALS

Steve McIntyre, Chair of the Research Screening Committee (RSC) and the Product Development Committee (PDC), presented four funding recommendations from the two committees. Three of these were for new projects, and one was a budget augmentation for an existing project. These were voted on by the Board during its budget deliberations and recommended for approval.

OTHER DESIGNATED PESTS AND DISEASES OF WINEGRAPES

There was no discussion regarding the Designation of New Pests.

APPLIED RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE

Roger Spencer, PDCP Branch Chief reviewed the Applied Research proposals. There are two Applied Research Proposals that are to receive funding July 1, 2014. The research, conducted by Dr.'s Redak and Perring, are focused on the glassy-winged sharpshooter's possible resistance to commonly used insecticides used by the PDCP.

PIPRA

There was no update provided at this meeting.

TECHNOLOGY FACILITATOR UPDATE

Peter Matlock, Technology Facilitator, presented a report on the status of current research and the development of solutions to Pierce's disease. He also reported on the recent trip to Washington D.C., including his contribution to the presentation at the 2014 National Wine & Grape Policy conference.

RESEARCHER/GROWER LIAISON UPDATE

Mark Greenspan, Researcher/Grower Liaison, updated the Board and Task Force on his recent activities with the grapevine field trials.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION UPDATE

Ken Freeze of Brown-Miller Communications provided an update on recent outreach and education activities. This included rebuilding and redesigning brochures to highlight the last 15 years of the program, and visits to expositions and trade shows.

AREA-WIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW & UPDATE

Beth Stone-Smith provided updates on the area-wide programs in Kern, Tulare, Fresno, Riverside, and Madera 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 Steve Schafer adjourned the meeting for both the Board and the Task Force at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on September 29, 2014 by

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