

MINUTES

VERTEBRATE PEST CONTROL RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

Auditorium

1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

May 27, 2015

Members Present

David Kratville
Dr. Mark Novak
Ruben Arroyo
Dr. Paul Stapp
Dale Huss
Dan Spangler
Dr. Robert Timm

Members Absent

Dennis Bray
Karen Sweet
Art Foster

CDFA Department Personnel

Sara Richards, Staff Services Analyst
Jennifer Gordon, Ag. Technician

Guests Present

Roger Baldwin, UC Cooperative Extension
Niamh Quinn, UC Cooperative Extension
Joe Moreno, Modoc County Agricultural Commissioner's Office
Ross Horn, Liphatech

INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting convened at 9 a.m. by Mr. David Kratville and introductions were made.

BAGLEY-KEENE OPEN MEETING ACT AND VERTEBRATE PEST CONTROL RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMPLIANCE

The Vertebrate Pest Control Research Advisory Committee (VPCRAC) Meeting is held in compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. A copy of the 2015 Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act Manual was given to each present Member.

MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 24, 2014 MEETING

Motions: *Dr. Robert Timm moved that the Committee recommend approving the minutes from the November 24, 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mark Novak and passed unanimously.*

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Dr. Mark Novak	N/A	N/A
Ruben Arroyo		
Dr. Paul Stapp		
Dale Huss		
Dan Spangler		
Dr. Robert Timm		
David Kratville		

MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 11, 2014 MEETING

Motions: *Dr. Robert Timm moved that the Committee recommend approving the minutes from the December 11, 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Paul Stapp and passed unanimously.*

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Dr. Mark Novak	N/A	N/A
Ruben Arroyo		
Dr. Paul Stapp		
Dale Huss		
Dan Spangler		
Dr. Robert Timm		
David Kratville		

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Kratville presented the Committee with the current financial reports. Form (A) displayed the 2015/2016 Fiscal Year Budget that was approved during the December 12, 2014 meeting. Form (B) showed the CDFA Administrative Budget through the 2015/2016 fiscal year. Form (C) displayed the current Research Expenditures. Form (D) showed Rodenticide Surcharge Totals from fiscal year 2011/2012 through the third quarter of the 2014/2015 fiscal year. Form (E) displayed the Fund Condition Statement that displays the current fund status for the Vertebrate Pest Control Program as of May 21, 2015.

Discussion followed.

Motions: *Dale Huss moved that the Committee recommend approving the Financial Reports as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robert Timm and passed unanimously.*

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Dr. Mark Novak Ruben Arroyo Dr. Paul Stapp Dale Huss Dan Spangler Dr. Robert Timm David Kratville	N/A	N/A

CDFA UPDATES

Mr. Kratville reported a reduction of rodenticide sales. The Committee discussed various factors that may be contributing to the reduction including increased restrictions for applying rodenticides and more requirements for counties that sell rodenticides.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Kratville reported the current status of Assembly Bill 751, which was introduced to reauthorize the VPCRAC legislation set to expire in 2016. Initially the bill was issued with a sunset date of ten years.

Mr. Kratville attended a Fish and Game Commission Meeting reviewing predator management within California. The goal is to review existing policies and regulations to identify and address inconsistencies. The Commission is addressing structural issues first and will later review ethical and ecological concerns.

The Tri Colored Blackbird received emergency protection under the California Endangered Species Act in December 2014. It is a temporary listing of six months but may be extended.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Kratville reported there are no changes regarding the use of gas cartridges. The USDA is currently waiting for a decision on what mitigation measures will be implemented including possible geographical restrictions to protect burrowing endangered species.

Mr. Kratville received a call from Yolo County reporting gopher infestations in drip irrigated alfalfa. The Committee discussed issues that may have caused the increased populations.

Discussion followed.

A CALIFORNIA SPECIAL LOCAL NEEDS LABEL FOR ZINC PHOSPHIDE ON CABBAGE

Mr. Kratville gave a brief overview of the Special Local Needs Registration Label for Zinc Phosphide Concentrate held by Modoc County. Mr. Joe Moreno with the Modoc County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office provided the Committee with copies of the label. The label is only valid in Lassen, Modoc, and Siskiyou Counties for use on alfalfa, pasture, rangeland, non-crop area for control of Belding Ground Squirrels. The only allowed application method is spot treatment by ground. Growers in north eastern California expressed interest and pursued the label. Mr. Moreno is waiting for efficacy data and will provide updates to the Committee. Due to supply issues there were no applications made in California this year.

Discussion followed.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee discussed the need to find an applicant for the current vacant Agricultural Industry Committee Position. Mr. Kratville reached out to Farm Bureau and other agencies for potential members but has received no applicants.

RESEARCH PROPOSALS

Motions: *Ruben Arroyo moved that the Committee recommend funding the research proposal from Niamh Quinn, UC Cooperative Extension, and Dr. Roger Baldwin, UC Davis, “Ground Squirrel Best Management Practices Website-Expansion of Passive Extension Capacities.” in the amount of \$8,658.32. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robert Timm and passed unanimously.*

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Dr. Mark Novak	N/A	N/A
Ruben Arroyo		
Dr. Paul Stapp		
Dale Huss		
Dan Spangler		
Dr. Robert Timm		
David Kratville		

Motions: *David Kratville moved that the Committee recommend funding the research proposal from Dr. Roger Baldwin, UC Davis, "Maintenance of VPCRAC Website and Update of Vertebrate Pest Control Handbook." in the amount of \$27,426.67. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mark Novak and passed unanimously.*

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Dr. Mark Novak	N/A	N/A
Ruben Arroyo		
Dr. Paul Stapp		
Dale Huss		
Dan Spangler		
Dr. Robert Timm		
David Kratville		

Motions: *Dr. Paul Stapp moved that the Committee recommend funding the research proposal from Dr. Roger Baldwin, UC Davis, "Assessing Efficacy of Zinc Phosphide Coated Cabbage for Belding's Ground Squirrel Control." in the amount of \$63,265.68. The motion was seconded by Dale Huss and passed unanimously.*

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Dr. Mark Novak	N/A	N/A
Ruben Arroyo		
Dr. Paul Stapp		
Dale Huss		
Dan Spangler		
Dr. Robert Timm		
David Kratville		

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULE

Date: October 14, 2015

Location: Ocean Mist Facility, 10855 Ocean Mist Parkway, Castroville, CA 95012

The Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

David Kratville
Secretary to the Board