

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 Central Okanagan Regional District, Kelowna, BC, on Friday, SEPT 18TH 2015.

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
Director Chad Eliason	Regional District of Columbia Shuswap
Amarjit Lalli	Grower Representative – Zone 2

Non-Voting Members:

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

Regrets:

Billy Potash	Grower Representative – Zone 1 (Organic)
Dave Dobernigg	Grower Representative – Zone 3

Staff:

Melissa Tesche	OKSIR Acting General Manager
Carol Teschner	CORD Finance Manager
Scott Arthur	OKSIR Facility Manager
Sherri Kimmie	OKSIR Field Operations Manager/Bylaw
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 9:02 a.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2.1 Adoption of Agenda

Moved by: Director Eliason

Seconded by: Director Fowler

"THAT the September 18, 2015 meeting agenda be adopted."

CARRIED

3. MINUTES

3.1 Regular Board Meeting – June 19, 2015 – for adoption

Moved by: Director Eliason

Seconded by: Director Sieben

"THAT the SIR Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 19, 2015 be adopted."

CARRIED

3.2 Business Arising from Minutes

N/A

4. DELEGATION/PRESENTATION

5. CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION

5.1 Staff Report from Cara Nelson, General Manager, dated September 10, 2015 re: Program Update

Grower Lalli arrived at 9:05 a.m.

Moved by: Director Sieben

Seconded by: Director Eliason

"THAT the staff report from Cara Nelson, General Manager, dated September 10, 2015 re: Program Update be received."

CARRIED

5.2 a. Staff report from Cara Nelson dated September 9, 2015 re: Calculation of Parcel Tax

i. RDNO SIR Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 2226, 2007

ii. RDCO SIR Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 1159, 2006

iii. RDCO SIR Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw No. 1273, 2010

b. Email correspondence dated July 29, 2015 from James Calissi concerning taxation on nursery stock plantings in City of Kelowna

c. Email correspondence dated August 7, 2015 and copy of letter dated December 22, 2014 from John Byland, Byland Nursery, concerning taxation on nursery stock planting in Coldstream, BC.

The Board was advised that the Program has received complaints from growers who are unhappy about paying into the program for new nursery plantings, as the new plantings do not bear fruit and cannot host moths. The explanation has held in the past that OKSIR is not a fee for service program – it is a social program – and those that are going to profit from the apple industry are going to benefit.

The Board agreed with how staff have been handling these complaints. Regarding who will be purchasing these nursery trees, while they may typically be sold to local residents, it is expected that many of these them will be sold to growers due to the replant program. The Board noted that this is an important factor, because if the purpose of these nurseries is to supply the industry then the costs (including the SIR parcel tax) should be put into those sales.

Kenna Mackenzie arrived at 9:12 a.m.

Moved by: Director Sieben

Seconded by: Director Fowler

"THAT the Board receives the staff report from Cara Nelson dated September 9, 2015 re: Calculation of Parcel Tax; the email correspondence dated July 29, 2015 from James Calissi concerning taxation on nursery stock plantings in City of Kelowna; and the email correspondence dated August 7, 2015 and copy of letter dated December 22, 2014 from John Byland, Byland Nursery, concerning taxation on nursery stock planting in Coldstream, BC."

CARRIED

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 Ratify Email Poll of OKSIR Board Resolution re Support for collaboration researching aerial release with SIT

Moved by: Director Fowler

Seconded by: Grower Lalli

"That the OKSIR Board ratify the email poll supporting the approval to participate in a collaboration with USA and New Zealand researching Aerial Release with SIT. The request is for approval to invest \$10,000.00 CDN towards advancing the research demonstration trials as part of an international consortium investigating the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) with codling moth SIT."

CARRIED

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 IPM Consultant's report on preliminary 2015 season end results

a. Records Used to Calculate Impact of OKSIR Program on CM Populations, Fruit Damage, and Control Product Use

Highlights of the presentation by IPM Consultant, Hugh Philip:

- In 2015, the first brood appeared about 2 weeks earlier than usual, gained separation for a second brood, and allowed for a third brood.
- Average number of codling moths/trap/week across the entire program area was less than 0.5, lower than the average for 2014.
- Since 2010, the number of buffer zone properties has dropped by half, and the number of trees and amount of damage has also decreased.
- For pesticides used specifically to target CM, there has been a 96% decrease in the active ingredient applied Program-wide (total sales) since 1991.
- The estimated number of cover sprays applied per year against CM is less than 1 Program-wide.
- For 2015, the goal of having over 90% acreage with less than 0.2% harvest damage was achieved.

The Board noted that while the average citizen would care about the overall decrease in pesticide use, the reduction in cost per acre would be of greater interest to the growers.

The IPM Consultant will be reviewing the season end results with SIR staff.

Moved by: Director Sieben

Seconded by: Director Fowler

"THAT the Board receives the IPM Consultant's report on preliminary 2015 season end results and the Records Used to Calculate Impact of OKSIR Program on CM Populations, Fruit Damage, and Control Product Use."

CARRIED

7.2 Staff report from Scott Arthur, Facility Manager dated September 4, 2015 concerning purchase of replacement irradiator

The Facility Manager reviewed the information and quotes for the two irradiator replacement options. It was noted that the unexpected mechanical issue in June 2015 highlighted the urgency for replacement of the unit before the 2016 season.

The Board inquired about a timeline for installation. The Facility Manager indicated that JL Shepherd already has Canadian approvals, whereas Foss Therapy is expecting to wait 6-9 months for approval. Both manufacturers stated it would take about 4-6 months to get the new irradiator in place.

The Board requested more information about shipping and decommissioning. Management have asked Capri Insurance and the supplier to ensure that any required liability coverage is in place during the replacement process. Staff will keep a close eye on the timeline, so that backup services can be in place for the 2016 field season, if required.

Moved by: Director Eliason

Seconded by: Director Bush

"THAT the OKSIR Board authorize the purchase and installation of the replacement Gammacell irradiator, Model 484R-2 from JL Shepherd & Associates, California, USA for an amount not to exceed \$776,440 USD, which price also includes all matters for the proper decommissioning of the current OKSIR (Gammacell 220); and, THAT OKSIR staff be authorized to work with JL Shepherd & Associates and the Canadian Nuclear Safety

Commission (CNSC) to ensure that the new irradiator is installed and the current Gammacell 220 irradiator is decommissioned in accordance with CNSC regulations.”

CARRIED

7.3 Interim Financial Statements

Moved by: Director Sieben

Seconded by: Director Fowler

“THAT the OKSIR Board receive the Interim Financial Statement ending August 31, 2015.”

CARRIED

There was a five minute break at 10:20 a.m.

8. ADJOURN TO IN-CAMERA

Moved by: Director Fowler

Seconded by: Director Bush

“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

10. ADJOURNMENT


Moved by:

Seconded by:

“THAT the SIR Board meeting be adjourned at 11:00 a.m.”

CARRIED


Chair


Corporate Officer