

**Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration**

**March 15, 2011  
Quarterly Meeting- Proposed Minutes  
Washington State University  
Mount Vernon, WA**

Chair Ben Barstow presiding.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Barstow at 10:00 am.

Commissioners Present: Harvey Yoshida, Mark Knutzen, Brian Cieslar, Ben Barstow, Bob Berger, Erik Johansen, Terry Whitworth, Judson Hedine, Keith Oliver, Byron Phillips

Staff Present: Alan Schreiber and Vanessa Algarin

Liaison Present: Ralph Cavalieri, WSU (called in)

Guest Present: Jim Jesernig (called in)

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Barstow asked for any changes or corrections to the minutes. None were given.

*It was moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Brian Cieslar seconds the motion. Motion carries.*

**Financial Report:**

Alan explained the fiscal year for WSCPR. He went through expenses. No income has been received since the last meeting. We have spent around two-thirds of the operating budget. The annual report generally becomes a separate line item. WSU has not yet taken out the funds for their fiscal specialist. Alan went over the check detail.

*Byron Phillips moves to accept the financial reports. Bob Berger seconded the motion. Motion carries.*

## **Administrator's Report/Tour Report**

### Administrator's Report

Alan went over the crop profiles that are in the crop handbook that is posted on the website. Alan went over the PNN updates that have been sent out this fiscal year. We will add wasabi and tobacco to the crop profiles.

### Tour

Alan went over the 2011 itinerary. He mentioned that he is looking for a new tree fruit stop. Some suggestions were given. Tootle Valley Winery [this is not the correct name, trying to track it down] was given as a suggestion since it has grapes and hard cider apples. Tentatively we will have a presentation on the history of Sakuma Brothers Farm. Bob Berger said that right now the Mukilteo ferry is not running. The tour is similar to past years, but there are some changes from two years ago even though a lot of the stops are the same, the contents have changed and evolved. Alan asked the commissioners for suggestions for attendees. He does not want local sales people, we want decision makers. Terry Whitworth offered his place of business for the Structural Pest Control stop.

### **Legislative Update- Jim Jesernig (called in)**

The legislature is looking at cutting 2mill out of that total. If the reduction goes beyond a certain level it will be extremely difficult to keep it from having major cuts to WSU. This will be determined on Thursday, by the Ways and Means Chair; he wants to put a budget out on March 22<sup>nd</sup> showing budget reductions, tuition increases.

### **WSDA Legislative Perspective (Commission Appointments Bill)-Erik Johansen**

This bill will move the appointments to our commission to the Director of Agriculture. The Department of Ag is in support of this bill. He does not know if this will address any of our issues such as term limits, it may be at discretion of the Director. Alan said that term limits are not in our enabling legislation. Erik does not know if there have been any decisions on the term limits, since the bill has not been passed. We are unaware of the schedule and after it is signed, the effective date will be July 1 or January 1. Alan is going to look into what the schedule is and will send out an update.

### **WSU Legislative and Budgetary Perspective- Ralph Cavalieri (called in)**

Ralph stated that in the Ag research center they are counting on statements of Pres. Floyd if the proposed budget is passed. He thinks that it is likely that they will cut units and eliminate units. He does not know what will be cut, but knows that it is in discussion, and that it is not being shared. Ralph thinks that it is a possibility if the university takes a cut, WSCPR will take the same percentage cut. WSCPR could come through with no additional cuts. It is Ralph's opinion that the legislature is not going to say eliminate WSCPR, as the WSCPR isn't reflected in the budget. Ralph also has great concern on the federal level. In addition to the cuts coming to the state level, they are trying to not have earmarks, so a lot of Ag research is in jeopardy. They will not exist in the current federal budget or the next one. There is federal money (formula funds) could get rolled back for the Ag Research Center and Extensions. Research is an easy target to cut.

### **WTC v. EPA, BiOps, Pesticides and Agriculture**

There is no real established consultation process between the agencies. It wasn't designed to account for pesticide labels. Ben stated that he has not seen any evidence of interagency communication. There has been concern in the Senate here on the West Coast. Erik Johansen talked about a letter he received from EPA; they are asking the National Research Council to intervene in this issue. The agencies are under court order to complete the salmon ones first. This is an entirely federal issue.

### **Research Update- Carol Miles' WSCPR Research Projects**

Carol Miles provided a presentation on her research program, particularly those projects funded by the WSCPR. WSCPR funding was particularly important for many of her projects in the earlier years. WSCPR funded provided seed money that allowed her to generate data that allowed her to successfully pursue grants for much larger amounts of money. A good example was the grant for biodegradable mulch.

### **Administrative Contract Discussion**

The Commission contract is an annual contract with Alan Schreiber doing business as Agriculture Development Group. There is a rule of thumb that every three to five years you bid it out. If the Commission is going to send this out to bid we have to decide today. The Commission needs to make at least one decision today, go sole source, put it in the Daily Journal of Commerce, this all has to be handled by someone other than staff, write up the Ad, a RFP, or send it out all over the state. Byron Philips moved to proceed with negotiations to renew the contract with Alan Schreiber. Bob Berger seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously. Alan said that he will send out the current contract in an email to the commissioners.

### **Other Business**

There was none.

### **Meeting Adjournment**

<i>Mark Knutzen moved to adjourn the meeting. Cheryl Talbert seconded the motion. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 2:33pm.</i>
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Ben Barstow, Chair