

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, APR 7th 2017.

Voting Members:

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|--------------------------------|---|
| Director Shirley Fowler, Chair | Regional District of North Okanagan |
| Amarjit Lalli, Vice-Chair | Grower Representative – Zone 2 |
| Director James Baker | Regional District of Central Okanagan |
| Director Brad Sieben | Regional District of Central Okanagan |
| Director George Bush | Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen |
| Dave Dobernigg | Grower Representative – Zone 3 |

Non-Voting Members:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tom Forge (alternate) | Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada |
| Susanna Acheampong | BC Ministry of Agriculture and Land |

Guests/Delegations:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| John Byland | Local Nursery/Business Owner |
| Glen Lucas, General Manager | BC Fruit Growers Association |
| Judie Steeves | Freelance Reporter |

Regrets:

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Director Chad Eliason | Columbia Shuswap Regional District |
| Billy Potash | Grower Representative – Zone 1 (Organic) |
| Dr. Kenna Mackenzie | Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada |

Staff:

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fowler called the meeting of the OKSIR Board to order at 9:04 am.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2.1 Adoption of Agenda

Moved by: Director Sieben

Seconded by: Director Baker

“THAT the April 7, 2017 meeting agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

3. MINUTES

3.1 Regular Board Meeting – February 10, 2017 – for adoption

Moved by: Grower Lalli

Seconded by: Director Sieben

“THAT the SIR Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2017 be adopted as amended.”

CARRIED

3.2 Business Arising from Minutes

N/A

4. DELEGATION/PRESENTATION**4.1 Mr. John Byland, Local Nursery/Business Owner, re: Request for exemption from parcel tax****4.1.1 Email from Mr. Byland, received on February 2, 2017.**

Mr. Byland reviewed the arguments presented in his email that he sent to Ms. Tesche on February 2, 2017. Mr. Byland believes that commercial nurseries should be exempt from the SIR parcel tax. Mr. Byland was advised that this would be discussed at the Board level, and then he would be advised of a decision.

Mr. Byland left the meeting at 9:15am.

5. CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION**5.1 Staff Report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated March 28, 2017 re: Program Update**

The Acting General Manager Reviewed the Program Update.

Moved by: Grower Lalli

Seconded by: Grower Dobernigg

"THAT the staff report from Melissa Tesche, Acting General Manager, dated March 28, 2017 re: Program Update be received."

CARRIED

5.2 Staff Report from Cara Nelson, Director of Business Development, re: Business Development Activities Update

The General Manager/Director of Business Development began reviewing the Business Development Activities Update.

A copy of a letter dated 2017 March 31 was circulated from the Director of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division to the Ambassador to Canadian Mission to the IAEA recognizing the important role of Canada in insect pest control and welcoming the participation of Cara Nelson, OKSIR General Manager to present on the OKSIR Program and chair a panel discussion during the Third FAO/IAEA Conference on Area-wide Insect Pest Management.

Moved by: Director Sieben

Seconded by: Director Baker

"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

The Board returned from In-Camera at 10:00am

Director Sieben left during the In-Camera meeting at 9:54am

The General Manager/Director of Business Development continued reviewing the Business Development Activities Update.

Ms. Steeves arrived at 10:02 am

The Board discussed the issues identified with international shipping, such as requirement for vet certification and standardizing procedures. Ms. Nelson explained that there is nothing to standardize as it is outside Canada and dependent on the requirements of the importing country. If required by the importing country, veterinary certification of OKSIR sterile codling moth would come from the Canadian competent authority, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. However the CFIA currently only has approval by regulation to issued vet certificates for honey bees. They would require a Federal regulation authorizing the Agency to issue vet certification for sterile codling moth. Currently, the matter is dealt with on a country by country basis and we have managed to work around the requirement for veterinary certification to the satisfaction of the importing country. The CFIA has also offered the staff of the Plant Protection Division to assist OKSIR as needed when dealing with importing countries.

Moved by: Grower Dobernigg

Seconded by: Director Baker

"THAT the staff report dated April 2, 2017 from Cara Nelson, General Manager/Director of Business Development, re: Business Development Activities Update and letter be received."

CARRIED

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Memo from Melissa Tesche, dated April 4, 2017, re: Updating Signing Authority Resolution

It was explained that the existing banking resolution was outdated because the representatives named had changed. The new updated resolution reflects the style of the signing authority resolution of the Regional District of Central Okanagan, listing positions instead of naming the people currently holding those positions. It has also been amended to bring it in line with the OKSIR Purchasing Policy and to formalize authorization of RDCO finance staff to conduct certain processes, such as payroll and transferring money between accounts, on OKSIR's behalf.

Moved by: Director Baker

Seconded by: Grower Lalli

"THAT the OKSIR Board adopts the attached Signing Authority Resolution as written."

CARRIED

7.2 Memo from Melissa Tesche, dated April 4, 2017, re: Official Appointment of Acting General Manager

The bank would prefer an official resolution from the Board recognizing Ms. Tesche as the acting General Manager, in order to have her as a signing authority.

Moved by: Grower Lalli

Seconded by: Director Baker

"THAT the OKSIR Board officially appoints Melissa Tesche as the acting General Manager."

CARRIED

7.3 Staff report dated March 15, 2017 re 2017 OKSIR Parcel Tax Acreage – Tax Roll Values – Final

The Board discussed the taxation of commercial nurseries as brought up earlier in the meeting by Mr. Byland.

The Board reviewed its current policy for determining parcel tax.

It was noted that the bylaws for each regional district are different, so while SIR requests a particular amount in taxes from each authority, we don't control how much they actually charge.

The Board acknowledged that many growers have their own nurseries, and that the BCFGAs had voted down a motion to request an SIR exemption for new and nursery plantings. It was emphasized that whatever the parcel tax policy is, it needs to be able to address all situations.

The Board discussed the difference between property tax rates on commercial and agricultural lands, and was reminded that many businesses make significant contributions to the program based on its community-wide benefit.

Conversation shifted to Mr. Byland's point that many of the nursery trees are exported out of the province, and the Board discussed how exportation of nursery trees should or should not exempt that acreage from the parcel tax.

Moved by: Director Baker

Seconded by: Grower Lalli

"THAT staff review and prepare options on the taxation of commercial nurseries to present at the next OKSIR Board meeting."

CARRIED

Moved by: Director Baker

Seconded by: Grower Lalli

"THAT the staff report dated March 15, 2017 re 2017 OKSIR Parcel Tax Acreage – Tax Roll Values – Final be received."

CARRIED

7.4 Interim Financial Statements to February 28, 2017

The Finance Manager presented and discussed the Interim Financial Statement in detail with the Board.

Moved by: Grower Dobernigg

Seconded by: Director Bush

"THAT the OKSIR Board receives the Interim Financial Statements to February 28, 2017."

CARRIED

8. ADJOURN TO IN-CAMERA

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

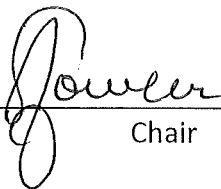
10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Director Bush


Seconded by: Grower Dobernigg

"THAT the SIR Board meeting be adjourned at 10:41am."

CARRIED



Chair



Corporate Officer