

Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration

**March 5, 2008
WSU Puyallup Allmendinger Center
Puyallup, WA**

Chair Masters presiding.

Chair Masters called the meeting to order at 10:04am.

Commissioners present were Chuck Masters, Andy Jensen, Byron Phillips, Art Losey, Ben Barstow, Erik Johansen, Bob Berger, Rick Hamman, Trent Munden, Jay Schaefer, and Cynthia Lopez.

Staff present were Alan Schreiber and Erin Gwinn.

Public members present were Mike Kahn and Pete Jacoby.

Absent were Pam Edwards, Bryan Sakuma, Doug Walsh, and Ann George.

Administrator's Report

Alan Schreiber stated that two of the Commission's funded proposals had not received their funding matches; these proposals were submitted in November by Tom Unruh, #08AN027, and Hannu Pappu, #08AN023. The commission will be funding at a 1:1 match with what Tom Unruh did receive from the Potato Commission, \$5,000. Hannu Pappu was not funded by the Potato Commission and has asked if he could find the matching funds from a different source. Alan Schreiber stated that he felt that this would depend on where the match came from and asked whether the match had to be 1:1. Schreiber felt that if the funding was from a similar source, such as potato growers or a potato processor, this would be allowable. Schreiber stated that if this was important enough to the potato industry to use their funding, the Commission should fund the proposal. As long as the source of the matching funds was similar, this would show that the potato industry wanted the research to be performed. Bob Berger felt that funding should be due to the merits of the research, not the source of the funding. Schreiber stated that the Commission's policy places more value on grants that come closer to the requesting group. Therefore, if the matching money that Hannu Pappu asks for moves away from the commodity which would benefit, in this case potatoes, this research is then

less supportable in the eyes of the Commission. Pete Jacoby stated that when you receive a grant and do not state that you are using part of the grant toward a match on another grant, this is slightly unscrupulous. Mike Kahn stated that Jacoby's feeling seemed accurate, but that the research not being funded by the Potato Commission shows that it is less valuable to the potato industry. Note: The proposal was originally presented the WSCPR as a proposal by the Washington State Potato Commission. Ben Barstow stated that matching funds and their source can really show how important the proposed study is to the respective industry, seeing that the potato commission did not fund the proposal could be a red flag. Erik Johansen felt that so long as there was a match that was still close to the source for the project that was approved for, this would be fine and that he understood and supported Schreiber's logic.

Alan Schreiber stated that the contracts for the January funded proposals were going smoothly and were almost complete.

Alan Schreiber brought up the Washington Pest Control Tour. This year the tour will be an east side tour. Alan Schreiber stated that we had the Red Lion Hotel lined up for the tour. Alan Schreiber went over the agenda for the tour. Tuesday's target will be perennial crops. One change that has been suggested for this year are an OP Transitional Program showcase with Jim McFerson. Alan Schreiber stated the possibility of Pete Jacoby or his dean speaking at the WSU Prosser lunch stop. Alan suggested also having different stop or a tour of WSU Prosser. Alan Schreiber stated that the Horticulture Northwest stop was yet to be set up, but this was being planned; a carrot harvester stop was also suggested. Alan Schreiber explained the possibility of Rocky Lundy speaking at the evening Columbia Crest dinner stop.

Alan Schreiber went over the agenda for Day 2, which would include vegetable and seed crops of the Columbia Basin. Tim Waters will be handling an onion stop. Jay Schafer will put together a vegetable seed stop. A pesticide container recycling stop is yet to be planned. These stops will be followed by a choice of a jet boat ride or a potato stop; the potato stop will be either a French fry factory or a potato packing shed. Andy Jensen will arrange the potato stop.

Bob Berger suggested that a sweet onion stop should be on the tour. Alan Schreiber stated that he would call Bryan Magnaghi about a potential stop, but stated that the Walla Walla sweet stop was generally not on the tour because the onions were out of the ground by the third week of July, when the tour occurs.

Alan Schreiber asked for more involvement from the commissioners. Commissioners often help the administration to get good attendance from different fields of experience. Alan Schreiber asked for ideas on specific people or types of people to include in the tour invite process. Alan Schreiber stated that the tour invitations would be sent out very soon. Invitations will start going out at the end of March, but Schreiber also explained that they continue to go out until the tour is filled. Generally, invitations are sent out and then a reiterative process is begun to find the right attendees from each group. The tour's price will be moving up to \$400 this year. Alan Schreiber stated that there were outside sources

who may want to sponsor the tour. This is allowed for in the Commission's legislation. Chair Masters suggested that the Commissioners use their lobbyists to find legislators to invite on the tour.

Legislative update

Alan Schreiber handed out an update regarding the legislative bill for the Commission's name change. Schreiber stated that the next step was to get the bill out of the House Rules committee. Thanks were given to Art Losey for testifying at hearings in the House and the Senate. Alan Schreiber has been meeting with legislators in regard to the name change. The commission office will keep commissioners updated on the status of the bill. It was suggested that Alan Schreiber contact Linda Parlette in regard to the name change.

Alan Schreiber stated that the Biennial Report had been sent out to the legislators, but that the office would like to send out notice of the name change along with the biennial report, therefore the biennial report had not yet been sent to the interested parties. Art Losey stated that name change would not go into effect until July 1.

Washington State University currently has an initiative which involves a funding increase for the Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration. At this point all agriculture lobbyists are in support of this bill. Pete Jacoby stated that Washington State University is looking toward getting the initiative funded in the 2009 session. Jacoby stated that this bill will be posed as an economic engine, which will, in turn, create jobs.

Minutes

Chair Masters asked for changes to minutes. Byron Phillips suggested page numbers and had e-mailed corrections to the commission office. Andy Jensen and Erik Johansen passed in corrected minutes to Erin Gwinn. Erik Johansen stated that on page 7, paragraph 2 the word prejudicial should be changed to misleading. On the second to the last page under other business Erik Johansen stated that the motion should read that the letter was to expand EUP acreage limits.

Ben Barstow made a motion to accept minutes with proposed corrections. Byron Phillips seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

Alan Schreiber explained the Commission's financial report. Alan explained expenditures from the biennial report and the Administrative expenses. Alan also explained all other changes that were shown on financials since the January meeting. Alan Schreiber explained the accounts receivable financial summary. Alan Schreiber explained the current liabilities. Alan Schreiber explained the Commission's check procedures regarding the double signature checks. Alan Schreiber explained the check detail including itemizations of the credit card payments. Alan Schreiber explained that \$2680

had been charged on the Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration card to buy Washington Asparagus Commission supplies, this charge has been repaid.

Andy Jensen moved to accept the financial report. Jay Schafer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Contract

Chair Masters stated that this year the commission would go out for bid on the administrative contract. Alan Schreiber stated that for administrative contracts you can get bids for a sole source contract as often as you want, the Office of Financial Management suggests that this should be done every three to five years. Alan Schreiber stated that the Commission does not have to go out for bid, but it is a general recommendation. Alan Schreiber stated that the minimum requirement for a bid is to run an ad in a statewide distribution newspaper for one day. The ad should have a contact person, necessary information, and a contact phone number. Alan Schreiber stated that generally this inquiry is made to the chair; the current administration does not govern the bids. Alan Schreiber stated that a request for proposals must be developed to deal with inquiries. All submissions would then go directly to the Chair, at which point he can direct the office to proceed. A review must be conducted if the Commission is presented with more than one proposal. Bob Berger asked whether the current administration would also have to submit an application. Alan Schreiber stated that yes; the current administration would have to submit a bid. Alan Schreiber also stated that this is a good time to review the responsibilities of the administration. Art Losey asked if the minimum qualifications would remain the same. Alan Schreiber stated that this would be up to the commission and that this would be included in the RFP. Chair Masters tabled the discussion until later in the afternoon.

-PNN Presentation

Jane Thomas and Catherine Daniels presenting

The Pesticide Notification Network (PNN) is a subscription service which gets the right information to the right people. Jane Thomas went over the PNN Report. The number of web page hits has also been added this year. The reports have been changed into tables which help the website users navigate. PNN also deals with special topics, such as the EPA risk measures for rodenticides. When re-registration decision documents are published, Jane summarizes the label changes that the EPA is making and uploads them on the PNN site. Art Losey asked about cost to subscribe, Jane Thomas stated that the website and information service is free to users.

Catherine Daniels went over the proposal for the upcoming year; this covers operating expenses for the PNN.

Catherine Daniels explained that approximately \$2000 would be returned to the WSCPR, this was due to the project coming in under budget during the last fiscal year. Last July, the commission requested a WSU budget breakdown for the program, this was attached

to the presentation handouts. Byron Philips asked about the budget last year, as there was a computer that had to be purchased. Jane Thomas has purchased a desktop computer for use with the website, for clarification, this was not a server as some commissioners had thought. Alan Schreiber asked about lag time on a new product registration, Jane Thomas stated that currently this is less than a month but can be as much as 3 months. Alan Schreiber asked about Charlotte Parker and Gerilynn Leonard and their roles in the project. Charlotte Parker processes labels into PICOL search database and pre-processes. Labels then come to Jane for the PNN review. Jane Thomas stated that a 24c may come out the same day. Erik Johansen noted that federal registrations are mailed and batched over causing lag time, but Section 18's and SLN's are e-mailed to WSU the same day.

Rick Hamman asked about the refund of the funds and how this works, he specifically wanted to know whether this would come back into the Commission's budget. Alan Schreiber clarified that the money did come back to our accounts and into the Commission's budget.

Catherine Daniels stated that the lower request was due to a change in the way the staffing is processed. Cynthia Lopez asked whether the network was specifically restricted to pesticides or whether non-chemical or mechanical methods were also included. Catherine Daniels stated that the network is run by the Commission and that they are running by the guidelines that the Commission has presented them with, taking into account comments and suggestions given by growers. Jane Thomas stated that they survey the growers and attempt to get the information to them in a way that is accessible for them. Ben Barstow felt that the network should link to the approved organic materials list on the WSDA website. Cynthia Lopez suggested that in the future this network should evolve within the Commission's mandate.

Catherine Daniels asked when a decision would be made regarding the funding of the PNN. Budget discussions will occur in May including the decision on whether to fund PNN. Ben Barstow noted that the budget from WSU was incredibly helpful and that this should be included in the presentation in May of next year.

Structural Pest Control Building

A tour was led by Duane Roundy of AAA Inspection Services. He was instrumental in the building of the structural pest control building and also does home inspection. Commissioners and staff were led on a tour of the Structural Pest Facility that the Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration supported building at the Washington State University Puyallup Research Extension. The way in which the house was built enables many different structural pest interactions. The house has many types of roofing, siding, decking, flooring, and foundation used to illustrate many different pest situations. The house is also equipped with faulty gutters, water that trickles down over the windows to induce mold and mildew, and a closed crawl space which helps to keep moisture inside for increased deterioration and pest habitats.

Structural Pest Control Presentation

Dr. Terry Whitworth, Whitworth Pest Control Service

Dr. Terry Whitworth performs turf, shrub, mosquito, and aquatic weed control. Chair Masters asked that we focus on structural pest control issues.

Dr. Whitworth mainly addresses pests that are in or around homes including fleas, nuisance ants, etc. Dr. Whitworth spoke about the green movement and advances in home pests including a movement toward pesticides with a lower toxicity to warm bloods and a higher toxicity in lower doses to insects. Products manufactured currently are extremely effective at low doses and low concentrations. The industry is moving away from just applying pesticides and is moving toward educating customers. Dr. Whitworth spoke about how the industry is moving toward a strategic spraying program which targets areas that will prevent as well as treat infestations.

Dr. Whitworth, personally, is wary of natural products; some don't work well whereas others have technical problems. People need to remember that the green pesticide market is also profit driven.

Art Losey asked Dr. Whitworth to talk about the ant survey and biology projects that Laurel Hansen is performing for the Commission. Dr. Whitworth spoke about the classes that Laurel Hansen gives in which she teaches pesticide applicators to identify different ants in order to help applicators know which ants are nuisance and which ants are WDO. Dr. Whitworth stated that carpenter ants are their number one call-out, the highest number of stinging pest call-outs is for the European paper wasp.

Dr. Whitworth spoke about the resurgence of bed bugs, which is due to a change in the crack and crevice spray policy. In the past, bed bugs have been controlled through cockroach sprays which have recently moved away from the crack and crevice spray, toward oral bait.

Administrative Contract

Alan Schreiber will draft a request for proposals. This will be given to Chair Masters to review. The commission office will run the ad. From there the Chair will make a decision on how involved the proposal review should be, including a possible executive session at the May meeting. There was a general consensus that this would be enough time to receive and review administrative proposals. The RFP draft will be sent to Chair Masters for his review on the third week of March. He will give the review and make any necessary changes. The office will then run the ad beginning on the first of April. All proposal submissions will be directed to Chair Masters. Bob Berger suggests that the office call the Washington State Department General Administration Office's Division of Purchasing, to see if anyone has expressed interest in the administration contract. Commissioners requested that the office advertise in the same periodical that has previously been used. Alan Schreiber felt that the Commission should advertise for one week in the Public Notices section. Proposals should be submitted prior to meeting, in order for Chair Masters to receive them and for them to be distributed accordingly. It

was suggested that the Commission request an electronic filing, but to tell inquiries that the office will also need a signed hard copy for the Commission's records.

Other Business

-Washington Ag Project

Alan Schreiber explained Tracy Probst's position within the Washington Ag Project. Alan Schreiber handed out the Washington Ag Project schedule showing crops completed and totals expected. Alan Schreiber explained the number of crops completed for the 2007 and 2008 fiscal years along with the 2009 expected numbers.

Alan Schreiber stated that ideally we would have maps showing the crops grown in each county.

Several corrections were noted by commissioners in reference to the Washington Ag Project handout, including two listings for fennel and Asian pear. Commissioners suggested that turf, comfrey, and trout eggs be added. Ben Barstow suggested that all six classes of wheat be detailed in their crop profile, as Washington is unique in being able to grow all six classes.

-Biennial Report

Chair Masters asked for Alan Schreiber's thoughts on the biennial report. Alan Schreiber passed around Tanya Wojtovich's edited copy. Alan Schreiber explained the problems that have occurred with the graphic design company including pictures that were not submitted in high resolution, which cause the images to be very fuzzy, and edits which were never completed. It was stated that on page nine the picture shown is not a picture of apples, also there are three captions shown for two pictures on this page. A consensus was made between Chair Master and Alan Schreiber that Ashbeck Design should not be used again and that the Commission should possibly not pay the entire bill. It was suggested that as long as Alan Schreiber retains the commission administrative contract, that the commission office should purchase publishing software, and see if Stacey Hill, an employee currently at the commission office who specializes in graphic design, can create the document at a lesser cost. Commissioners noted that Ashbeck Design had not put their company name anywhere on the document as had been done in previous years. Erik Johansen suggested that the Executive Summary should be bulleted in the next edition.

Chair Master moved to adjourn the meeting. Ben Barstow seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:58 pm.