

Minutes
Contra Costa Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee
November 5, 2014

Members Present: Carlos Agurto, Pestec; Jerry Casey, Public Works Facilities; Scott Cashen, Mt. Diablo Audubon; Terry Davis, Public Member At-Large; Doug Freier, Public Member At-Large; Chad Godoy, Agriculture Department; Susan Heckly, County Fish and Wildlife Committee; Michael Kent, Health Services; Marj Leeds, Public and Environmental Health Advisory Board; Cece Sellgren, County Clean Water Program; Patti TenBrook, Public Member At-Large; Cheng Liao, Public Member Alternate

(11 members present/8 voting members)

Members Absent: Joe Yee/Allison Knapp, Public Works

Staff Present: Jill Ray, Supervisor Andersen's office; Tanya Drlik, IPM Coordinator

Members of the Public: Sonce Devries, citizen; Shirley Shelangoski, Susan JunFish, Lori Anders, and Michael Sullivan, Parents for a Safer Environment

1. Introductions

Chair Cece Sellgren was not present when the meeting began, so Vice Chair Patti TenBrook chaired the meeting.

2. Announcements

The IPM Coordinator announced that the deadline for applications for the Environmental Organization seat on the Committee is November 7, 2014. She also noted that the City of Concord is seeking an arrest warrant for a landlord who has ignored the bed bug problem in his apartment building.

At this point Cece Sellgren took over chairing the meeting.

3. Public comment on items not on the agenda

No members of the public were present at this point in the meeting.

4. Approve minutes from September 3, 2014

A motion was made and seconded (ML/CG) to accept the minutes as written.

The motion passed unanimously:

AYES: Cashen, Freier, Heckly, Kent, Leeds, Sellgren, TenBrook, Liao

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Davis (absent at last meeting)

Public comment: Susan JunFish contacted the developers of Maintstar (the Public Works Department's work planning software) and was told that Maintstar data can easily be sorted and queried and the program could be redesigned to become a pesticide use reporting vehicle.

5. Discuss IPM Annual Report

Comments from the Committee included the following:

- Would like to hear more about the Restoration Trust project with native vegetation on the Pacheco Drain flood control channel (MK)
- There was a lot of material to digest at one time; allow additional comments on the report after the meeting (All)
- Liked the detail about County staffing issues and issues arising from the drought. (MK)
- Liked the color photos, especially those of the grazing before and after (DF)

- Liked the pie charts of Public Works costs for various management techniques (CL)
- Add a table of contents (PT)
- Change the date in the heading of the pesticide use spreadsheet to 2014 (CL)
- In the Transparency subcommittee report, clarify what the public requested for separation of pesticide use from the Public Works Department, what is required by the state, and what is the Department’s opinion of the necessity of separating pesticide use. (SC)
- Attach the subcommittee reports to the annual report document. (MK, CL)
- Correct date on pesticide use spreadsheet to 2014. (CL)

Comments from the public included the following:

- Consider using hash marks rather than color for the graph on page 19. Add a chart for off-season grazing. (Susan JunFish)
- Change “licensed” biologist to “professional” biologist on page 13. (Sonce Devries and CS)

6. Discuss IPM Advisory Committee priorities for 2015

The Committee brainstormed ideas which the Committee Chair recorded on the white board. The public was asked to add to the ideas on the board. Photos of the white board were taken and the IPM Coordinator transcribed the notes (see attached). In January the Committee will choose the priorities and determine which subcommittee each member will sit on.

Prior to the brainstorming, a short discussion ensued when Chad Godoy asked if the goals of the IPM Committee included a particular percent reduction in pesticide use. The Chair noted that IPM does not mean a certain percent reduction in pesticide. Susan Heckly said that the goal is a moving target and that the County is moving forward with the best possible practices. Michael Kent explained that the original IPM Task Force that created the County IPM Policy intentionally did not include a specific percent reduction of pesticide or the use or prohibition of specific pesticides in the policy. He agreed with the idea of moving forward with the best possible practices and said the Committee will continue to evaluate the IPM program to make sure the County is doing the best job possible.

7. Discuss staggering and/or increasing the terms of Committee members

It was moved and seconded to increase terms to 4 years with terms ending in a staggered fashion every 2 years.(MK/SH)

The motion passed unanimously:

AYES: Cashen, Davis, Freier, Heckly, Kent, Leeds, Sellgren, TenBrook

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

8. Hear reports from the Agriculture and Public Works Departments

This item was postponed because of lack of time.

9. Plan agenda for next meeting—January 14, 2015

- Review priority ideas from brainstorming
- Decide on priorities for next year
- Determine subcommittee assignments
- Updates from the Departments

Next Meetings: March 4, May 6, July 1, September 2, November 4

Respectfully submitted,
Tanya Drlik, IPM Coordinator

Transcription of the White Board Record of the November 5, 2014 IPM Advisory Committee 2015 Work Priority Brainstorming Session

Transparency Subcommittee

- Make posting website functional
- Explore posting in parks/open space for pesticide applications
 - Where animals/kids have access, including stream banks and trails
- How does the County decide which non-native species to address?
- Change IPM Committee bylaws to prohibit former IPM Committee members from contracting with the County on IPM issues
- Evaluate Audubon Society's list of concerns regarding the Agriculture Department's in-house trial of live trapping of ground squirrels

Decision Making Subcommittee

- Integrate pollinator protection ideas into County landscape practices
- Innovation
 - Design, weed management, pesticides
- Make specific funding recommendations for the Departments to the Board of Supervisors
 - Study where more funding is needed to improve IPM implementation
 - Analyze Department efforts
 - What are Department needs? Work with Department staff to determine
- Explore using contractors for rodent trapping
- Obtain expert advice on trapping
- Consult with other agencies on trapping costs
- Assess risks of pesticides to pets/kids
 - Especially in County parks
 - Are 2nd generation rodenticides used in the County?

Metrics Subcommittee

- Develop/review metrics of IPM success
 - Internal metrics vs. external metrics

Metrics/Decision Making

- Explore goal of not using any pesticides in County operations
 - How to get there
 - How much money to do it
 - Include wildlife and human costs
 - Focus on highest risk pesticides first
- Explore Pesticide Hazard Tier ranking as used in San Francisco

Cost Accounting Subcommittee

- Continue the Cost Accounting Subcommittee
 - Focus on all costs of spraying herbicides
- Conduct broad cost analysis for vegetation management (goats, sheep, herbicides, mechanical)
- Conduct study of rodenticides vs. trapping

Possible presentations

Effects of glyphosate on kids