

**MINUTES OF THE
NAPA COUNTY WINEGRAPE PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING**

March 22, 2023

DRAFT

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL:

The meeting was held at the Napa County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, 1710 Soscol Avenue, Suite 3, Napa, CA 94559, and called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chair Katey Taylor.

Roll call was taken and the following Board members were present:
Chris Hyde, David Ilsley, John McCarthy, and Katey Taylor.

The following Board member was excused:
Larry Bettinelli.

Also Present:

Tracy Cleveland, Ag Commissioner/Sealer; Toosdi Malito, Asst Ag Commissioner/Sealer; Andre Napolitano, Deputy Ag Commissioner/Sealer; Anna Norton, Deputy Ag Commissioner/Sealer; Sommer Woolley, Ag/Weights & Measures Inspector; Jaspreet Faller, Ag Staff Services Analyst; Paola Segura, Senior Office Assistant and Recording Secretary to the Board.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by David Ilsley to approve the minutes for meeting held January 31, 2023.
Motion seconded by John McCarthy.
Motion passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Meeting opened to public comment at 9:04 a.m.
There was none.
Public comment closed at 9:04 a.m.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Education & Outreach ad-hoc subcommittee update: grower survey and field day event

Chair Taylor reports that we have received 97 responses to our grower survey and provided a summary of the findings.

Chair Taylor also provided an update on the progress of the field day event. Sarah MacDonald has collaborated with City of St. Helena and has secured field day to take place on June 7th at Napa Valley College's Upper Valley Campus. Currently, there are 14 confirmed stations that will have subject matter experts in topics ranging from Red Blotch, mildew, sentinel pests, vine mealybug, GIS mapping, UCCE advisors, ants, ant bate and leafhoppers.

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5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discussion of Board Member term expirations

Asst. Ag Commissioner/Sealer Toosdi Malito provided an update on board member term expirations. Terms for board members Katey Taylor and John McCarthy are due to expire Sunday March 26th and will be extended pending the resubmission of paperwork. Board members Chris Hyde, David Ilsley and Larry Bettinelli due to expire in 2024.

B. Election of Officers

Motion made by David Ilsley to nominate Katey Taylor for Chair.
Motion seconded by Chris Hyde.

Motion made by John McCarthy to nominate Chris Hyde for Vice Chair.
Motion seconded by David Ilsley.

Motion made by Chris Hyde to nominate David Ilsley for Secretary.
Motion seconded by John McCarthy.

Katey Taylor, Chair.
Chris Hyde, Vice Chair.
David Ilsley, Secretary.
Motion passed unanimously.

C. Discussion of Treasurer's District financial report

The Treasurer's District financial report was reviewed by Jaspreet Faller.

D. Discussion and possible adoption of a resolution approving payment of certain District financial obligations pertaining to District activities and administrative costs for FY 22/23.

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 22-09 approving payment of certain District financial obligations pertaining to District activities and administrative costs for FY 22/23.

Motion made by Chris Hyde to adopt Resolution 22-09 approving payment of certain District financial obligations pertaining to District activities and administrative costs for fiscal year 22/23.

Motion seconded by David Ilsley.

Motion passed unanimously.

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5. **NEW BUSINESS:** (Continued)

- E. Possible adoption of a motion approving the County's contracting with Kristin Lowell Inc. to prepare the Engineer's Report for the levy of assessments for FY 23/24, with the cost to be paid by District funds.

Recommendation: Approve and recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve and execute the contract with Lowell and Associates to prepare the Engineer's Report for the levy of assessments for FY 23/24, with the cost to be paid by District Funds.

Motion made by David Ilsley approving the County's contracting with Kristin Lowell Inc. to prepare the Engineer's Report for the levy of assessments for fiscal year 23/24, with the cost to be paid by District Funds.

Motion seconded by John McCarthy.

Motion passed unanimously.

F. **Public Hearing: Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/24**

a. **Open Public Hearing**

Public hearing opened at 9:56 a.m.

- b. **Review Proposed Budget Scenario – Ag Commissioner will present a draft budget and associated workplans for the following programs: Napa County Agricultural Commissioner's GWSS/PD; Vine Mealybug Trapping/Inspection; Vine Mealybug Parasite Release Project; GWSS Winter Trapping; GWSS Vineyard Protection Program Trapping; UCCE research proposal to continue the BGSS trapping - PD monitoring project (*Improving growers' capacity to respond proactively to Pierce's disease: Effects of vector populations, disease incidence and environmental factors on outbreaks*); and UCCE proposal to continue grower education and outreach (*Outreach & Extension: Improving the visibility of Pest District activities through educational resources, regional working groups & a stakeholder survey*).**

Asst. Ag Commissioner/Sealer Toosdi Malito reviewed proposed associated workplans for GWSS/PD, GWSS Vineyard protection program, Vine Mealybug trapping/ Inspections and VMB Parasite Release Project.

- The Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) and Pierce's Disease program will continue inspecting 100% of all commercial nursery stock coming into Napa County and will service 100 traps throughout the county. There will also be 40 hours set aside for any rapid response needs in case of an emergency. Napa County and the Pest District will share the cost of approximately 2,500 non-blue tag shipment inspection totaling \$230,763. Winter GWSS trapping implemented in 2021 in response to the Solano County infestation will have a cost of \$18,609.
- The Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) Vineyard Protection Program will consist of the placement and periodic inspection of 500 additional traps throughout Napa County. These traps will be in addition to the trapping program already in place and will run from June to October. Vineyard protection trapping will have a total cost of \$144,695.

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5. **NEW BUSINESS:** (Continued)

F. **Public Hearing: Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/24**

b. **Review Proposed Budget Scenario** – Ag Commissioner will present a draft budget and associated workplans for the following programs: Napa County Agricultural Commissioner’s GWSS/PD; Vine Mealybug Trapping/Inspection; Vine Mealybug Parasite Release Project; GWSS Winter Trapping; GWSS Vineyard Protection Program Trapping; UCCE research proposal to continue the BGSS trapping - PD monitoring project (*Improving growers’ capacity to respond proactively to Pierce’s disease: Effects of vector populations, disease incidence and environmental factors on outbreaks*); and UCCE proposal to continue grower education and outreach (*Outreach & Extension: Improving the visibility of Pest District activities through educational resources, regional working groups & a stakeholder survey*). (Continued)

- Vine Mealybug trapping, previously funded by CDFA and inspection of traps will now be fully funded by the Pest District. This will include the servicing of 1,900 traps and the microscope inspection of every trap once taken down. Findings will be documented by mapping to help growers identify and manage VMB infestations. It will cost \$70,788 for the trapping portion of this workplan and \$55,347 for microscope inspection and mapping.
- The Vine Mealybug parasite release project will allow the release of Anagyrus wasps in 160 sites. There will be a total of 3 releases at each site and will cost \$112,088.

Jaspreet Faller reviewed UCCE workplans on behalf of Dr. Monica Cooper. First, a continuation of the blue-green sharpshooter (BGSS) research project to improve our capacity to respond proactively to Red Blotch and Pierce’s disease. Also, the implementation of Sarah MacDonald’s outreach and education extension through educational resources, regional working groups and stakeholder survey. Dr. Monica Copper proposes a budget of \$34,710 for the BGSS research project and \$40,290 for outreach and education.

c. **Public Comment**

None.

d. **Close Public Hearing**

Public Hearing closed at 10:26 a.m.

e. **Board Discussion – Receive Board input on line items and amounts.**

Jaspreet Faller reviewed budget amounts for all workplans and explained the increase or decrease in budget from past fiscal years.

Katey Taylor requested that line item corresponding to UCCE budget be split to show dollar amount going to Dr. Monica Cooper’s research and dollar amount going to outreach and education.

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5. **NEW BUSINESS:** (Continued)

f. **Approve the FY 2023/24 Budget**

Recommendation: Approve the District's budget, and the Commissioner's workplans and budgets for the five programs and the UCCE research proposals by adopting Resolution No. 22-08.

Motion made by Chris Hyde to adopt Resolution 22-08 approving District's budget, and the Commissioner's workplans and budgets for the five programs and the UCCE research proposals.

Motion seconded by John McCarthy.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. **UC VITICULTURAL FARM ADVISOR REPORT**

None.

7. **AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

A. Pest Program Updates

Ag Commissioner/Sealer Tracy Cleveland first provided an update on the Solano County GWSS infestation. She reports that despite the wet winter they have completed medicopter soil injections in 300 parcels in the last six weeks and will continued treating and trapping on and around properties where there were detections in 2021 and 2022. There has been no evidence of additional finds since mid-November. Second, there was a red imported fire ant find at the end of December that was imported in a potted plant from Texas. RIFA can cause damage in agricultural and residential areas, CDFA will be working with us on surveying and trapping to guarantee that there are no additional finds. Last, the state of California conducted a statewide survey for Spotted lantern fly. None were found to be located on host plants near high-risk target locations but have been intercepted at state borders and airplanes.

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Katey Taylor requested a GWSS update or report on the state level.

9. **DIRECTOR REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Katey Taylor reports that she attended the Neighborhood Alliance for Vineyard Protection which evolved from Oakville's leaf roll and vine mealybug group. Chair Taylor encouraged board members to take part in smaller neighborhood groups and begin conversations with local growers.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Adjourn to next regular meeting scheduled for June 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned by Katey Taylor at 10:45 a.m.

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KATEY TAYLOR
Chair

ATTEST:

PAOLA SEGURA
Recording Secretary to the District Board