



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

**January 14, 2009
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 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.

President Geir Friisoe (MN) called the meeting to order and Secretary Frank Fulgham (VA) called the roll.

BOARD MEMBERS

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| Geir Friisoe, Minnesota, President | present |
| Gene Cross, North Carolina, Vice-President/Treasurer | present |
| Frank Fulgham, Virginia, Secretary | present |
| Scott Frank, Illinois | present |
| Phil Marshall, Indiana | present |
| Tivon Feeley, Iowa | absent |
| Gary Gibson, West Virginia | present |
| Melody Walker, Wisconsin | absent |

OTHERS PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETING

Carl Harper, Kentucky
Lucy Hunt and Lu Schmidtke, Minnesota
David Adkins and Brian Burke, Ohio
Ed Holloman, Southeastern Association Services
Larry Nichols, Virginia
Clark Haynes, West Virginia
Lloyd Garcia, USDA APHIS
Dennis Haugen and Donna Leonard, USDA Forest Service

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 September 3, 2008 were approved and ratified by unanimous vote and shall be filed in the Minute Book.

STATUS UPDATES OF GRANT AGREEMENTS

Ed Holloman (SAS) discussed the current Grant Reporting Schedule and grant award balances and expenditures.



2008 APHIS Regulatory Grant

Ed indicated that the balance on this grant has been drawn down to \$0.00. The request for final disbursement of funds totaling \$21,159.15 that was pending from Virginia was paid on January 13, 2009.

Ed indicated that all states are up-to-date on all reporting requirements at this time. Once the disbursement to Virginia has cleared, Ed will close out this grant.

2009 Aphis Regulatory Grant

Ed indicated as of 01/09/09, due to the federal Continuing Resolution budget, 43.01% (\$112,809.00) of the 2008 grant award has been approved for disbursement to states. One request for disbursement of funds is pending from North Carolina totaling \$4,217.00.

- **ACTION:** Current 2009 REG Grant state reports that **are past due** are as follows:

01/01/09 424 A&B Partial – 43.01% (10/01/07 thru 03/31/08) MN

Ed noted that this is currently being resolved to his satisfaction.

2007 Forest Service Trapping & Treatment Grant

Ed reported that all available funding was drawn down to \$0.00 and the Final Report has been submitted for this grant. This grant is now considered officially closed out.

2008 Forest Service Trapping & Treatment Grant

Ed indicated as of 01/09/09 there is a balance of \$1,114,334.91 in grant funds available out of the total grant award of \$3,543,354.00 for funding to all states. The overall Foundation budget shows a balance of \$1,182,006.89 out of the original grant award of \$6,219,756.00.

Scott Frank (IL) indicated that Illinois has deobligated \$75,000.00 of their total state trapping funds since the trapping program is being implemented using contract trappers paid directly by the Foundation.

Ed indicated that all states are up-to-date on all reporting requirements at this time.

- **ACTION:** Current 2008 T&T Grant state reports that **will be due** are as follows:

04/15/09 FSR Report (10/01/08 thru 03/31/09) All States

2009 FUNDING & PRELIMINARY PLANS

USDA-Forest Service Trapping and Treatment Grant

Donna Leonard (FS) indicated that last year STS received \$8.5 million from the Forest Service with \$2.4 million in cooperator match funding for a total grant amount of \$10.9 million. Initial reports from the Forest Service were that STS would be funded at the same level for 2009; however, it now appears that the 2009 Forest Service funding level for STS will be at \$8.1

million. Current estimated cooperator match funding will be between \$2.5 and \$2.6 million. This means that the 2009 STS program will need to be a smaller program this year.

For the past several years, STS has been treating approximately 425,000-450,000 acres per year. At a federal funding level of \$8.1 million, only around 400,000 acres will be able to be treated. Since 2008 was a year of expanding gypsy moth populations in many areas, the decision algorithm recommended over 600,000 acres of treatment in the narrowed 80 km wide action zone. By the end of the road show meetings, the planned treatment area had risen to 780,000 acres of projected treatments. Working together, cooperators were able to voluntarily trim these projected treatment acres back to 650,000 acres and utilizing 88,000 traps. Prior to the Operations Meeting being held in Charleston, SC, on January 27-28, 2009, cooperators will have to make some hard choices to bring this projected treatment acreage into line with available funding. Donna hopes to have final proposed budget and work plan available to present to the Board at their meeting in Indianapolis on February 18, 2009.

USDA-APHIS Regulatory Grant

Gene Cross (NC) asked about the target date for revision of the current partial APHIS Regulatory grant. Lloyd Garcia (APHIS) confirmed that the current partial APHIS Regulatory grant approved for \$112,809 will end on March 4, 2009. This amount represents 43.01% of the total grant request for \$262,287. Lloyd will check to see when the 424 will be due to increase the award to cover the time period following March 4, 2009.

APHIS & FS Revised MOU

Geir asked Lloyd to comment on the plan for APHIS to take over trapping efforts on Federal lands from the Forest Service. Lloyd confirmed that APHIS has assumed the responsibility over trapping and treatments on federal and tribal lands; however, the operational and fiscal details have not yet been formalized. This will apply to routine detection programs only. The Forest Service will continue to handle eradication efforts. This is the result of a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Forest Service and APHIS. There may be a significant difference between the old MOU and new MOU with regard to responsibility for eradication on Tribal Land; however, for the present time we remain under the old MOU.

In a follow-up e-mail dated 2/03/09

- Lloyd answered the following questions from the 1/14/09 Conference Call:

Geir asked: Any new allocations for the new responsibilities?

There will be no new allocations on the APHIS side to cover additional costs; monies will come out of APHIS' general gypsy moth allocations.

Geir asked: Will the funds be required to follow the STS protocol, or be used independently with states?

The funds won't necessarily be used to follow STS protocols but should follow appropriate survey protocols for the geographic area where they are being used.

Gene asked: Is APHIS was interested in the STS-Foundation taking on more responsibility overall for gypsy moth survey in the non regulated areas?

The short answer is “No.” However, the idea is interesting, so it could be talked about with an understanding that there's no funding for this sort of a new initiative.

- Weyman Fussell (APHIS) provided the following information on the Draft new MOU (currently under review and not yet signed):

1. APHIS will continue to be responsible for survey outside the quarantine area on all lands (Federal Lands and non Federal Lands). The MOU specifically states that this includes Tribal Lands.

2. APHIS would be responsible for eradication outside the quarantine area on State Lands when the eradication area does not exceed 640 contiguous acres and the land is not contiguous with Federal Land. Forest Service is responsible for eradication on Federal Land, non Federal Land that is contiguous with Federal Land, non Federal land when the eradication area is more than 640 contiguous acres, and FS would be responsible for eradication on Tribal Lands.

Ohio Status

Even though the 2009 Ohio crisis was postponed for this year, Dave Adkins (OH) indicated that Ohio's gypsy moth program will be operating on a year to year basis.

2009 STS BOARD MEETING

The 2009 STS Annual Board Meeting has been scheduled for February 18, 2009, to be held at the Indiana Government Center in Downtown Indianapolis in Conference Room 1. The meeting will start at 8:00 AM and end by 3:30 PM. Due to the number of potential agenda items, Gene recommended that we start at 8:00 AM instead of 8:30 AM.

- **A Motion to begin the February 18th meeting at 8:00 AM instead of 8:30 AM was passed unanimously.**

Phil Marshall (IN) informed everyone that there is a new airport facility in Indianapolis. He also indicated that attendees should enter the Government Center only through the Public Entrance #302 on the Washington Street (south side) of the building. You will go through a metal detector at this entrance.

Lodging

Many people are having problems getting lodging at the government rate at Indianapolis hotels. Several individuals have been successful in getting a room at the government rate at the Hampton Inn Indianapolis Downtown - Across from Circle Centre - at 105 S. Meridian Street, phone number 317-261-1200.

Agenda Items

Proposed Agenda items for the Board Meeting include:

Roll Call & Minutes
Election of Officers for 2009
2008 STS Accomplishments Report
2008 Quality Control and Quality Assurance Report
2009 Work Plan & Budget
2008 Audit Report
GM Regulatory Program and Potential GM items STS could take over utilizing APHIS Funding
Travel Restrictions by States due to economic situation
Online Regulatory Report System & Demo
Economic Assessment Discussion
Clean Water Act Permitting & EPA Rule

MISCELLANEOUS

Economic Assessment Update

Geir requested a short 1 to 2 page report with bullets be developed for use as a talking paper in dealing with legislators. A draft document is attached and will be considered at the upcoming Board meeting in Indianapolis. See attached report.

Non-Point Source Pollution Permits

Phil Marshall (IN) reported that Bob Waltz (OH) informed him of a concern over the potential impact on gypsy moth activities due to a recent ruling by a three-judge panel for the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati that struck down a U.S. EPA rule exempting registered pesticides from Clean Water Act permitting.

At issue is a 2007 EPA rule exempting those who apply pesticides directly to or near water sources from getting pollution-discharge permits if the chemicals are being applied in accordance with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). The court vacated EPA's final rule, which means that the exception from NDPEs permitting program in the Clean Water Act for pesticide application is taken away.

A copy of the opinion (just over 19 pages - double spaced) can be found at this website:
<http://www.ca6.uscourts.gov/opinions.pdf/09a0004p-06.pdf>

The potential ramifications of this issue will be discussed at the Indianapolis meeting.

Be Thankful Where You Live

Geir informed everyone that the previous night's temperature in northern Minnesota was -38 degrees – that's below ZERO!

2009 STS CONFERENCE CALL & MEETING SCHEDULE

Conference Calls are scheduled for 1st Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise scheduled by the Board President.

Call-in number for all 2009 Conference Calls: 404-347-7962

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|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| JAN 14 | Conference Call | Held at 10:00 a.m. EST |
| FEB 4 | Conference Call | Cancelled |
| FEB 18 | STS Annual Mtg | Scheduled for Indianapolis, IN |
| MAR 4 | Conference Call | Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. EST |
| APR 1 | Conference Call | Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. EDT |
| MAY 6 | Conference Call | Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. EDT |
| JUN 3 | Conference Call | Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. EDT |
| JUL 1 | Conference Call | Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. EDT |
| AUG 5 | Conference Call | Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. EDT |
| SEP 2 | Conference Call | Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. EDT |
| OCT 7 | Conference Call | Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. EDT |
| NOV 4 | Conference Call | Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. EST |
| DEC 2 | Conference Call | Scheduled for 10:00 a.m. EST |

The foregoing motions and actions, by unanimous consent, are to have full force and effect as of January 14, 2009, unless otherwise indicated by the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Frank Fulgham, Secretary
STS Foundation