

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 Monday, January 24, 2011
CDFA Auditorium at 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present: Dennis Atkinson, Greg Coleman, Ben Drake, David House*, Drew Johnson*, Jim Ledbetter*, Dana Merrill, Al Rossini, Herb Schmidt, Marilyn Wolf

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Pete Downs, Brad Lange, Steve McIntyre, Steve Schafer

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present: Kassim Al-Khatib, Nat DiBuduo*, Ben Drake, David House*, Scott Hudson, Nancy Irelan, Drew Johnson*, Richard Mounts, Corky Roche, Judy Stewart-Leslie, Beth Stone-Smith, David Whitmer

Members Absent: Kevin Andrew, Jim Cranney, Joe MacIrvine, John Snyder

OTHER ATTENDEES

John Aguirre, Jim Allan, Nate Dechoretz, Cecilia Chi-Ham, Lisa Correia, Tom Esser, Mike Falasco, Ken Freeze, Craig Hanes, Hal Huffsmith, Sue Ichiho, Eric Lauritzen, Janet LeMasters, Mike Miller, Greg Morris, Matt Myers, Stacie Oswald, Ted Rieger, Roger Spencer, Jay Van Rein, Sean Veling, Ed Williams, Bob Wynn

*Denotes attendance via conference call

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Greg Coleman called the meeting to order at 9:45 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 both the Board and the Task Force.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Greg Coleman asked the Board for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on November 8, 2010.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the minutes from the November 8, 2010 meeting.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Herb Schmidt Second: Dana Merrill
In Favor: Atkinson, Coleman, House, Johnson, Ledbetter, Merrill, Rossini, Schmidt, Wolf

Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Andrew, Downs, Drake, Lange, McIntyre, Schafer

Bob Wynn asked the Task Force for a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings held on June 29, 2010 and November 8, 2010.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Task Force to approve the minutes from the June 29, 2010 and November 8, 2010 meetings.

Details of Task Force Vote

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

NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Dana Merrill reported on behalf of the Nomination Committee. The following members were nominated to be considered as new officers for 2011: Dennis Atkinson as Chairperson, Steve McIntyre as Vice Chairperson, and Jim Ledbetter as Treasurer.

ELECTION OF PD/GWSS BOARD OFFICERS

- It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously by the Board to recommend that Dennis Atkinson be appointed Chairperson, Steve McIntyre be appointed Vice Chairperson, and Jim Ledbetter be appointed Treasurer.

Details of Board Vote

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

After the election, Greg Coleman turned the meeting over to Dennis Atkinson. Bob thanked Greg for his leadership for the past year and noted Greg would be receiving a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the new CDFA Secretary, Karen Ross.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board and Task Force was set for Monday, April 25, 2011, at CDFA headquarters in Sacramento, and will begin at 1:00 pm.

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

Bob Wynn introduced the newest member of the Task Force, Kassim Al-Khatib with UC Davis. He is filling the position held previously by George Bruening. Kassim recently was put in charge of the UC Pierce's Disease Research Grants Program, and also oversees the UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program. Bob said the Task Force has another new member, Mr. Jim Cranney, President of the California Citrus Quality Council. He is filling the position held previously by Ted Batkin of the Citrus Research Board, but was not able to make the meeting today. Nat DiBuduo asked if a replacement could be appointed for the position filled previously by Robert Wample of CSU Fresno.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP TERM SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Al Rossini reported that, as requested at the last meeting, Board members had been surveyed to find out when they would like their current terms to end. Tom Esser then reviewed the results of the survey and how terms could be staggered so that each year, no more than two or three members would term out. He said that under the current recommendations, members could not serve more than two consecutive terms in a row, but could be reappointed following a break in service. After a discussion about the proposed plan for membership terms, the Board requested that PDCP come up with a method for deciding member’s terms on the Board.

BUDGET & FISCAL UPDATE

Bob Wynn started the discussion with an update on the budget situation facing the Department. He said that out of CDFA’s \$364 million budget, \$131 million is General Fund. The recently-released Governor’s Proposed Budget reduces the Department’s general funds by \$15 million in FY 2011-12 and another \$15 million in FY 2012-13, for an ongoing reduction of \$30 million per fiscal year. The proposed budget also included cutting \$32 million in general funds from CDFA’s Fairs and Expositions budget. Bob said that the Department is meeting and working closely with industry groups to develop recommendations and solutions to reduce the need for General Fund dollars at CDFA.

Beth Stone-Smith reported on federal funding for the program. She noted that a Continuing Resolution was still in place until March 4.

Bob Wynn reported that several agricultural commissioners would be traveling to Washington, DC in late February to meet with congressional representatives and discuss with them the importance of ongoing federal funding for CDFA and county programs.

Sue Ichiho then gave the financial report for the PDCP and the revenues and expenditures report for the PD/GWSS Board.

NEW PEST AND DISEASE DESIGNATION PROCESS SUBCOMMITTEE

Roger Spencer began by thanking the members of the subcommittee (Nancy Irelan, Corky Roche, Steve McIntyre, Steve Schafer, Ben Drake, Nat DiBuduo, and Judy Stewart-Leslie) for their time and efforts spent on developing and finalizing the checklist and flowchart. He then briefly reviewed the final versions of the checklist and flowchart for formalizing and guiding the pest and disease designation process. After discussion, the Board voted to accept the documents and process, and indicated they hoped it could be done quickly when necessary.

- It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the Board to accept the checklist, flowchart, and process for considering designation of a new pest or disease of winegrapes,

Details of Board Vote

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

OUTREACH COORDINATOR PROPOSALS (MENDOCINO, SOLANO, & SONOMA COUNTIES)

Roger Spencer reviewed the progress made on the European grapevine outreach coordinator proposals from Mendocino, Solano, and Sonoma counties since the last Board meeting, and

in progress. One of the videos raised concern among Board and Task Force members that the vines in the study were not being sufficiently watered or fertilized. It was suggested that a list of approved growers be developed for future research projects involving field trials.

AREA-WIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Beth Stone-Smith provided updates on the area-wide programs in Riverside, Kern, Tulare, and Fresno counties. She said that in Riverside County, 600 acres were treated last season in Temecula, where 991 GWSS were trapped in 2010 and zero so far in 2011. In the Coachella Valley, less than 200 acres were treated last year, with only 171 GWSS trapped last year and zero this year. In Kern County, 159 GWSS have been trapped this year; this active area will be treated sometime later this year. In Tulare County, only three GWSS have been trapped this year. In Fresno County, 1,356 acres of citrus were treated in 2010 and there is zero area-wide trap finds so far in 2011.

PDCP STAFF REPORTS

Nursery: Greg Morris presented an update on the Nursery Regulatory Program and the Approved Treatment Program (ATP). For the regulatory program in 2010, there were 50,557 nursery stock shipments with only six rejections. This works out to a 99.99% compliance rate. The year 2010 was the ATP's third season. There were 11,499 ATP shipments with over 3.9 million plants shipped. Greg next reported that Hines Nursery was going out of business effective the end of February or mid-March, and two nurseries in Ventura County would be joining the ATP soon: American Wholesale Nursery, and Boething Treeland Nursery. Training sessions would be scheduled for these two nurseries.

Rapid Response: Craig Hanes discussed the GWSS finds in San Luis Obispo County. He said that a public meeting would be held on Tuesday, February 1, 2011 for residents of the area to learn more about the upcoming treatment activities. CDFA staff will be attending the meeting. In Santa Clara County, two GWSS infestations (Branham and Evergreen) were declared eradicated in 2010. This leaves only two infested areas in that county, and brings the total number of eradicated GWSS infestations to 15 since the PDCP began.

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 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on Thursday, February 7, 2011 by

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