

WASHINGTON STATE COMMISSION ON PESTICIDE REGISTRATION

MINUTES (APPROVED)

July 8, 2003

Vice Chair, Kurt Volker, Presiding

Commissioners in attendance: Ann George, Ted Maxwell, Kurt Volker, Art Losey, Andy Jensen, Bob Berger, Bill Mason, Kevin Corliss, Ben Barstow, Kathleen Emmett.

Commissioners absent: Bryan Sakuma, Doug Walsh, Dan Robinson, Jay Shafer, Chuck Masters, Herb Teas.

WSU Liaisons in attendance: Sandra Ristow

Staff in attendance: Alan Schreiber, Amie Fowler

Guests in attendance: John Brown, John MacKenzie, WSU; Phil Hamm, OSU; Stefan Dobratz, L&I

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

MINUTES

There were not enough voting Commissioners in attendance to make a quorum – for a vote on approving the May 8, 2003 proposed minutes. Review and discussion on minutes postponed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Administrator Alan Schreiber reviewed the WSCPR Budget and comparison of funds committed for research and expenditures. Alan Schreiber asked Sandra Ristow if WSU was comfortable with the number in our budget sheet. Sandra Ristow said she thought they were.

Alan Schreiber reviewed the new QuickBooks report with the Commission's budget numbers – per the Commissioners' request. Suggestions for improvement were that the report needed projected versus actual expenses as well as a starting and running balance. Alan Schreiber said that he would start providing this report at each Commission meeting. Vice Chair Kurt Volker asked for a time period on needing comments back from the Commission on the format and what is included in this QuickBooks report. Alan Schreiber said that he would like comments back to him within the next week so it can be set up the way they want it from the beginning of the fiscal year.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Alan Schreiber reviewed the ADG, Inc. Hours spent on WSCPR for 2003 spreadsheet. Alan Schreiber explained that for Jesernig Dollars for minor minor crops - we need to change the name since Mr. Jesernig is no longer there. Alan Schreiber said he had to hold the money and not

collect more than \$100 in interest. He said they have been holding it for about a year and are just now getting the requests in from WSU. To date, Alan Schreiber has sent WSU \$106,531.05 in Jesernig dollars.

WSCPR Pest Management Tour – Alan Schreiber reviewed the invitation for the legislators and discussed the purpose and background of the tour this year. Alan Schreiber said that in the past, they have had poor attendance from elected officials and agency staff, so things were changed around this year to make the tour more inviting. Alan Schreiber said that he has enthusiastic and pivotal tour planning board members again this year. He said they were still working on getting the Legislators to RSVP and attend the tours.

NW Minor Crop Symposium – Ann George reviewed the agenda for the tour, beginning on August 18, 2003 in Pasco. Ann George said that there were 25 registrants to date.

MINUTES – *Continued from page 1*

Ben Barstow arrived at the meeting, bringing the number of Commissioners to a quorum. Kurt Volker requested that the May 8, 2003 Proposed Minutes be reviewed and voted upon. Ann George asked about the last portion of page 2 – 2003 Pest Control Tour – where it said that funding for the WSCPR Pest Management Tour “...will come from registrants, Commission and commodity groups.” Alan Schreiber said that this was a mistake; that it will come from the Commission and commodity groups only. He said that they are not charging a registration fee this year. Ann George asked Alan Schreiber if the requests for funding gone out in the mail, because she hadn’t seen one yet. Alan Schreiber said they had not and that this tour is being handled a bit differently. He said that they are still working on the details and don’t have a good head count yet. The cost will be substantially less this year. Kurt Volker suggested that on page three of the minutes, that Jane Thomas’ last name be added. Andy Jensen commented that he would like the meeting minutes e-mailed out to the Commissioners ahead of time, so they have time to review them. Kurt Volker asked if there was a motion on the floor to approve the minutes with the mentioned changes. The Commissioners decided to wait until the end of the meeting for a vote, so they would have more time to review the minutes.

FY 2004 BUDGET / WSCPR – WSU LOA

Alan Schreiber reviewed the budget handout for the Commission – which was agreed upon at the last meeting. WSU just received what their allocation was from the state. WSU’s budget was reduced by 5.29%. 5.29% of \$928,826 is \$49,135. WSU is proposing that we the Commission will likely receive \$879,691 for FY 2004. Bob Berger asked where the tour costs were in the budget. Alan Schreiber said that those numbers would need to be added in. Alan Schreiber said that his best guess for the cost of the three one-day tours would be approximately \$7,000. Because he is looking for \$2,000-3,000 support from other commodity groups, the Commission’s cost would be \$4,000-5,000 this year. Most of those costs are meal and bus related. Head counts will determine exactly how much the tours will cost. According to WSU’s numbers and the Commission budget, the Commission will have approximately \$677,000 to fund research projects in FY 2004.

Alan Schreiber reviewed the original Letter of Agreement, the Memorandum of Understanding, and the new Letter of Agreement. Alan Schreiber explained how the Commission terminated the MOU and updated the LOA – as the sole operating document between the Commission and WSU. Sandra Ristow said the updated LOA is in the Office of Business Affairs waiting for signatures. In the MOU – 1C – this is what WSU based their argument on why they could cut our budget when they get cut. We have terminated that MOU. It is our position that the Legislature

allocated one million to us and they haven't changed that allocation just because they cut WSU's budget. Kurt Volker pointed out that on the MOU, there is a point that says we can terminate with six months notice. We terminated the MOU on June 6, 2003. Sandra Ristow sent the letter to Ralph Calvaleri and Carol Pinch. Sandra Ristow commented that the Commission needs to take up the issue with the lawyers. Kurt Volker summarized: the Commission has sent in its written termination of the MOU, along with new LOA, which was signed by Ralph Calvaleri and Herb Teas. The LOA is awaiting signature in the Business Office at WSU. WSU has now indicated that the reduction they are absorbing will trickle down to the Commission. The Commission's position is that the Legislature allocated one million dollars to WSCPR and that they don't intend to cut our budget when they cut WSU's budget. The next step is that further discussion by the Commission's Assistant Attorney General and WSU's Assistant Attorney General needs to happen. Kurt Volker asks for any further discussion on the topic. Alan Schreiber discusses timeliness of WSU on sending payments and contracts. Researchers have had to ask for extensions because of this. The Commission wrote into the LOA that WSU will be more timely. Commissioners were asked to keep track on how long it takes for them to get requested reimbursements from WSU. Bob Berger asked if the Commissioners could make multiple submittals of requests for reimbursements, or if they should do only one a month. Art Losey asked what percent of the Commission's budget goes to researchers at WSU. Alan Schreiber replied that an estimated amount of 90% of the Commission's grant dollars go to WSU researchers.

RESEARCHER REPORT – JOHN MACKENZIE, WSU

John MacKenzie introduces himself. He passes around samples of social wasps and explains that his focus is on polistes wasps or paper wasps. Open celled wasp nests are common. His research is to find a way to reduce the number of wasps and also for monitoring purposes. The European Paper Wasp has found its way into Washington. His research is focusing on basic field observations. Looks for forging behaviors and places they are attracted to. Found a lot of them on Pienne flowers – feeding. Also on Lilies. No good chemical non-toxic attractants. Polistes Oripher, native to Washington. Acedic Alcohol is good for attracting these, but not in a strong manner. They are looking for other attractants. Will be setting up a short chain alcohol in the field to see if they are attracted to it. Art Losey asked if paper wasps were attracted to protein, like yellow jackets. John said that they are more attracted to honeydew. In May, the queens emerge and begin to forge. He did a trap comparison test in May to see which was best; the dome trap was significantly better. He used soapy water and boric acid as a kill agent. He will continue his observations through the summer and into the fall. He will collect nests and house them in greenhouses to test polistes dominuous – males to females.

REVIEW OF FY 2004 WSCPR RFP

Commissioners reviewed the WSCPR Request for Proposals document and discussed possible changes for the new version. Alan Schreiber took notes on his copy of the RFP and Amie Fowler will make the necessary changes. The final version of the new RFP will be e-mailed to all Commissioners as well as a hard copy will be mailed out to the Commission's mailing list.

Because meeting dates are mentioned within the RFP, the Commissioners discussed the final dates for the FY 2004 meetings. The Commissioners moved the November meeting to October 22-23 in Yakima.

RESEARCHER REPORT – PHIL HAMM, OSU

Control of Common Corn Smut and Diseases of Grass Seed in the Columbia Basin of Washington and Oregon. Phil made acknowledgements on project work. He reviewed classical symptoms of corn smut and showed pictures. Smut causes problems in the processing plant. The directions his research is going are: screen sweet corn cultivars for resistance; compare planting date and the impact of smut; determine the impact of smut on yield; fungicide testing to control smut; reviewed the most susceptible cultivars tested over three or more years: Jubilee and Super Sweet Jubilee. Most resistance over three or more years of testing: 2547 and Elite. Effects on corn smut by planting dates were reviewed. Reviewed the yield reduction due to smut in Super Sweet Jubilee. Gall size related to yield loss. Reviewed Fungicide Trial results in 2000 – reviewed treatments and number of stocks with no infection and then the number that had ear infection. Need much better control. In 2001 used overhead applicator at different times. Had extreme infection that year. In 2002 did two applications two weeks later – still a high rate of infection – but clearly controlled common corn smut (Quadris). Discussed Leaky Kernels – a smut fungus, like a yeast infection. Planting date does have an effect. Not all years have the same level of disease. Sh2 types are usually the most susceptible and generally have higher kernel issues. Yield losses are not limited to ear infections.

Grass for seed – Discussed the four main diseases in the Columbia Basin: choke, ergot, powdery mildew, stripe rust. Phil Hamm also reviewed the disease control program portion of his research.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Add page numbers. Striking the statement about the Chair of the Commission being the WSU Liaison. The Chair is the spokesperson; not Liaison. Add 1-5 “Identify...”. Alan Schreiber and Kurt Volker said we are just discussing these; we don’t have to adopt them this time. Kurt Volker suggested putting in under 3-3 that the Administrator is the WSU Liaison. Insert the Executive Session in the minutes. Get a copy of RCW 42.30 stating what can be discussed in Executive Sessions. Keep a copy of the RCW on Alan’s laptop for meetings. Change language in 5-3 to *may* support fiscal person at WSU. Add in a sentence to 5-1 regarding the roles spelled out in the LOA. Fiscal Policy #1 – language issue. Add in old and new mandate definitions to 1-3. 2-1: Eligible applicants... change language to reflect our intent. Delete 3-6. Make it read something like, “Proposals that are denied, may be invited for resubmission.” 7-1: Kurt Volker recommended to change policy to say ‘Executive Committee’ instead of ‘Administrator’... may reduce...increase amount. Also add in “Such modifications shall be reported to the Commission at the next regularly scheduled meeting.” 6-3: Projects that are not with WSU, we pay them after work is done; they bill for it up to once a month. 7-2: Andy Jensen, is this number of days consistent with the various folks we work with can do? Alan sends them a notification close to that timeline. John Brown asked Commission to let researchers write into their project budget an extended end date. Alan Schreiber said that they do have that option and Pete Bristow did do that with his blueberry project. Bob Berger – this is covered in the boilerplate contract with the researchers – make sure this language is in concert with that document. This policy does apply to WSU grants. Clearly state our leftover money policy in our RFP. Kurt Volker would like a copy of the contract attached to the final Policies and Procedures document. Alan Schreiber said there are a number of things that are not in the document: Abstentions, forward allocations, biannual progress report, more than minor crops are eligible.... Alan Schreiber suggests that he can write them up and have it for the September meeting. Kurt Volker said that if anyone has comments on it, send it to Alan ASAP.

Kurt Volker recommended sending Bill Green a thank you note for preparing this document. Kurt Volker then asked to move on to other business.

MINUTES – Continued from page 2

Andy Jensen asked about what Richard McCarten’s view was on canceling the MOU with WSU. Alan Schreiber responded that he asked what we wanted to do; what was our objective. Alan Schreiber explained the objective to him. Richard McCarten reviewed the idea of terminating the MOU and operating under just the LOA – he said to go forward. He helped draft the letter we sent to WSU. Andy Jensen asked if he thought it would accomplish anything. Alan Schreiber said that Richard said he couldn’t speak for what WSU will be willing to negotiate with the Commission on. He offered no opinion on that matter.

Andy Jensen made a motion to approve the May 8, 2003 Proposed Minutes. Bob Berger seconded the motion.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Commissioners discussed the upcoming September 9th meeting in Anacortes at the Fidalgo Country Inn.

Kurt Volker asked for any further comments. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.