

## **OKANAGAN-KOOTENAY STERILE INSECT RELEASE PROGRAM BOARD**

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the **OKANAGAN-KOOTENAY STERILE INSECT RELEASE (SIR) PROGRAM BOARD** held in the Woodhaven Room of the Regional District of Central Okanagan, Kelowna, BC, on Friday, FEB 5<sup>th</sup> 2016.

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### **Voting Members:**

Director Duane Ophus, Chair	Regional District of Central Okanagan
Director Shirley Fowler, Vice-Chair	Regional District of North Okanagan
Director Brad Sieben	Regional District of Central Okanagan
Director George Bush	Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen
Billy Potash	Grower Representative – Zone 1 (Organic)
Amarjit Lalli	Grower Representative – Zone 2

### **Non-Voting Members:**

Dr. Kenna Mackenzie	Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada
Susanna Acheampong	BC Ministry of Agriculture and Land

### **Guests:**

Glen Lucas, General Manager	BC Fruit Growers Association
Kirpal Boparai & Guest	Concerned Orchardist
Judie Steeves	Freelance Reporter
Peter Simonsen	BCFGA Executive Member
Dr. Vincent Jones, Director	Washington State University

### **Regrets:**

Dave Dobernigg	Grower Representative – Zone 3
Director Chad Eliason	Regional District of Columbia Shuswap

### **Staff:**

Melissa Tesche	OKSIR Acting General Manager
Cara Nelson (remotely)	OKSIR General Manager
Carol Teschner	CORD Finance Manager
Hugh Philip	Contract IPM Specialist
Elysia Zimmer	Recording Secretary

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting of the OKSIR Board to order at 9:00am.

### **a. Election of Chair**

The OKSIR Acting General Manager called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Board.

Director Ophus was nominated by Director Fowler.

The General Manager called three times for further nominations. There being none, Director Ophus was acclaimed Chair for the Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Board for 2016.

**b. Election of Vice-Chair**

The Acting General Manager called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Board.

Director Fowler was nominated by Director Ophus.

The General Manager called three times for further nominations. There being none, Director Fowler was acclaimed Vice-Chair for the Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Board for 2016.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA****2.1 Adoption of Agenda**

**Moved by:** Director Sieben

**Seconded by:** Director Fowler

*"THAT the February 5, 2016 meeting agenda be adopted with the addition of the following items:*

- 5.5 *Staff Report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated February 1, 2016 re: Update on BCFGA Annual Convention*
- 5.6 *Staff Report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated February 4, 2016 re: Fee-for-Service Requests*
- 5.7 *Staff Report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated February 4, 2016 re: Partnership with the BCFGA for Consultation on Future Directions of OKSIR Program."*

**CARRIED**

**3. MINUTES****3.1 Regular Board Meeting – December 4, 2015 – for adoption**

**Moved by:** Director Fowler

**Seconded by:** Director Sieben

*"THAT the SIR Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 4, 2015 be adopted."*

**CARRIED**

**3.2 Business Arising from Minutes**

N/A

**4. DELEGATION/PRESENTATION****4.1 Mr. Kirpal Boparai, Concerned Grower**

Mr. Boparai handed out a resume outlining his qualifications (40 years of education and experience in farming) and asked for it to be passed around for all of the Board members to review.

*Dr. Mackenzie arrived at 9:06am*

Mr. Boparai explained to the Board that while SIR may have been a good idea 20 years ago, codling moth was supposed to have been eradicated by 1999. Mr. Bopari believes spray technology and products have improved and become more environmentally friendly, and it is his opinion that these have accomplished more than SIR ever will. He would like to see the program shut down.

The Chair thanked Mr. Boparai for attending and sharing his perspective with the Board.

*Mr. Boparai and Guest left at 9:11am*

**4.2 Dr. Vince Jones, Washington State University, Decision Aid System**

Dr. Jones provided a PowerPoint presentation titled WSU-Decision Aid System (DAS) Overview. The basis for DAS is to provide a simple, flexible user interface that integrates pest and disease models, real time weather data, weather forecasting, and management recommendations. Washington growers consistently estimate the tool's value to their industry at ~16.5M/yr.

Dr. Jones presented the various features of the system and highlight the proposed areas of expansion. The Acting General Manager explained that with the climate changing and weather becoming less predictable, this tool could be very relevant. Building our own Canadian system would be cost prohibitive, but there is a chance that the BC Climate Action Initiative could provide some funding to help fund a Canadian version of the WSU system.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION**

**5.1 Staff Report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated November 13, 2015 re: Program Update**

- a. Central Okanagan RD – Letter dated January 18, 2016 appointing Director Duane Ophus and Director Brad Sieben as voting representatives, and Director Luke Stack as alternate.
- b. Okanagan Similkameen RD – Letter dated December 29, 2015 appointing Director George Bush and Director Terry Schafer as alternate.
- c. North Okanagan RD – Email dated January 25, 2016 appointing Director Shirley Fowler and Director Bob Fleming as alternate.
- d. Columbia Shuswap RD – Email dated January 27, 2016 indicating appointment of Director Chad Eliason and Director Rene Talbot as alternate.

**Moved by:** Grower Lalli

**Seconded by:** Director Bush

*“THAT the letters of appointment to the OKSIR Board for 2016 from the RDCO, RDOS, RDNO, and CSRD (Items 5.1a-d) be received.”*

**CARRIED**

*There was a 10 minute break at 10:05am.*

*Dr. Jones left the meeting at 10:15am.*

*Ms. Nelson, OKSIR General Manager, joined the meeting remotely by conference phone at 10:15am.*

**5.2 Letter to BC Climate Action Initiative, dated December 23, 2015 re: Invited Comments on Climate Change Adaptation and IPM Projects in the Okanagan Valley**

Staff have not heard an official response.

**Moved by:** Grower Lalli

**Seconded by:** Director Bush

*“THAT the Letter to BC Climate Action Initiative, dated December 23, 2015 re: Invited Comments on Climate Change Adaptation and IPM Projects in the Okanagan Valley be received for information.”*

**CARRIED**

**5.3 Staff Report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated January 27, 2016 re: Program Update**

**Moved by:** Director Fowler

**Seconded by:** Grower Lalli

*“THAT the staff report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated January 27, 2016 re: Program Update be received.”*

**CARRIED**

**5.4 Staff Report from Cara Nelson, Director of Business Development, dated January 24, 2016 re: Business Development Activities Update**

The General Manager reviewed the Business Development Activities Update. Of the \$30,000 budgeted for this project (1Sept2015-29Feb2016), there has been \$10,884 in expenditures. The Board discussed the delayed start for the project to October and the need to allow further time before assessing the progress.

**Moved by:** Grower Lalli

**Seconded by:** Grower Potash

*"That the Board approve the continuation of work on its business development initiative as outlined in the OKSIR Strategic Plan through to May 2016, with total project expenditures not to exceed \$30,000 as originally approved; and that the Board evaluate the progress of the initiative at its meeting set for May 6, 2016."*

**CARRIED**

**5.5 Staff Report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated February 1, 2016 re: Update on BCFGAs Annual Convention**

The Acting General Manager noted that the re-election of Fred Steele as President of BCFGAs will be good for continuity. A sign-up sheet for the BCFGAs email updates was passed around.

**Moved by:** Director Fowler

**Seconded by:** Director Bush

*"THAT the Staff Report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated February 1, 2016 re: Update on BCFGAs Annual Convention be received for information."*

**CARRIED**

**5.6 Staff Report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated February 4, 2016 re: Fee-for-Service Requests**

The Board discussed using the term "fee-for-service" to describe what would more accurately be called "cost recovery".

**Moved by:** Director Sieben

**Seconded by:** Grower Lalli

*"That OKSIR cooperate with CFIA, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the BCFGAs to expand the apple maggot detection program through fee-for-service trap deployment and monitoring."*

**CARRIED**

Mr. Lucas reported there was strong messaging coming out of the BCFGAs Convention that growers want assistance with apple clearwing moth.

**Moved by:** Director Sieben

**Seconded by:** Grower Lalli

*"That OKSIR cooperate with BCFGAs and Summerland Research Station to help with apple clearwing trapping and deployment of mating disruption, on a fee-for-service basis."*

**CARRIED**

**7.1 Bylaw 31 – SIR 2016 – 2020 Five Year Financial Plan – Three Readings and Adoption**  
**a. Schedule A to Bylaw 31 (2016-2020 Financial Plan)**

The final budget for 2016 was presented by the CORD Finance Manager, Financial Analyst for OKSIR. The Board discussed the budget in detail.

**Moved by:** Grower Lalli

**Seconded by:** Director Fowler

*"THAT the SIR 2016-2020 Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 31, 2016 be adopted."*

CARRIED

Director Sieben left the meeting at 11:05am

**5.7 Staff Report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated February 4, 2016 re: Partnership with the BCFGa for Consultation on Future Directions of OKSIR Program**

There was discussion about whether the potential to use the OKSIR story in marketing could be added to this process, but it was highlighted that marketing of apples and administration of the Program are separate items.

**Moved by:** Grower Lalli

**Seconded by:** Director Bush

*"That OKSIR and the BCFGa partner and engage a facilitator to conduct a consultative process to engage growers and other industry stakeholders on potential future directions for the OKSIR Program."*

CARRIED

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7.1 Bylaw 31 – SIR 2016 – 2020 Five Year Financial Plan – Three Readings and Adoption**

**a. Schedule A to Bylaw 31 (2016-2020 Financial Plan)**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

**8. ADJOURN TO IN-CAMERA**

**Moved by:** Director Fowler

**Seconded by:** Grower Potash

*"THAT pursuant to Section 90 of the Community Charter the SIR Board adjourns and convenes to an 'In-Camera' session to discuss legal and personnel issues."*

CARRIED

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

**9.1 Recognition of Staff Service**

This item was postponed until the May 6, 2016 meeting.

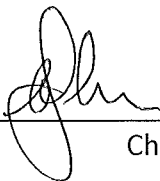
**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by:** Director Fowler

**Seconded by:** Grower Potash

*"THAT the SIR Board meeting be adjourned at 11:26 pm."*

CARRIED



Chair



Corporate Officer