

Minutes
Vertebrate Pest Council Meeting
October 2, 2014

California Department of Food and Agriculture
Plant Pest Diagnostic Center
3294 Meadowview Road, Sacramento, CA

1. Call to Order (Baldwin) Called to Order: 10:05 am

Council Members in Attendance: Roger Baldwin, Rex Baker, Charlie Crabb, Ed Duarte, Ashley Freeman, Marc Kenyon, David Kratville, Stella McMillin, John O'Brien, Dennis Orthmeyer, Mike Taber, Bob Timm, and Dirk Van Vuren. Calling in were John Eisemann and Robert Schmidt. Also attending was guest Jennifer Gordon.

2. Minutes of June 26, 2014 meeting (Timm)

- Minutes were accepted as written without discussion
 - O'Brien 1st, Baker 2nd, unanimous acceptance by full committee
- Timm will post on VPC website

3. Business Manager Report (Crabb)

Financial Report

- Current bank account information
 - \$15,385.84 time deposit account
 - \$55,168.15 checking
- There are still some unpaid expenses related to the Hawaii VPC – mainly Proceedings related
- Crabb is working on paying the deposit for Newport Beach conference site. He asked the council for approval to make that payment.
 - Van Vuren 1st, Baker 2nd, unanimous acceptance by full committee
- Timm said the University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC) has sent a note saying that the VPC needs to reimburse UC for time spent on registration matters. We need to rethink how to handle registration assistance for future conferences. Perhaps we could tap into PAPA resources? Charlie can explore this.

4. Old Business

- VPC Handbook Revision Update (Timm)
 - A significant number of handbook chapters need to be updated. Timm has asked that the committee chairs for the Hawaii conference to update the chapters. Timm provided the following update:
 - Publicity – Updated recently by Van Vuren, Timm yet to upload
 - Continuing Education – R. Baker
 - Program – Last revision was in 1994, Eisemann should really update and provide to the next Program Chairs (McMillan and Van Vuren)
 - Registration – Last revision was in 1993
 - Others not as out of date (since 2000)
 - Crabb is trying to get the word documents uploaded to his DropBox account and asked that Timm provide him all the MS Word files (or pdf, but not preferred) for all chapters
 - Timm restated the need to make sure everyone on council has access to members only section on VPC website

5. Status of 2014 VPC Proceedings (Timm)

- Timm currently expects there will be a total of 115 papers in the Proceedings; all have been or are currently out for review
- There are 31 delinquent manuscripts, Eisemann and Timm continue to reach out to authors for submissions
- Timm hopes to send the Proceedings to the printer before Christmas. He has not started the layout process, but hopes to be able to hire Amber Shrum as an independent contractor to help.
- Publication costs (layout, printing, mailing) are expected to be around \$10,000 to \$12,000
- Discussion was held about having only electronic versions of the Proceedings
 - Timm responded that previous surveys have shown a 50:50 split on customer desire. Demand for the Proceedings has overwhelmingly been for hardcopy. Therefore, he preferred to keep providing a hardcopy. The council agreed.
 - Electronic and hardcopy is available on UNE-Lincoln website

6. New Extension UC Positions Update (Baldwin)

- South Coast - Vertebrate Pest Area Advisor
 - Filled – Dr. Niamh (pronounced – Neeve) Quinn. The start date of October 1, 2014 was pushed back to October 31, 2014 due to issues Dr. Quinn was experiencing with her visa.
- Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center - Vertebrate Pest Area Advisor
 - This is the replacement position for Baldwin. The announcement should come before the end of calendar year 2014.
 - Baldwin feels that there is a good chance that this position will be filled and person on board by July 2015.
- Northern California Research and Extension Center - Vertebrate Pest Area Advisor
 - Baldwin does not think this position will be filled during this hiring cycle.

7. Start-up funds for Niamh Quinn (Baldwin)

- The Council had previously discussed providing startup funds for Dr. Quinn but no commitments were made. Baldwin reminded the Council that he had been provided \$10,000 when he was in a position similar to Dr. Quinn's. There was discussion about splitting VP Council funding between Dr. Quinn and the unfilled position at Kearney. This might make a stronger case for filling the Kearney position. A question was raised about ANR providing startup money. Baldwin thought they would offer \$10,000. In addition, Baldwin thought there might be another \$5,000 from IPM. Given the financial needs of these the VP Advisor position (travel to Council and Extension meetings, research, etc.), Baldwin suggested that \$10,000 from the VP Council would be appropriate. After quite a bit of discussion about the financial needs of the VPC (outstanding Hawaii conference expenses, mid-term conferences) and current balances in VPC bank accounts, Charlie felt comfortable with the VP Council providing \$10,000 to Dr. Quinn.
- O'Brien motioned that the Council provide \$10,000 to Dr. Quinn, but split the payment into 2 payments of \$5K, paid one year apart
 - Baker 2nd
 - Crabb discussion point - our budget would allow \$10K in one lump sum, but we must not commit to other allocations for positions until next conference is over.
 - Schmidt proposed amending the motion by making a single award of \$5K
 - Charlie discussion point – favors \$10K because of the requirement to attend council meetings.
- Crabb motioned we make a single contribution to Dr. Quinn in the amount of \$10,000
 - O'Brien 2nd
 - Unanimous approval by whole committee

8. 2015 VPC/PAPA workshops—Update (Duarte)

- Confirmed locations and dates:
 - 3/12/15 Sacramento
 - 3/17/15 Salinas
 - 3/19/15 Escondido
- Proposed topics and speakers
 - Duarte provided a handout with details on topics and speakers (see following table)
 - A comment was made that there should be no more than 8 or 9 talks
 - Orthmeyer committed to providing a feral swine talk at all 3 confirmed PAPA meetings.
 - Baldwin has been getting a number of requests about mountain lion issues and suggested including some info on mountain lions and bears in South California.
 - Freeman suggested talks on invasive species and an overview of commensal rodent issues.
 - Freeman suggested reaching out to the CA Department of Public Health so they might attend and earn continuing education credits.
 - Marc Kenyon offered to contact the American Turkey Federation; they might provide a speaker for the Sacramento seminar.

Speaker	Time	Sacramento (3/12/15)	Salinas (3/17/15)	Escondido (3/19/15)
Duarte/Baldwin	10:00 to 15:00	Welcome, Housekeeping, Intro	Welcome, Housekeeping, Intro	Welcome, Housekeeping, Intro
Rotational 1	30:00 to 60:00	Bob Timm? Topic?	Michelle Jay Russell: Food Safety	Rex Baker Unavailable Replacement talk needed?
Rotational 2	30:00 to 60:00	Dennis Orthmeyer & Co: Turkey and Deer: Non-Trappable Urban Wildlife Pests	Dennis Orthmeyer & Co: Topic?	Dennis Orthmeyer & Co: Pigs diseases and control (or Shannon Chandler?)
David Kratville/Michelle Dennis	30:00 to 60:00	VPCRAC: Research and Historical Development/resources	VPCRAC: Research and Historical Development/resources	VPCRAC: Research and Historical Development/resources
Roger Baldwin	30:00 to 60:00	Pocket Gopher/Ground Squirrel management	Pocket Gopher/Ground Squirrel management	Pocket Gopher/Ground Squirrel management
Stella McMillan	30:00 to 60:00	Program Overview/ Non-Target Losses, how assessments are made	Program Overview/Non-Target Losses, how assessments are made	Program Overview /Non-Target Losses, how assessments are made
Mark Kenyan	30:00 to 60:00	Human Wildlife Interactions: Coyote, Bears, Raccoons, Mtn Lions	Human Wildlife Interactions: Coyote, Bears, Raccoons, Mtn Lions	Human Wildlife Interactions: Coyote, Bears, Raccoons, Mtn Lions
Ashley Freeman & Co	30:00 to 60:00	Public Health: Zoonoses/Zoonotic Diseases	Public Health: Zoonoses/Zoonotic Diseases	Public Health: Zoonoses/Zoonotic Diseases
Mike Taber	30:00 to 60:00	Non-Chemical Services/IPM approach	Non-Chemical Services/IPM approach	Non-Chemical Services/IPM approach
Niamh Quinn	30:00 to 60:00	Commensal Rodents in Ag	Commensal Rodents in Ag	Commensal Rodents in Ag
Edmund Duarte/Rich Murovich?	30:00 to 60:00	DPR PRESCRIBE/Endangered spp. considerations	DPR PRESCRIBE/Endangered spp. considerations	DPR PRESCRIBE/Endangered spp. considerations
Dennis Orthmeyer & Co	30:00 to 60:00 (or regional topic?)	Gas Cartridges/AIP/Fumigants	Gas Cartridges/AIP/Fumigants	Gas Cartridges/AIP/Fumigants

Bob Timm	30:00 to 60:00 (or regional topic?)	TBD	TBD	TBD
Participating Counties (or E. Duarte)	30:00 to 60:00	ZnP, Strychnine, AR's proper use	ZnP, Strychnine, AR's proper use	ZnP, Strychnine, AR's proper use
OTHERS???				

9. 2016 Vertebrate Pest Conference—Update (Crabb)

- The Fairmont Newport Beach has provided general information on room requirements. They will require another \$5,000K deposit soon. The current contract allows for 2 breakout session rooms (150 people per room) and one room for commercial displays. We may want a room for a council meeting. Crabb will talk to the Fairmont.
- Discussion of deadline and advertisement for Call for Abstracts for Conference (Baldwin)
- 1st call for Papers 1st should go out in March and flyers should be ready for PAPA seminars
- The VP Conference website should be updated and launched at the same time as the 1st call for papers.
- Potential session/symposium topics
 - Urban coyote symposium
 - Bird management (repellents, birds at airports, resident geese, ravens and sage grouse, damage to fruit crops)
 - Rodent pest management (one for agriculture and one for urban)
 - Feral pigs in California
 - Public health

10. 2018 VP Conference location (Crabb and Freeman)

- Freeman and Crabb have sent inquiries to 4 venues in 4 Napa Valley. Two venues have responded: Napa Valley Marriott Hotel and the Silverado (golf resort). They will try to have potential meeting sites narrowed down to 2-3 sites for next meeting.

11. New Business

- Membership (Baldwin)
 - New membership request – Michelle Dennis is a CDFA employee and a former student of Rex Baker (CSPU Pomona) and more recently completed masters at FSU. She would like to join VP Council. She is preparing a letter of interest in joining the Council. The Council will discuss this request during the next meeting.

12. Additional Business, announcements (Baldwin)

- The California Vertebrate Pest Control Research Advisory Committee (VPCRAC) authorization is up for renewal in 2016 and they are looking for prospective support from the committee. The VPCRAC asked if the VPC would continue their support. The general discussion among the committee was supportive, but no motions were made.
- Crabb and Timm asked if anyone on the Council had ideas on where they could conduct a field efficacy trial on house mice in structures such as agricultural facilities. The council members suggested a few general locations but nothing specific.

7. Next Meeting (Baldwin)

- Wednesday March 18, 2015 (1:00 pm Pacific Standard Time)

8. Adjournment (Baldwin) Meeting Adjourned: 11:27 pm (Pacific Standard Time)