

California Department of Food & Agriculture

Minutes

of the Joint Meeting / Conference Call
of the Pierce's Disease/Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board
and Pierce's Disease Advisory Task Force
Held on Tuesday, June 29, 2010
CDFA Auditorium at 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present: Greg Coleman, Pete Downs, Ben Drake*, David House*, Drew Johnson*, Brad Lange*, Jim Ledbetter, Steve McIntyre, Al Rossini, Steve Schafer, Herb Schmidt, Marilyn Wolf

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Dennis Atkinson, Dana Merrill

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: Nat DiBuduo*, Ben Drake*, David House*, Nancy Irelan*, Drew Johnson*, Joe MacIrvine, Richard Mounts, Corky Roche, Judy Stewart-Leslie, Beth Stone-Smith, David Whitmer

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Ted Batkin, Larry Bezark, George Bruening, George Gutman, Scott Hudson, Steve Nation, John Snyder, David Wineman

OTHER ATTENDEES

Tom Esser, Mike Falasco, Ken Freeze, Craig Hanes, Sue Ichiho, Paul Kronenberg, Janet LeMasters, Greg Morris, Gabriel Paulino, Kevin O'Day*, Stacie Oswalt, Ted Rieger, Roger Spencer, Nicole Takehara, Jay Van Rein, Sean Veling, Eric Wylde*, Bob Wynn

*Denotes attendance via conference call

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Greg Coleman and Acting PD Advisory Task Force Chairperson Ben Drake called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Wynn conducted the roll call for the PD/GWSS Board (Board) and the PD Advisory Task Force (Task Force). A quorum was present for the both the Board and the Task Force. The remaining attendees made self-introductions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Chairpersons Greg Coleman and Ben Drake welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Bob Wynn provided a brief update on the state budget situation noting that there may be delays in payment of invoices, approval of contracts, etc. until there is a budget.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairpersons Greg Coleman and Ben Drake asked the Board and Task Force members to review and vote on the minutes from the joint meeting held on April 26, 2010.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2010 meeting.

Details of Board Vote

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

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Task Force to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2010 meeting.

Details of Task Force Vote

Motion: Ben Drake Second: David Whitmer
In Favor: DiBduo, Drake, House, Irelan, Johnson, MacIrvine, Mounts, Roche,
 Stewart-Leslie, Stone-Smith, Whitmer
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Andrew, Batkin, Bezark, Bruening, Gutman, Hudson, Nation, Snyder,
 Wineman

Chairperson Greg Coleman asked the Board to review and vote on the minutes from the conference call meeting held on May 28, 2010.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the May 28, 2010 Board conference call meeting.

Details of Board Vote

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

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board and Task Force was set for Monday, November 8, 2010, at CDFA headquarters in Sacramento, and will convene at 10:00 am.

BOARD AND ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

Bob Wynn announced that Secretary Kawamura had just recently appointed George Gutman of Hines Nursery LLC to the Task Force on June 21. He reported that David Wineman would be submitting a letter of resignation.

Bob then raised the topic of terms, rotations, and recruitment of new members for the Board. A motion was made to create a subcommittee to draft a policy for membership terms for Board members. The subcommittee would report their findings and recommendations at the November meeting.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to create a membership term subcommittee to draft a policy on membership terms for the Board.

Details of Board Vote

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

Al Rossini and Herb Schmidt were assigned to the subcommittee, with Tom Esser assisting.

At this time, Chairperson Greg Coleman said some agenda items would be moved around. Item #10 (Protocol for Other Designated Pests and Diseases of Winegrapes) and Item #11 (Consideration of Specific Pests to be Designated) would be discussed before the budget and assessment items.

PROTOCOL FOR OTHER DESIGNATED PESTS AND DISEASES OF WINEGRAPES

Bob Wynn began the discussion. He referred back to the checklist template brought before the Board and Task Force at the January 25, 2010 meeting. The Board could use it as a tool for guiding its deliberations on what other pests and diseases of winegrapes should receive funding for research and outreach activities. During the discussion that followed, a motion was made to establish a subcommittee to further develop the checklist and process for designating other pests and diseases of winegrapes.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to create a subcommittee to further develop the checklist and process for designating other pests and diseases of winegrapes.

Details of Board Vote

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

Nat DiBuduo, Ben Drake, Nancy Irelan, Steve McIntyre, Corky Roche, Steve Schafer, and Judy Stewart-Leslie were assigned to the subcommittee, with Roger Spencer assisting.

CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIC PESTS TO BE DESIGNATED

Bob Wynn suggested the Board consider recommending European grapevine moth (EGVM) as a designated pest of winegrapes and consider funding outreach activities against it. During the discussion that followed, a motion was made to allocate \$100,000 in the Board's FY 2010-11 budget for other designated pests and diseases of winegrapes, designate the EGVM as a designated pest of winegrapes, and provide \$10,000 to Fresno County for an EGVM outreach coordinator.

- It was moved, seconded, and passed by the Board to allocate \$100,000 in the Board's budget for next year to other designated pests and diseases of winegrapes, designate the EGVM as a designated pest of winegrapes, and provide \$10,000 to Fresno County for an EGVM outreach coordinator.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Ben Drake Second: Steve Shafer
In Favor: Coleman, Downs, Drake, House, Johnson, Lange, Rossini, Schafer, Wolf
Against: Ledbetter, McIntyre, and Schmidt
Abstain: None
Absent: Andrew, Atkinson, Merrill

Pete Downs moved that the Board have a conference call within the next three weeks to consider recommending funding of EGVM outreach activities in other counties.

- It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously by the Board to hold a conference call within the next three weeks to consider recommending funding of EGVM outreach activities in other counties.

Details of Board Vote

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

FISCAL UPDATE AND BOARD BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-11, and ASSESSMENT RATE FOR 2010 HARVEST

Beth Stone-Smith provided the budget report on federal funding for the program. The total FY 2010 PD/GWSS budget was \$19,679,324. Sue Ichiho then gave the fiscal reports for the Pierce's Disease Control Program and the PD/GWSS Board.

Sue presented the draft suggested Board budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11. She noted that the revenue line would vary depending upon the assessment rate established for this year's winegrape harvest, and that the list of expenditures would now include the \$100,000 voted on earlier in the meeting for other designated pests and diseases of winegrapes.

The Board considered what assessment rate to recommend for this year. During discussion, a motion was made to lower the rate down to 75 cents 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 2010 harvest be \$0.75 (75 cents) per \$1,000 of value for winegrapes harvested and crushed in 2010.

Details of Board Vote

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

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

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to recommend to the Secretary to approve the Board budget at \$4,650,366 for FY 2010-11.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Pete Downs Second: Steve Schafer
In Favor: Coleman, Downs, Drake, House, Johnson, Lange, Ledbetter, McIntyre,
 Rossini, Schafer, Schmidt, Wolf
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Andrew, Atkinson, Merrill

RESEARCH DIRECTOR UPDATE

Tom Esser announced that just before the meeting started, he received information indicating the new Research Director contract would be approved by the Department of General Services within the next day or so.

Research Director Nancy Irelan reported on her activities. Nancy briefly covered her work on the grant funding process, field trial work by PIPRA, her involvement in the request for proposal (RFP) process, and the development of high priority research objectives to make bids more competitive. She also talked about the possibility of developing contracts with the private sector for research. She also discussed a field trial research proposal received recently from Dr. Abhaya Dandekar at UC Davis. The proposal would be reviewed and a funding recommendation provided to the Board at a later date.

PIPRA UPDATE

Gabriel Paulino presented an update on PIPRA activities. He reported that the field trials were progressing, with some of the plants now in the ground and others pending. Under a two-to-three year timeline, they anticipate being able to determine which genotypes and grapevine materials show resistance to disease and under different conditions.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION UPDATE

Roger Spencer reported that the new contract for outreach and education had not yet been finalized, so PDCP staff would take over outreach activities for now. Ken Freeze from Brown-Miller Communications stated that his company had won the 2010 Bronze Anvil Merit Award from the Public Relations Society of America for its "Pierce's Disease – A Decade of Progress" display material. He presented the award to Board Chairperson Greg Coleman.

AREAWIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Beth Stone-Smith provided an update on the areawide programs. She reported on trapping and treatment activities in Temecula, the Coachella Valley, Kern County, Tulare County, and Fresno County.

PDCP STAFF REPORTS

Nursery: Greg Morris provided updates on the regulatory nursery program and the nursery stock approved treatment program (ATP). Of 27,000 nursery shipments this year, only two were found to harbor viable GWSS life stages. This yields a compliance rate of 99.99%. Under the ATP, there have been 5,299 shipments year-to-date totaling 1,545,771 plants shipped. No viable GWSS finds have been detected at destinations this year. Greg also discussed Santa Barbara County nursery shipping program, budget, workloads, surveys, and inspections. He noted that all information is kept up-to-date on the PDCP's online Bulletin Board as well as through the PDCP nursery update that is mass-emailed to all interested parties.

Rapid Response: Craig Hanes reported on rapid response activities in Santa Clara County. He said that 380 properties in Meridian were treated in the spring, while three other areas (Capitol, Evergreen, and Branham) were being monitored for GWSS.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted on July 27, 2010.

Janet LeMasters, Administrative Assistant
Pierce's Disease Control Program
Department of Food and Agriculture