

Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration

Virtual Meeting

September 19, 2006

Proposed Minutes

Kurt Volker, Chair

Meeting sites were Mount Vernon, Wenatchee, Olympia, Pullman and Prosser.

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

Roll was called.

Present in Olympia were Chuck Masters, Gina McCauley, Erik Johansen, Gabrielle Toutonghi, Cheryl Niemi and Art Losey.

In Pullman were Ben Barstow and Sandra Ristow.

In Mount Vernon were Jay Schafer and Bryan Sakuma.

In Wenatchee were Byron Phillips and Dan Robinson.

In Prosser were Ann George, Doug Walsh, Andy Jensen, Rick Hamman and Kurt Volker. Alan Schreiber and Laurie Wishkoski were the staff present.

At the conclusion of the introductions Kurt Volker asked the new representative of the wine industry to say a few words about himself.

Rick Hamman is the Director of Viticulture for Hogue Cellars. He has been with Hogue Cellars for 8 seasons. Prior to joining Hogue Cellars, Rick Hamman was with Colorado State University for 18 years. Kurt Volker thanks Rick for taking the time to come to the meeting during harvest.

Kurt Volker asked for corrections or comments to the minutes, other than those that had sent to Alan previously.

Andy Jensen moved to approve the minutes.

Kurt Volker asked for input from Sandra Ristow regarding her concerns with the minutes prior to having a second given and voting. Sandra Ristow said that her concern stemmed from the minutes inferring that she approved of forward allocation. Sandra wanted the commissioners to read comments that Ralph Cavalieri had made in an email to the commissioners regarding forward allocation. Kurt Volker said that the comments regarding the email sent to Sandra by Alan Schreiber regarding the status of the forward allocation policy would be stricken from the minutes. Alan Schreiber commented that the minutes were only a record of the events of the meeting and that they should not reflect events that have transpired since the meeting. Alan Schreiber commented that the minutes reflected communications that indicated that at that time there was no change in the forward allocation policy. Kurt Volker said that the only part of the minutes that would be struck was the reference to the email.

Ann George seconded the motion. The minutes with the one amendment were accepted unanimously.

Administrator's report

Alan Schreiber reported the USDA informed us that they were going to take out indirect costs. This policy change resulted in an outpouring of concern. We have recently received a letter stating that the USDA had decided to institute a two year moratorium on this decision. Alan Schreiber said that if we make an exception to our stated mandate against allowing no indirect costs there would be a torrent of requests for us to grant exceptions because there have been many requests to take out costs. Alan Schreiber told the commissioners that the Request for Proposals (RFP) is out. There were close to three hundred hard copies of the RFP were sent out. Alan Schreiber said that he did not have a good grasp of the reporting requirements. The reporting requirements would be disseminated with the award letters.

Alan Schreiber told the commissioners that between 400 and 500 copies of the biennial progress reports have been sent out.

Alan Schreiber gave a report on the WSCPR's Minor Crop Tour. Expenses came in at \$18,251.45. Alan Schreiber went over the different portions of the funding. The amount that was invoiced to WSU was \$7336.04. This amount was slightly over the amount that had been budgeted. Overall the Tour came in under budget. There were 42 attendees on the Tour this year. Gina McCauley drove all the way across the state to make a presentation for the Nursery Landscape Association. This was especially appreciated because it was well over 100 degrees that day. Byron Phillips was the key presenter at one of the best stops on the Tour. Jay Schafer was at one of the stops which happened to

be at one of his fields. Erik Johansen and Doug Walsh took the time to be available throughout the entire Tour. Gabrielle Toutonghi was a presenter for L & I. It was good to have so much participation on the part of our commissioners. Thank you letters were sent out to all of the speakers and the sponsors. Alan Schreiber told the commissioners that the evaluation form was much the same as it was in years past, although this year it went out electronically. This did eliminate some of the anonymity but it also increased the response rate. The end result was that the Tour received a score of 4.1 out of 5. Alan Schreiber went through the evaluations. Alan Schreiber admitted that at the end of the Tour he wasn't sure whether he wanted to do it again but the evaluations were a real energizer. Alan Schreiber said that we had our youngest presenter on the Tour with Ms. Emily George at age 9.

Alan Schreiber asked for comments from the commissioners. Erik Johansen had a comment on the RFP. Erik believes that there is an incorrect RCW citation...sub 3 should be sub 4. Gabrielle Toutonghi said that she had to commend the Tour for doing such a good job of keeping the attendees hydrated in such difficult conditions. Alan Schreiber said that planning for next year's Tour was already beginning and unless there were directions to stop, the planning would proceed.

Financial Report

Alan Schreiber began reviewing the financial pages. Not all of the locations had received their financial reports that had been faxed. Alan Schreiber read from the amended page for the benefit of the commissioners. The differences were identified in a line by line fashion. Operating expenses were given. Many of the expenses that are incurred are absorbed by the administrative costs. The expenses were explained by Alan Schreiber. Kurt Volker said that the Tour amount was \$336.04 over budget and would like the adjustment to be put on the record.

Andy Jensen moved to amend the Tour budget allotment. Kurt Volker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Alan Schreiber went over the check detail. Kurt Volker asked about the expense to Showcase Specialties.

It was decided that decisions on the financial report could not be made until all of the locations had received their copies of the updated financials.

Biennial Report

The Biennial Report is done every two years. At one time this was a mandated endeavor. It is no longer mandated but it is still continued because it is important to let the legislators and other know what has been accomplished by the WSCPR. Alan Schreiber went over the facts that are contained within the report. Discussion took place regarding trends and perceived trends based on information contained within the report. The work

that has been funded by WSCPR has a great deal of significance. This report is sent out to state agencies, legislators, user groups and others with an interest in WSCPR.

Alan Schreiber wanted to explain the process that is involved when the proposals are received. The steps are explained and gone over. The question was posed to the commissioners whether or not changes need to be made to the ranking system.

Andy Jensen said that he would like to see some reference to weighting of the matching funds. Andy Jensen does not feel that there needs to be an amendment to the scoring sheets but he feels that it is important that discussion take place and all of the commissioners should be in agreement. Discussion followed regarding the importance that should be placed on different forms of matching funds. It was agreed that it was not necessary to make changes in the evaluation form. The commissioners would consider this as a part of the administrative section.

Kurt Volker explained to the commissioners that significant conversations had taken place within the last 24 hours regarding the policy that had been in place referred to as 'forward allocation'. 'Forward allocation' was a policy that was instituted in 1996 by Vicki McCracken to best use the funds allocated to WSCPR. At this point in time, Ralph Cavalieri has requested that this practice stop until further evaluation takes place. Discussion regarding this situation and possible implications took place. It was decided that Kurt Volker and Alan Schreiber would go to Pullman and meet with Ralph Cavalieri, Sandra Ristow and Carol Pinch to go over this issue.

Alan Schreiber told the commissioners that another issue had been raised earlier in the morning in an email. There is confusion as to the amounts that have been specified in the reporting from WSU. Sandra Ristow said that she felt that it would be a good idea to have Mary Hoffman at the meeting in Pullman.

Alan Schreiber asked Byron Phillips to make a statement. Byron Phillips said that when he received a notebook he wanted to be able to see prior reports that had been filed on the subject or by the researcher in question. He wanted to be able to evaluate the progress that had been made. Kurt Volker had come up with a spreadsheet and a numbering system that would make it easier to track projects. Alan Schreiber said that reports can vary from one page to a book. No decision was reached but could be by the time that these proposal reports came in. Alan Schreiber said that Byron Phillips, Kurt Volker and he would get together and have it included in time for this next funding round.

Elections would take place in January.

Ann George, Andy Jensen and Bryan Sakuma have all been reappointed. Ben Barstow's appointment is underway.

Rich Hamman is the new commissioner filling in Jeff Sample's unexpired term.

Dates for upcoming meetings were discussed. The November 14 and 15 meeting will be in Pasco. The January 16 and 17 meeting will be in Bellevue.

Kurt Volker asked if there was any new business.

Alan Schreiber said that he had attended the IR-4 meeting on behalf of the commission. It is in the WSCPR mandate to coordinate with IR-4. Alan Schreiber talks about possible trends in funding applications and what that might indicate.

Alan Schreiber asked Sandra Ristow if she was going to be at the November meeting. Sandra said that she had a conflict and would not be able to attend. Alan asked if she was going to be at the January meeting. Sandra Ristow replied that she would not because she was going to be retiring at the end of the year. Alan Schreiber thanked her for her work with the WSCPR and noted that since Sandra had been the liaison the relationship with WSU had been very good.

There was no other business.

The financial report would be taken up at the next meeting.

Andy Jensen moved to adjourn. Byron Phillips seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 pm