



**Minutes of the Conference Call  
Of the Board of Directors  
Of  
The Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread Foundation, Inc.**

**January 12, 2005  
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EST**

Proper notice having been duly given to each Board member, a conference call of the Board of Directors was held on the above date.

Vice-President Gene Cross called the meeting to order and Secretary Frank Fulgham called the roll.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Gene Cross, North Carolina, Vice-president	present
Frank Fulgham, Virginia, Secretary	present
Bob Waltz, Indiana	present
Scott Frank, Illinois	present
Ken Rauscher, Michigan	absent
Geir Friisoe, Minnesota	present
Gary Gibson, West Virginia	absent
Melody Walker, Wisconsin	absent

**OTHERS PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETING**

Carl Harper, Kentucky  
Jim Cavanaugh, Illinois  
Phil Marshal, Indiana  
Mike Phillip and John Hill, Michigan  
Terry McDill, Minnesota  
David Atkins, Ohio  
Clark Haynes and Celestine Ervin, West Virginia  
Esther Chapman (retired) and Linda Ellefson, Wisconsin  
Donna Leonard, Wes Nettleton, Noel Schneeberger and Mike Quesinberry, USDA Forest Service  
Mary Mahaffey, USDA APHIS

**Whereas**, the above noted directors constitute a quorum, and there is no objection to this proceeding, the following business was conducted:

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread (STS) Foundation Board of Directors' Conference Call on November 19, 2004 were approved (pending correction of typos) and ratified by unanimous vote and shall be filed in the Minute Book.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Audit:** Gene Cross reviewed the status of the ongoing audit. At present there are no findings of consequence. The accountants will be issuing a letter to each of the Board members or State Plant



Regulatory Officials who have grants requesting verification of the 2003 and 2004 disbursements. Please respond with authorized signatures by January 21.

**Motion:** A motion to authorize Ed Holloman to sign checks in the amount of \$200,000 or less (with the exception of checks to himself) was passed unanimously. Dual signatures by any two authorized individuals will be required for all checks in excess of \$200,000. Ed Holloman is authorized to make unlimited electronic disbursements with approval by a Board officer. Gene will amend the contract with SEAS to reflect these decisions.

### **STATUS OF 2004 REGULATORY GRANTS TO THE STATES**

Several disbursements were still pending but it appears that we will be returning more than \$10,000 in unused funds to APHIS. This is not good in light of the fact that we are trying to increase the level of support from APHIS. The following reports are needed from states before we can close out this grant with APHIS.

- Progress report for the last quarter are needed from WV and WI
- Final reports are needed from MI, NC and IL

### **STATUS OF 2005 REGULATORY AGREEMENT WITH APHIS**

The Foundation's request for \$239,250 was awarded by APHIS on December 29, 2004. States should submit formal requests to the Foundation in the same amount (or less) than the 2004 grants. These will be processed immediately.

### **STATUS OF 2004 GRANT WITH USDA-FOREST SERVICE**

We have a balance of only \$25,392 in this grant. Any states that do not plan to use the entire amount of their award prior to the June 2005 ending date should deobligate those funds by submitting a revision. Several discrepancies in the record of disbursements were pointed out during the call. Please review the spreadsheet and contact Ed Holloman if any other discrepancies are found. Note: Ed has instituted a new process for confirming disbursements that should preclude any future errors.

### **STATUS OF 2005 GRANT WITH USDA FOREST SERVICE**

The Forest Service has allocated \$10 million for STS in 2005. The budget has not yet been distributed from Washington to the Regions/Area but this should take place in early February. A Letter of Cost Incurrence is already in place with the FS and any state that needs a LOCI from the Foundation can request one.

Donna Leonard briefed the group on preliminary plans for 2005. The project area increased substantially when the north shore of MN was added. Recommendations for treatment are down from more than 600,000 acres last year to less than 500,000 acres in 2005. Despite this, the draft budget is over by about \$1.5 million. Cooperator cost share is estimated at about \$2.9 million. The plan of work and budget for 2005 will be revised at the operations committee meeting the week of January 24. A final draft will be presented to the Board at their annual meeting on February 15.

### **DEVELOPMENT WORK THAT NEEDS FUNDING**

The technical committee has identified some specific proposals as high priority for funding in order to answer key questions about STS that have been posed by the operations committee.

- A proposal from Stephanie Whitmire to use the STS database to measure geographic differences in gypsy moth populations. Dr. Whitmire was hired last summer by FS as a post-doc working for Patrick Tobin. Her initial results from mining the database have already demonstrated that low moth captures persist more frequently in Wisconsin than anywhere else in STS. She has since moved on to the University of Puerto Rico and proposes to continue her work on STS via a cooperative agreement with the Foundation. Total funding requested is \$33,070. This work will be critical to calibrate the Decision Algorithm for better performance in the upper mid-west. There is a risk we could lose the services of Dr. Whitmire if we delay funding this proposal until the 2005 grant from the FS is awarded in May or June. The learning curve to get someone else up to speed would be fairly steep. Therefore Donna Leonard proposed that the Foundation proceed with partial funding (\$9,936) of Dr. Whitmire's proposal from the 2004 grant with FS and fund the remainder of the proposal (\$23,134) out of the 2005 grant.
- A proposal from Dr. Ken Raffa at University of Wisconsin to use separate dispersal events from local population increases along the leading edge in Wisconsin. Trap spacing used in the rest of STS may not be optimal in Wisconsin. The data collected from this study would be used to optimize the trap spacing in the upper mid-west. The total budget for this is only \$6,675.

There were questions about 2 proposals that were listed on the November 19 call that did not appear here. Spirited discussion about the suitability of using operational funds to answer technical questions ensued and will continue at the Washington Office review of the STS project the week of February 14.

**Motion:** In the interim a motion to award \$9,936 to Dr. Whitmire out of funds remaining in the 2004 grant with additional consideration for the remainder of funding in 2005 passed unanimously. The issue of funding Dr. Raffa's proposal was tabled until the Board meeting.

### **DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE BOARD MEETING, FEBRUARY 15, 2005, RALEIGH, NC**

Donna Leonard reported that the Board meeting will take place concurrently with the project review. Therefore it seems prudent to conduct the foundation's business as rapidly as possible in order for Board members to be able to re-join the review team. The draft agenda includes:

1. Election of new officers
2. Audit report
3. 2004 Accomplishment Report
4. Work Plans and Budgets for 2005

### **2005 WASHINGTON OFFICE REVIEW OF THE STS PROJECT - FEBRUARY 14-18, 2005, RALEIGH, NC**

Donna Leonard presented the draft schedule for the review and presented a tag list of issues that might be discussed at the review. Further coordination with the FS Washington Office will be required prior to finalizing the schedule and list of issues to be discussed. Board members are encouraged to attend any of the discussion sessions (Monday afternoon, all day Tuesday and Wednesday). The preliminary schedule is as follows:

Monday (1-5 pm): a briefing on the history of the pilot project, transition to operational status and the current operational project will be given to review team members to orient them to the project.

Tuesday (8 am – 5 pm): Discussion of issues in the project

1. APHIS engagement and participation in STS (Charles Coffman)
2. Information Needs critical to STS (Patrick Tobin)
3. Cost share for the project (Donna Leonard)

Wednesday (8 am – 5 pm): Discussion of final issue and virtual tour of the project

4. Treatment challenges and opportunities (Donna Leonard)
5. Virtual tour of STS (Andy Roberts, Amos Ziegler, Donna Leonard)

Thursday and Friday the review team will meet independently to draft the report.

Review team members are Rob Mangold (Director, FS FHP and team leader), Jesus Cota (FS FHP), Sandy Liebhold (FS NERS), Bill Dickerson (NCDACS), Esther Chapman (Retired WI DATCP), Weyman Fussell (APHIS) and Don Rogers (NC DENHR, representing State Foresters).

**The foregoing motions and actions, by unanimous consent, are to have full force and effect and are approved as of November 19, 2004.**

The call adjourned at 12:29 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Frank Fulgham, Secretary  
STS Foundation