



Minutes for Board Meeting of September 17, 2008

PARC Board Coordinator: Kathleen Harvey

Board Members Present

Chris Kirby, PARC Board Administrator
Gail R. Shibley, PARC Co-Chair
Greg Pettit, DEQ
Garnet Cooke, OR-OSHA
Richard Kepler, ODF&W
Dale Mitchell, PARC Co-Chair
Brad Knotts, ODF

Consultants Present

Jeff Jenkins OSU/Env. & Molecular Tox.
Fred Berman, DVM, PhD CROET

Consultants Absent

Justin Waltz, OPHD
Will Lackey, ODOT
Dr. Dan Sudakin, OSU/Env. & Molecular Tox.

Board Members Absent

Sandy Giffin, OHSU/Poison Control

Guests Present

Lisa Arkin, Oregon Toxics Alliance

This meeting was held via video conferencing. The members have asked that the Board continue to hold meetings in this manner, with new sites added for further convenience. The sites will be available on the website when they have been confirmed.

Introductions:

1. Called to order: 9:07 a.m.
 - a. There were no added agenda items for the meeting.
2. Review and approval of the July 2008 minutes was unanimous as submitted.

Agency Updates

OPHD: There are many legislative issues that impact environmental public health, including water issues, chemicals in the public environment and pesticides.

ODA: Dale Mitchell stated that the pesticide application season is winding down. There is a new field investigator in Hermiston, Corey Cooley, due to the retirement of the current investigator. Chris Kirby stated that all of the proposed Program Option Packages from the Pesticides Division are still being brought forward.

DEQ: The toxic monitoring program sampling fish for toxic metals and water for several toxic materials has been started. The results are expected by the end of the year.

ODF: There is a group "Citizens for Clean Water" requesting notification information on timberland applications that have taken place in Lincoln County both past and present. There have been ongoing concerns about the applications and this group is another indication of that interest and concern.

OROSHA: Garnet is working with OSU to get a forestry specific worker protection video. It will be developed with OSU under Oregon OSHA's grant program. OR-OSHA will also be presenting fumigation Management Plans for Aluminum Phosphide fumigants at the OACFA meetings in Pendleton, Springfield

and Eugene.

Garnet has conducted an investigation where the Worker Protection Standards were applicable to developmentally disabled workers. This brings into question for her and the Board if there is any way to identify effective training for these workers. The discussion, which developed, ended with an agreement that, in several members' opinion, these workers should not be conducting work where the Worker Protection Standards apply.

An interesting PARC case this year involved the distribution to a worker, by a foreman, of charcoal pills. Garnet questioned the use and even the pills in the first aid kit and found that a training manual distributed by Oregon State University does recommend charcoal pills for some uses, however, under the advice of a physician. These were not distributed in this manner, but Garnet is following up on this issue. Her concern was also about heat stress training for foreman, as the foreman assumed the employee was having a reaction to the herbicide he was applying. The employee was actually having a life threatening heat reaction that put him in the hospital.

ODFW: Vector Control Districts will begin the *gambusia* fish handout during the first week of November. ODFW encourages the use of all tools in the control efforts for mosquitoes.

OPHD: Gail Shibley stated that all of the Environmental Public Health Program Option Packages are still under consideration. There are expected to be many legislative issues around environmental public health, chemicals and pesticides during the next session.

OSU: Jeff Jenkins stated that Craig Markus is the new Department Head at OSU. OSU is involved in completing a study in the Hood River region regarding the fixed wing aerial application of malathion to cherries. The study is to try to identify how riparian areas and vegetation block malathion from surface streams and to determine whether this vegetation barrier will act as a measurable mitigation measure to keep malathion out of surface water. He also committed to give an update to the Board on the findings, if they were compiled in time for the November meeting.

Classification of Cases

1. 2006 case classification
Kathleen stated that case classifications for the next legislative report are expected to begin within the next few weeks. These will start with the last half of 2006.
2. Legislative report for Fiscal Year 2005-2006
Kathleen stated that members will receive an electronic copy of the draft report to review and would like constructive criticism. She handed out an outline of the report as it is now. Greg Pettit requested that the report compare information from the earlier reports. Kathleen said she would include this information for determination of trends and issues.

New Business

1. Dates for 2009 meetings of the PARC Board
The Board ratified the dates provided. The meeting dates will continue to be the third Wednesday of every other month, as stated on the web site.
2. New incidents/cases and cases of interest
The Board reviewed the new incidents and cases, but none stood out for further Board follow-up before classification.
3. Added item
 - a. Dale discussed the public meeting in Wheeler, Oregon. He stated that he had attended in August, speaking to a group of concerned residents about forestry herbicides. Senator Betsy Johnson set up this meeting. ODF had staff there and answered questions as well. ODA conducted a follow-up and, from visual symptoms, found that the application appeared to have been made not only effectively, but also without drift to neighboring

areas.

Agenda Items

1. Several agenda items were requested for the next meeting. These were a report from Greg Pettit on findings by the DEQ laboratory, OSU to deliver an update on the Hood River Malathion study, if available, and issues update by Garnet.

Public comment

Lisa Arkin urged OROSHA not to rely on reporting of illnesses from autistic persons. She stated that autistic persons generally cannot discern differences between how they feel from external stimuli and their own over stimulation.

She asked whether Oregon intended to implement the EOA Fumigant Worker Protection Standards.

Dale answered that Oregon staff were currently attending training in Seattle, Washington for these.

He also pointed out that the U.S. EPA would be developing implementation strategies. She asked how long it was expected to take before they would be implemented in the field. Dale answered that outreach and user group information and that an implementation date would be chosen.

Dale also committed that he would send Lisa the implementation information.

Next meeting proposed for November 19, 2008