

Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration

Puyallup, Washington

Washington State University-Puyallup

March 16, 2005

Minutes

Kurt Volker, Chair

The meeting is called to order at 10:05 am.

Commissioners present were Kurt Volker, Ann George, Chuck Masters, Art Losey, Bryan Sakuma, Gina McCauley, Byron Phillips, Andy Jensen

Non-voting members present were Doug Walsh, Bill Mason, Ted Maxwell, Gabrielle Toutonghi, Cheryl Niemi

Guests: Sandra Ristow, John Orr

Staff present were Alan Schreiber and Laurie Wishkoski.

Call to Order

Introductions/ Minutes

Kurt Volker asked Gina McCauley, who replaced Bob Berger, to introduce herself to the Commission. Introductions were made by all present.

Chair Volker called for comments on the minutes. It was noted that the minutes from the January meeting lacked an explanation of the process of possible prescreening to be done by the Executive Committee. It was also noted that the minutes of the teleconference needed an introductory explanation. The corrections would be made to both sets of minutes and distributed electronically with the changes tracked.

Financial Report

Alan Schreiber proceeded with the financial report. The expenses that had been incurred were explained. The cost of the January meeting in Portland was approximately \$1500 less than the previous year. Alan Schreiber gave an update on the amount of funding currently in the WSCPR account and what was available with forward allocation. Kurt Volker explained to the new commissioners what WSU's policy is for forward allocation of funds. Clarification was given regarding the amount of money that was being requested. Both Kurt Volker and Alan Schreiber

iterated that although all the projects being reviewed could be funded only those deemed meritorious should be awarded funds.

Andy Jensen moved to approve the financial report. Ann George seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Kurt Volker introduced John Orr who is the Chair of the Idaho State Pesticide Management Commission.

Administrator's Report

Alan Schreiber presented the Administrator's report. Responses to the previous West side Pest Management Tour were reported to the Commission. The consensus was that the most recent West side Tour had been not as effective as the initial format used four years ago. Kurt Volker asked for an overview of the proposed 2005 Tour for the commissioner. The Tour will be the week of July 18th. Monday the 18th will be a travel day with a reception held that evening. The Tour will be staying at the DoubleTree Hotel Seattle Airport. Tuesday will be going north and involve small fruits, bulbs, salmon and water issues, vegetable seed, potatoes, peas, cut flowers and stop at the WSU Research Station. The second day will be an urban day. The stops on the 20th might include structural pest control, nursery and landscape, trees and shrubs. The third day would be more of a natural resources day. That day's stops would include forestry, noxious weeds and roadsides. There is an issue with whether or not to go to Willapa Bay and visit sites for cranberries, oysters, spartina and stop at a nursery in Elma. The Willapa Bay trip would necessitate an overnight stay in Long Beach rather than three day trips from the Seattle area. The purpose of the tour is to educate pesticide decision makers in the uniqueness of the area and its special problems. The general consensus is that the Willapa Bay variation should be investigated and pursued. Bill Mason suggested that Chris Grue be made a part of the Tour.

Alan Schreiber gave an explanation of the Executive Committee prescreening. The Executive Committee is made up of the Kurt Volker, Chuck Masters, Ann George, Bob Berger and Alan Schreiber as a non-voting member. These commissioners received all twenty-two of the proposals that were submitted for funding, reviewed the proposals jointly and prescreened to arrive at the sixteen that were to be presented at this meeting. Alan Schreiber voiced appreciation for the time and effort spent by these commissioners.

Kurt Volker gave the commissioners more information on the proposals that would be heard. One third of the proposals were proposals that had been heard at the January meeting but that the commissioners felt needed more or better information. Two thirds of the proposals were new proposals submitted in response to the RFP that was issued after the January meeting. Kurt Volker read from the letter that he sent out to the Executive Committee prior to the prescreening. The Executive Committee evaluated the proposals and provided feedback to Alan Schreiber so that he, in turn, could provide feedback to the submitters. The evaluation was done by vote with a simple majority rule. In instances of conflict there was group discussion and further evaluations. The prescreening was done by teleconference. The Commission has no plans to repeat this third RFP.

John Orr gave an overview of the Idaho commission. The Idaho State Pesticide Management Commission was created in 2002. John Orr is the Chair of that commission and represents the chemical industry. The purpose of the Commission is to assist minor crop producers to obtain necessary pesticide registrations for critical pest control needs. It specifically targets crops that do not have enough size to create large usage to be targets of the chemical industry. The statute creating the Commission was granted without providing funding. John Orr was interested in the possibility of the WSCPR funding research done by the ISPMC that would be mutually beneficial.

Proposal Review

The proposals began at 11:00 am.

05AN072 Betsy Robertson *Keeping Pest Control Products out of Creeks, Rivers and the Ocean*
Washington Friends of Farms and Forests feels that there is a need to educate homeowners about the best use of pesticides. Proposal is to contribute to the creation of a large display board, material to be used and handed out at fairs and shows and to provide the fees needed for the booth space at these events. Kurt Volker asked if there was any idea of how many people were actually contacted per hour or per day at these events. Ann George asked if the \$40/hour was a contracted rate. It is necessary to have a person that can accurately answer the questions. Gina McCauley asked if there was a plan to work with trade groups. That is part of the plan.

05PN061 Doug Walsh *Development of Alternatives to Di Syston 15G for Aphid Control in Clover and Radish Seed Crops in Washington*

Vegetable seed industry, in particular, the clover and radish seed industries have lost the registration of a critical pesticide tool due to a voluntary cancellation by Bayer for DiSyston 15G. This will fund a screening process to try to find an alternative chemical. Existing stocks are all that are available to the growers. The proposal is for efficacy work. Although the contribution from the industry is not large, it represents approximately 20% of their research budget. Kurt Volker asked about scaling back the trials due to the lack of funding by the EPA. The trials would be scaled back but if the research could be performed at the original requested level then it would be possible to file for a 5 year registration rather than a provisional permit.

05AN062 Cindy Ocamb *Integrated Management of Hop Diseases*

A summary of last year's work was handed out. Hops are a high value crop in the state of Washington. Powdery mildew pressure is higher in this state than in other states. Washington State has some of the most susceptible cultivars. Proposal is to explore efficacy of softer programs, rotations and tank mixes. Kurt Volker asked about benefit percentages. The number is a baseline number...higher the pay...the lower the percentage of benefits. Hourly workers do not get benefits. Chuck Masters asked about the 1% canola solution. The desire is to see how it compares to the other materials. Gina McCauley why are doing 2 or 3 organisms at a time. The time is in the set up so it is more efficient to work with more than one at a time.

05AN063 David Gent *Integrated Management of Hop Diseases and Pests*

This proposal will study spray programs in the field. Work will be done at both Prosser and Corvallis. Byron Phillips asked if there was biological control of mites in hops. At this time

there is not. Doug Walsh asked if the expectation was that sulfur would have a different effect in hops than in other crops. The height of the trellis and the application methods will create different situations. Andy Jensen asked for clarification of funding. Chuck Masters asked if there would be enough replications to provide a statistical difference great enough for validation. The protocol was taken from existing work and was standard for the small plots. Kurt Volker asked about the benefits accorded to the employee. The employee is a federal employee and so has benefits as dictated for such. Regarding the biological control possibility it is important to quantify whether or to what extent sulfur is an asset or a problem. David Gent and David James are collaborating on this project.

Lunch

Kurt Volker presented Alan Schreiber with an award from the Pacific Branch of the Professional Entomological Society of America.

05AN067 Mark Nelson *Evaluation of canola oil for management of hop powdery mildew*
Mark Nelson works with Gary Grove in the Plant Pathology Department at WSU. Research on soft program showed little efficacy with the exception of canola oil. Canola oil worked well but there is no registration for canola for disease control. Work is with application rates and is in the field. Canola oil for mildew suppression could have large implications for use on other crops. Art Losey asked what the possible effect was on predator mites. Doug Walsh answered that it can smother any soft bodied arthropod. Gina McCauley asked if Wilbur Ellis would supply the product. Wilbur Ellis is only helping with the weed control. Kurt Volker asked if the canola oil was food grade. Last year it was purchased at the grocery store. Chuck Masters asked about the reference to potassium bicarbonate. It is used as a burn back for vegetation. Kurt Volker asked for clarification on budget items.

05PN066 Todd Murray *Efficacy Data for Mummy berry to Support a Section 18 for Indar*
The proposal is for efficacy data development for Indar to fight mummyberry in blueberries. Mummyberry is the key disease problem in blueberry production. Mummyberry is big problem for organic growers due to the lack of the use of fungicides. The blueberry industry has lost its tools for combat in the conventional arena. The industry really needs to have a Section 18 for Indar. Art Losey asked what the mode of action was. Indar is an anti-sporulation type control. The control will need to implement IPM methods also utilizing top dressing and collection of infected berries. Chuck Masters asked about the incidence of the disease. The incidence is highly variable and dependent on weather conditions. The design of the research was contributed by the industry. Brian Sakuma suggested that Serenade be included in the testing.

05PG060 Todd Murray *GLP Magnitude of the Residue for S-Metolachlor in Blueberries*
This proposal is to study the GLP magnitude of residue of S-metolachlor in blueberries. Weed pressure is a significant factor in blueberry growth, vigor and yield results. It is mandatory to keep fields relatively weed free because blueberry is a poor competitor. Yellow nutsedge is on the list of noxious weeds. Other control products have a one year PHI. Byron Phillips asked who reviewed the budget and why there was 60% allowance for benefits. Ann George spoke with Matt Hengel with IR-4 who labeled this a top priority. Kurt Volker added that Vince Herbert also concurred that this was a top priority for blueberries. Bryan Sakuma told the group

that this proposal was a response to the cut that the IR-4 program had had in its funding. It was needed to fill the hole that had been left when the IR-4 program funding was reduced.

05AN023 Todd Murray *Pest Management Strategies and the Possible Use with Mechanical Harvesting in Red Raspberries*

This proposal is for payment for the over the row harvester. The harvester was purchased in 2000 from WSU. This has been a critical tool for the researchers to produce real situation production and yield impact data for the pests that they were studying. There have been changes in the personnel involved and the harvester will be moved but only after the person has been hired. Andy Jensen asked if there was any indication as to the timeline for moving the harvester. The interviews for the position will begin this month. It is possible that the harvester would move this year. Kurt Volker asked if there had been any instructions to provide the figures on the amount of money left to be paid. There are five years of payments left at two payments per year. Byron Phillips asked what the value of the machine was at this point in time. The figure wasn't known but this type of harvester keeps its value quite well and has been quite well cared for and maintained. Tom Peerbolt had examined the harvester and is comfortable with its condition.

05AN026 Todd Murray *Survey for Phytophthora fragariae var. rubi in pre-plant stocks and planted root samples of red raspberry in Washington State*

This proposal deals with root rot in raspberries. It is a survey for phytophthora. It is a re-submittal and has generated a great deal of dialogue. The initial proposal was not changed but the concerns voiced by the Commission were addressed and made an addendum to the proposal. Sudden Oak Death has forced the creation of new detection methods that can be used to benefit the raspberry industry. This disease is a limiting factor in the production of red raspberries. Kurt Volker asked if the growers would need to worry about being quarantined if disease is detected. This is not a quarantined pest. Gina McCauley asked how the information would be returned. It would be returned in the form of coded submittals. Chuck Masters asked if ELISA would be done on every sample along with PCR. The ELISA test is very inexpensive and would help to establish the validity of the test. Bryan Sakuma added that the ELISA test is very good at one level but it could not get to the genus level. Gabrielle Toutonghi asked about cross contamination. It is being addressed in training and information. Knowing whether or not the disease is present should cut down on chemical use because at the present time all growers are treating whether or not the organism is present.

05AN042 Terry Miller *Enhancement of Biological Controls for Cereal Leaf beetle in Washington*

Cereal leaf beetle has been in the state since 1999. It has been moving down Highway 395 and through to Ellensburg. It was first found in the Spokane area. It is not so much a yield issue but it is a quarantine issue. Shipment cannot be made without inspection. Biocontrols have been very effective in the East. The money is needed to get egg parasitoids established. Art Losey asked if it would solve the quarantine issue. The quarantine problem will not be solved until California gets CLB. Andy Jensen asked what wildlife would be killed by pyrethroids. That was a misstatement. Byron Phillips asked about the budget and whether or not it had been reviewed. Byron Phillips indicated that he had spoken to Barb Smith, the reviewer listed. She said that she had not reviewed the proposal. Terry Miller maintained that she had reviewed the proposal

budget. Byron Phillips protested the tone of the verbiage in the proposal as being anti-pesticide. Alan Schreiber asked for clarification on matching funds other than the carryover funds that were listed. The funds are expected; they have not been awarded.

05AN043 Terry Miller *Habitat Manipulation to Enhance the Effectiveness of Aphidophagous Natural Enemies of Myzus persicae and other Pest Aphids in Irrigated Organic Cropping Systems*

This proposal is to research the best methods for enhancing the environment for aphidophagous insects. This project is a continuation of work already in progress. The work is being done in organic potato fields. The project looks at the best way to create shelter and food for beneficial insects and to establish and maintain an environment throughout the season and during the winter. Intent is to find out the most beneficial plant community. Byron Phillips asked if the green peach aphid can be controlled by beneficials. It can be controlled on potatoes and on organic potatoes. Gina McCauley asked if these ornamentals in the insectaries could escape and become an invasive species. Generally these plants are drought controlled. Kurt Volker asked for verification on travel budget because the amount seemed so high. Given the distance and the limitations on space and cooling capabilities the work has to be done by itself rather than in conjunction with another project.

05AN076 Ekaterina Riga *Control of seedcorn maggot and plant parasitic nematodes of carrots using bio-control agents*

This is researching the possibility of control of the seedcorn maggot in carrots using entomopathic nematodes. If timing and procedure could be established through this project and prove successful then this process could also be used in conventional systems. The damage to organic carrots from this insect complex can be fifty percent. Chuck Masters asked for clarification of the steps necessary for the procedure involved. Preparation, moisture and timing are critical. Art Losey asked if moisture levels were a consideration. The moisture level is very important to the effectiveness of the nematodes which is why the work will be done in Prosser. Organic matter levels are also important. Gina McCauley asked if the temperature was a factor also. It is another critical factor. Byron Phillips asked if there were commercial sources for the nematodes. The entomopathic nematodes would be obtained in Idaho. Kurt Volker asked for information about the project design. The design and the cost were explained. It was hoped to do the experiment for one more year.

05AN075 Robert Linderman *Meadowfoam seedmeal for conifer seedling growth and disease suppression*

Meadowfoam is a crop that is grown in Oregon for oil used in cosmetics. This process leaves the meal as a byproduct. Investigation needs to be done regarding the possibility of growth enhancement and disease suppression. Investigation needs to take place on volatilization and fumigation potentials. Could this be used as a fertilizer or to avoid pythium and fusarium problems? Art Losey asked if growth was due to the enhancement or the disease suppression. The soil was pasteurized prior to planting. Preliminary evidence indicates that 15 pathogens are suppressed. Kurt Volker asked if there was enough meadowfoam seedmeal to meet the needs. That is unknown at this time. Gina McCauley asked if this has been used on liverwort and if it would be a part of the study. It will not be a part of this study. The work is to see how and when process takes place and if it is control or suppression. Gabrielle Toutonghi asked if there was to

be correlation with the suppression and the volatilization. It would be a timing correlation of the volatilization. Byron Phillips asked about the amount designated for labor. This was the amount needed for greenhouse labor.

05AN074 Chris Grue *Assessing the Hazards Pesticides in Surface Waters Pose to Salmon*

This work is following up on two experiments that were initiated last fall. The work studies the effects of potentially contaminated groundwater and storm water. The study will look at sperm success, fertilization rates and survival success. A good sample size was being used to aid in reliability and validity. Alan Schreiber asked what the plan was for the research results. The study was designed for peer review literature. After peer review then the plan was to meet with groups that would benefit from the findings. There would be transmission to state and federal entities. Kurt Volker asked about pre-spawn mortality. If the stressor is not outside the local stream then it must be within the local stream. It is a problem to move through a contaminated stream? The idea is to just look at the effects on reproductive capabilities. Chuck Masters asked about references to other projects. The plan is to set the research up in phased projects. Gina McCauley asked what the cocktail was that would be used. It would be based on toxics reports and based on the latest information. It was planned to err to the worst case scenario. Gabrielle Toutonghi asked about the individuality of fish and results from testing. The cholinesterase was from the brains of the fish and would be based on ten fish per group. Gina McCauley asked if the information would be available. The information would be available to anyone after peer review.

05PN031 Kim Patten *Screening of Alternative Methods to Manage Burrowing Shrimp Infestations on Bivalve Shellfish Grounds*

This proposal for funding regards burrowing shrimp and is part of the ongoing search for a replacement for carbaryl. The project will focus on softer chemistry option possibilities and also on the efficacy of much lower rates of carbaryl. Follow up assessments of mechanical trials will be done. Monitoring will also be done on the tidal effects on shrimp and their burrow rates and what is the economic threshold density. Ted Maxwell asked if the reduced rate was a moot point. The question becomes if an alternative cannot be found would a reduced rate be an acceptable response to the lawsuit. Art Losey asked about prior testing that had been done with reduced rates of carbaryl. The factors that affected the efficacy of reduced rates are not understood and need to be examined. Ann George asked if there was any possibility that the burrowing shrimp could become resistant. It is not possible because the population that is being affected by the carbaryl is such a small percentage of the gene pool.

05PN069 Kim Patten *Field Evaluations of herbicides for Knotweed Control*

Money has been given by the legislature for control but has been used on spraying large weeds at the end of the season when they are very high. The knotweed grows from 15 to 20 feet high. Project would be to gather information on the efficacy of control at a much earlier stage of knotweed growth. Andy Jensen asked where there are large areas. Every county has some because it is a very adaptive plant. By mid-summer the knotweed would be close to 10 feet tall. Art Losey added that one of the problems with the control of this weed is that it often grows next to the water so aquatic permits are needed also.

Other Business

While the scoring results were being entered, Kurt Volker asked for a motion to proceed with a sole source contract for Alan Schreiber as Administrator for the Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration. The Commission had opened the position up for competitive bid this last year.

Ann George moved to proceed with a sole source contract. Chuck Masters seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Project review and ranking

Kurt Volker explained the procedure for the project review, ranking and awarding of funds.

Byron Phillips moved to decline funding to the bottom three projects. These are projects 05AN076, 05AN043 and 05AN042. Andy Jensen seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

Gina McCauley asked for further clarification of procedures. Alan Schreiber explained that anyone could be a champion or a prosecutor for a project. Andy Jensen asked Sandra Ristow for information regarding Terry Miller and where exactly that funding would go. The money would go to Richard Zack as the supervisor. Doug Walsh asked about 05AN076 and the impact possible for conventional treatments. The problem is that this has been looked at for a long time without success. In order to merit funding, when looking at an old project, there must be a new approach.

The vote on the motion was called for. The motion passed unanimously.

Ann George wanted to discuss the harvester, 05AN023. The Executive Committee had discussed the possibility of a lump sum payment that would eliminate the request year after year. Doug Walsh said that the program is in a state of flux and there may not be anything to use the harvester on in a few years. Bryan Sakuma agreed that it is not known what will be done with the position. The Mt. Vernon plot would have to be redesigned in order to use the harvester. Bryan Sakuma suggested that not paying it off right now may give some leverage with the Red Raspberry Commission and with WSU regarding the open position.

Art Losey had a comment on 05AN072. He said that he had a problem with giving money to an organization that will make a profit on it. Chuck Masters is on the Board of Washington Friend of Farms and Forests. This is not a typical venue for WFFF so the money would be compensation for time and energy that was above and beyond the regular contract. Art Losey voiced further concerns about rate of pay, level of expertise and geographic distribution of events. Ted Maxwell asked for clarification on how this project fit with the Commission's stated goals and whether or not this was precedent setting. Alan Schreiber said that the project fit well with education goals and concerns needed to be limited to the proposals being presented. A proposal could not be discounted based on others that might or might not be presented in the future. Kurt Volker voiced his concerns regarding the lack of efficiency of this approach. The

number of contacts and the response is relatively small for the time and energy required. He also had problems with a lack of efficiency regarding the brochure itself.

Andy Jensen moved to not fund proposal 05AN072. Art Losey seconded the motion.

Bill Mason asked for the Commission to encourage the continuation of this work as presented by this proposal. Work combining the Department of Health and the Department of Agriculture clearly demonstrated the need for education of the general public regarding proper chemical usage. The purpose needed to be supported with an improvement in more effective delivery. Andy Jensen recommended that an alternative method of delivery might be some type of coordination with the Master Gardeners program.

Ann George called for the question. The motion passed unanimously.

Byron Phillips moved to fund the top three proposals at their requested amounts. The proposals are 05PN069, 05PN066 and 05 PN031. Ted Maxwell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Bryon Phillips moved to approve 05PG060 with the caveat that Alan Schreiber examine the 60% benefit level, ascertaining the acceptable benefit level. Art Losey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Byron Phillips moved to approve proposals with the exception of 05AN067 and 05AN062. Andy Jensen seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

Chuck Masters asked for discussion regarding 05AN074. He has concerns regarding the potential credibility of the research. The response to that question was that it would go through peer review. He wanted to have assurance that the research would be accepted as a valid project. Alan Schreiber replied that this would be very difficult to mandate. Ted Maxwell added that useful data is generally produced in conjunction with the agency that will potentially be affected by the research. Bryan Sakuma said that his conversation with the researcher indicated that the intent was to work with all of the agencies involved when creating the protocol. Kurt Volker said that it depended on whether it was felt that this was a well structured study. Chuck Masters said that Chris Grue has the experience to get good data.

Kurt Volker asked about the meadowfoam proposal 05AN075. He was concerned about the number of questions that were attempting to be answered by the research prior to understanding the mechanisms themselves. There is also a question as to the economic viability of the crop for forestry without the cosmetic component. Chuck Masters responded that Linderman was the only pathologist working with forestry issues. This is basic research that is needed to understand the potential problems, benefits and volatiles.

Ann George called for the question. The motion passed unanimously.

Byron Phillips moved to fund 05AN062 at a reduced amount of \$8400. The difference is the removal of \$1600 for travel. Kurt Volker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Byron Phillips moved to fund 05AN067 at a reduced amount of \$10,979 reflecting a reduction in the travel budget. The travel budget is reduced to \$600. Kurt Volker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Alan Schreiber asked about the July meeting in Anacortes. It was established that there would be a quorum. There was no request to change the day of the week.

There was no other business.

Ann George moved to adjourn.

Please note: Accompanying document details the proposal review ranking for the March 16, 2005 meeting.