



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

**February 17, 2010  
08:00 a.m. – 03:00 p.m. EST**

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

President Geir Friisoe called the meeting to order and Melody Walker called the roll.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Geir Friisoe, Minnesota, President	present
Gene Cross, North Carolina, Vice-President/Treasurer	present
Melody Walker, Wisconsin, Secretary	present
Scott Frank, Illinois	present
Phil Marshall, Indiana	present
Tivon Feeley, Iowa	present
Carl Harper, Kentucky	present
Larry Nichols, Virginia	present
Gary Gibson, West Virginia	present

**OTHERS PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETING**

David Adkins, Ohio  
Larry Nichols, Virginia  
Ed Holloman, Southeastern Association Services  
Leighanne Hann, Indiana  
John Haanstad, USDA APHIS  
Amy Onken, Donna Leonard and Patrick Tobin, Noel Schneeberger, Rob Mangold,  
USDA Forest Service

**APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

Geir Friisoe informed the Board that an official letter of appointment to the Gypsy Moth STS Board of Directors has been received from the Virginia Department of Agriculture appointing Larry Nichols as Virginia's representative to the Board replacing Frank Fulgham.

**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**

A motion was proposed by Scott Frank (IL) and seconded by Gene Cross (NC) to approve the minutes of the Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread (STS) Foundation Board of Directors' Conference Call on December 2, 2009. The motion passed and the minutes, ratified by unanimous vote, shall be filed in the Minute Book.



## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Gary Gibson (WV) nominated Scott Frank and Melody Walker for the position of Secretary for 2010. Scott Frank said he had just become acting SPRO for the Illinois Department of Agriculture and did not yet know the extent of his new duties, so he was hesitant to accept nomination. Melody said that she would accept the nomination.

Tivon Feeley, IA, made a motion to nominate the following:

President: Geir Friisoe, Minnesota  
Vice-President: Gene Cross, North Carolina  
Treasurer: Gene Cross, North Carolina  
Secretary: Melody Walker, Wisconsin

The motion was seconded by Scott Frank, IL. No additional nominations were presented from the floor, therefore nominations were closed and the motion to elect the officers for the next term was passed unanimously.

The elections were followed by discussion about how to thank Frank Fulgham for his service on the Board. Gene volunteered to explore options for something appropriate for Frank.

## **2009 Accomplishment Report**

Donna reviewed the 2009 Accomplishments Report Draft with the Board.

- **ACTION:** Donna agreed to list the states on the Accomplishments Report and she asked everyone to review the draft and let her know of any changes needed by February 26.

It was recommended that the report be distributed to the National Plant Board.

## **2010 Plan of Work and Budget**

Donna reviewed the 2010 Plan of Work. She explained that the Forest Service Forest Health Program recognized the need for a clear goal, and subsequently determined the goal of STS to be reduction of the rate of spread of at least 60 % from spread levels before STS was active. Donna said there was quite a range of historical spread rate estimates from which to choose. Ultimately, the historic rate selected for the STS program (19.4 km/year) is an average of the mid range estimates by Sandy Liebhold and Alexei Sharov. Sandy used 21km based on USDA quarantine data, while Alexei's rate was based on the estimation of population boundaries.

Patrick Tobin and the Technical Committee reviewed what happened when we reduced cost and shifted the boundary between the action zone and the monitoring zone. After several years of data collection and subsequent analysis Tobin, et al concluded that to achieve the goal of 60 % reduction in the rate of spread, the action area should be at least 95 km.

- **ACTION:** Donna (cc to Ed) needs final detailed budgets and narratives, except 424's, from states by February 26.

- **ACTION:** Donna will need to know of any additional in-kind contributions available from each state by February 26. Targeted states include West Virginia, Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and North Carolina. Other states are welcome to contribute if possible.

## **Outlook for 2011 and Beyond**

Rob Mangold said that he was sorry to have cancelled in person, but he had a meeting with appropriation staff to present the 2011 budget. He thanked STS for program success and he thought they were fortunate to be able to bump up funding for 2010. Rob mentioned that the data showed the lower level of funding was not cutting it and he indicated that the GM suppression cooperated in giving the funding bump to STS.

Rob said the 2011 budget looks familiar. The President's budget is down 14 million. The budget was 138 million for 2010 and 123 million for 2011. Tentatively, STS is down to 8.5 million for 2011, similar to the 2008 budget. Rob indicated that this is the first stage of the process from the President's Budget to Congress.

The next stage, the House mark-up bill in May is a good indicator of the budget outcome. Jim Moran (VA) will likely be Chair of the Appropriation Committee. The budget then goes on to the Senate in June, where Diane Feinstein is the Chair Woman on the Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

## **Audit Report**

Qwen and Tracy from Williams Overman Pierce, LLP, worked with Ed on the Audit, and provided a review of their findings.

A single audit is required because we use federal dollars. The auditors reported one significant deficiency which is the nature of the STS Foundation and the size of accounting staff. Basically we do not have a number of staff to perform different functions or to implement checks and balances. It is important to note that there were no findings related to compliance.

The auditors require the use of an adding machine with tape to attach to the paperwork. Additionally, they require that the foundation draw downs and the sub recipient draw downs be separate. Gene said that things went smoothly with the auditors this year. The auditors said that Gene and Ed were good to work with. Anticipated release date of the audit is one week after Gene and Ed review it.

The Board's audit committee (Scott Frank, IL; Gary Gibson, WV; and Phil Marshal, IN) conducted an Internal Audit. The committee reviewed all audit reports. They didn't find anything that mentioned gypsy moth specifically in state audits. However, federal expenditure statements did list gypsy moth.

Gene said if we spend more than \$500,000 an audit is required by APHIS. Noel said we would have to go back to earlier documents to see if it is required by the Forest Service. Noel said an

audit may be required when a grant is closed out. Gene would like to do one full audit every other year to save money.

There was some discussion about the format for narrative reports. Simple bullets are all that are needed for the narrative report. Gene said he and Ed are happy to get suggestions on how to improve things.

### **Technical Accomplishments**

Patrick Tobin presented the accomplishments of the Technical Committee which works with the Operations Committee to develop a formal plan that lists and prioritizes projects.

The technical committee revised the STS Economic Assessment, recently published a paper on gypsy moth phenology, and is engaged in ongoing studies of release rates of disparlure across diverse climatic areas. Areawide IPM under the STS program is highlighted in ESA publications. This program structure helped to facilitate the pheromone release project.

### **QA/QC Report**

Donna indicated that she posted only the executive summary on the website. The data as presented in the report including deviation from the target circle, and the replacement and removal schedule using the BIOSIM model might be confusing to those not familiar with program limitations and the limits of the model.

- ACTION: Donna will send the 2009 STS QA/QC report as a word file to as needed.

### **APHIS Role in STS – Coordination with SPHDs**

John Haanstad distributed the APHIS regulatory guidelines, dated 2003.

Gene Cross indicated that the STS Board wants information to be exchanged with/in states and with State Plant Health Directors (SPHD). In Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio the SPHD does gypsy moth work but the STS Board doesn't know what they do. Geir said that this is a departure from the business model of STS, it is too fragmented and it is not a regional approach. In some states SPDS and SPROS don't have a lot of communication. John Haanstad said that the APHIS management would like more interaction. A focus group could work on improvements in this area. Gene said he would talk to the new GM Eastern Regional Program Manager, Joseph Beckwith.

### **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

#### **NPDES Update**

Leighanne Hahn, from the Indiana Water Quality Chemist Office provided a detailed update of the NPDES and provided a handout of the chronology of events.

## **Future Meetings and Travel Restrictions**

Talk to Ed Holloman for information on federal coverage of travel for cooperators. In addition, Donna has a letter from the Forest Service to assist with travel approval.

The next conference call is scheduled for April 7, 2010 at 10:00 ET.

Larry motion to adjourn

## **2010 STS Conference Call and Meeting Schedule**

Conference calls are scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 10:00 ET unless otherwise scheduled by the Board President.

<b>January 6</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	<b>Cancelled</b>
<b>February 3</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	<b>Cancelled</b>
<b>February 17</b>	<b>STS Annual Mtg</b>	<b>Held in Indianapolis, IN</b>
<b>March 3</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	<b>Cancelled</b>
<b>April 7</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	
<b>May 5</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	
<b>June 2</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	
<b>July 7</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	
<b>August 4</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	
<b>September 1</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	
<b>October 6</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	
<b>November 3</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	
<b>December 1</b>	<b>Conference Call</b>	

The foregoing motions and actions, by unanimous consent are to have full force and effect as of February 17, 2010, unless otherwise indicated by the Board.

Melody Walker, Secretary  
STS Foundation

## **AFTER THE CALL ACTIVITIES**

### **Request for the Board's Consideration**

Gene Cross (NC) made the following motion to the Board via an email sent on March 22, 2010. The GM STS Foundation had received bids from potential contract trappers for gypsy moth trapping in North Carolina. Gene included a copy of all the bids received, along with recommendations from NCDA&CS staff.

- **Motion:** A motion is made to accept the bid recommendations as presented in the attached spreadsheet.

- **Board Action:** On March 24, 2010, Melody Walker, Board Secretary, notified the Board members that she had received “YES” votes all of the 9 voting Board members; therefore the motion passed with unanimously effective March 24, 2010.

Scott Frank (IL) made the following motion to the Board via an email sent on March 31, 2010. Scott included a list of the selected individuals who would receive the contracts.

- **Motion:** Board concurrence is requested for the Foundation to contract with the following individuals to conduct gypsy moth trapping in Illinois. There are seven individuals being reenlisted and three new candidates.
- **Board Action:** On April 2, 2010, Melody Walker, Board Secretary, notified the Board members that she had received “YES” votes for 6 of 9 (KY, VA, WI, IL, WV, and NC) voting Board members; therefore the motion passed with a quorum effective April 2, 2010.

## NOTES

- ◆ Gene Cross spoke with Joe Beckwith regarding our recent discussion regarding the GM STS Regulatory Grant and the Board’s interest in pursuing a small committee to explore the subject further. Gene informed Joe that Tivon Feeley had volunteered to serve and we had suggested that John Burch also be included.