



Slow the Spread
of the Gypsy Moth
Slow the Spread Foundation, Inc.

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

**February 19, 2014
8:00 AM - 3:30 PM**

Hall of Fame Room, Agriculture Building, 2 East Edenton St., Raleigh, NC

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

Larry Nichols called the meeting to order and the roll was taken.

BOARD MEMBERS

Larry Nichols, Virginia, President	present
Phil Wilson, 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
Lucia Hunt, Minnesota	present
Eric Ewing, West Virginia	present

OTHERS PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETING

Dave Adkins, Ohio
Tim Brown, West Virginia
Nancy Johnson, Scott Schirmer, Illinois
Chris Elder, North Carolina
Ed Holloman, Southeastern Association Services
Paul Chaloux, Anthony Man-Son-Hing, USDA APHIS
Andy Roberts, Virginia Tech

Virginia		North Carolina		Wisconsin	
Larry Nichols - President		Phil Wilson - Vice President/Treasurer		Melody Walker - Secretary	
804-786-3515		919-707-3753		608-224-4586	
Illinois	Indiana	Iowa	Kentucky	Minnesota	West Virginia
Scott Frank	Phil Marshall	Tivon Feeley	Carl Harper	Lucia Hunt	Eric Ewing
217-785-2427	812-358-3621	515-281-4915	859-257-5838	651-201-6329	304-558-2212

Donna Leonard, Amy Hill, Noel Schneeberger, Patrick Tobin, 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 Board voted on a motion made by Tivon Feeley (IA) and seconded by Carl Harper (KY) to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2014 meeting. The minutes were approved.

Elect New Slate of Officers

Tivon Feeley (WV) made a motion to retain the current slate of officers: Larry Nichols as president, Phil Wilson as Vice President and Treasurer, and Melody Walker as Secretary. Carl Harper seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Quality Control/Quality Assurance Report

Donna Leonard provided a summary of the Quality Assurance/Quality Control Report after thanking Denice Dodd and Andy Roberts for putting it together. The executive summary is posted on the gypsy moth STS website. Overall, the targets were met across the program, however some individual states may not have met standards for various reasons. Each state can see how they compare with the other states and where they can make improvements, if possible.

- ***Action: Donna will send out a final electronic copy of the Quality Assurance/ Quality Control Report after receiving feedback from Board members (Due to Donna by 2/28/14).***

Audit Report

Larry expressed his appreciation for all the work that Phil Wilson and Ed Holloman do to manage the financial interactions of the Foundation. Ed introduced Gwen Bass and Hannah Grantham (Williams Overman Pierce, LLP), who gave the audit report.

Qwen Bass reviewed the draft of financial statements for years ending in September 30, 2012 and 2013. There were no new findings of deficiencies in internal control. We continue to have the same deficiencies from year to year, which relate to the size of our organization; the Foundation has a limited number of people involved in the accounting process. We also do not have additional staff to prepare financial statements, all disclosures, statements and reports. She did clarify that the Foundation cannot use federal grant funds to purchase retirement gifts. This will help the Board in making decisions about similar purchases in the future. Hannah Grantham reviewed supplemental information and compliance. She reported no issues of noncompliance.

Phil Marshall advised that the audit letters exchanged with the states be incorporated into the minutes for the record.

FS Report - 2013 STS Program Accomplishments/ 2014 Plan of Work & Budget

Donna Leonard reviewed the 2013 Accomplishment Report. The Forest Service allocation of \$8.1 million plus \$2.2 million from state partners totaled \$10.3 million. The trapping base grid was at 3 kilometers, which meant fewer traps, but with the consistent infrastructure for trapping, the cost per trap increased. The overall project treatment acreage totaled just over 410,000 acres in 2013. The success rate of treatments was a little over 80 percent. There was a dramatic increase in the spread rate from 2012 to 2013 largely due spread in the northern part of the project (WI and MN).

- *Action:* Donna will make any needed changes to the Accomplishment Report and post it to the website after receiving changes (Due to Donna on 2/28/14).

Donna reviewed the budget and the Plan of Work (POW) for 2014. After making budget cuts to fit the 2014 program into a \$7.875 million budget, Donna received notice of an additional \$1 million to add to the 2014 program budget. The 2014 Plan of Work, funded at \$8.875 million, will include 59,500 traps set, an estimated 424,484 acres treated and \$125,000 for technology development. A total of \$250,000 remains in the 2013 budget, which will offset 2014 expenditures.

In regards to the budget paperwork timeline, funds remain unavailable for distribution. Donna expects the states to submit final detailed budgets and narratives to Donna and Ed by March 21. Donna plans to get the Foundation request to the Forest Service by late March/early April. Cooperators may submit the 424's at any time.

- *Action:* Donna will make any needed changes to the POW after receiving changes (Due to Donna on 2/28/14).

Carl Harper made a motion to accept the planned 2014 budget as presented today. The motion seconded by Eric Ewing was approved by a unanimous vote.

Technical Accomplishments

Patrick Tobin submitted a written summary and a verbal report on 2013 accomplishments and plans for 2014 planned activities.

- A study of trap grid density on STS decisions and ability to estimate gypsy moth spread had the following results. A 3-4 km base grid caused about 2/3 of the STS Algorithm decisions to be lost. The recommendation was to continue with a 2-km grid in the Action Zone for this reason. However, a wider trap grid density did not affect the ability to estimate gypsy moth spread rates.
- In a second study, released moths were treated with mating disruption tactics. A 6g/acre dose caused a 95 % reduction in female mating with season long catches of > 450 males.

In 2014, this study will continue to learn the moth density at which this tactic becomes ineffective.

- A third study looked at gypsy moth phenology across a large north to south geographic gradient (Houghton, MI to Goshen, VA). Results show there is less year-to-year variation in timing of egg hatch in the north than in the south.
- A study (in press) shows there may be a climatic barrier in the Piedmont and Coastal Plains of VA that is limiting to gypsy moth population growth and expansion.

APHIS Report– 2013 STS Program Accomplishments/ 2014 Plan of Work & Budget/Potential Changes in GM Regulations

Paul Chaloux introduced the topic and turned it over to Anthony Man-Son-Hing. Anthony asked states who receive regulatory funds (IL, MN, NC, WI, WV, VA) to give reports and he asked for input on templates to create uniformity with reports. Paul recommended Anthony engage with the regulatory committee to get up to speed. Anthony asked how data was reported to APHIS. Generally, states report data to STS, which in turn transfers relevant data to APHIS. Anthony sent out a form for SPHDS to share with SPROS to answer questions about what works for each state on gypsy moth survey and regulatory activities.

Paul indicated \$100,000 would be available for STS regulatory activities. APHIS will use a gypsy moth risk assessment model for detection survey similar to emerald ash borer. Available funding and the trapping plan are yet to be determined. APHIS is also looking to create uniformity in gypsy moth regulations among states. This was initiated by Minnesota working on the state's first quarantines in Lake and Cook Counties. One MN business has a similar business in Maine where gypsy moth regulations are lacking. Paul proposed some ideas for creating uniform standards. Egg hatch periods were determined (using BIOSIM) and applied at the county level in one-week bands. This creates several different zones in some states. During the discussion using two-week bands was considered, which would create fewer zones. Operationally, the capacity of individual mills is an important factor to ponder when trying to standardize regulations. Paul asked the group if one or two-week bands would be preferred. Larry emphasized that the assembled group comprises the STS states, but there are many regulated states not represented here. Paul said he would communicate with them.

Paul also posed a question about the meaning of trapping results around mills, some areas had elevated trap numbers and some had depressed moth numbers. The depressed numbers could be associated with compliance agreements or treatment, or something else. Paul and company will continue to work on this and then present out more broadly.

MISCELLANEOUS

Compensation for Ed Holloman

Phil Wilson recommended giving Ed an increase based on how long it has been since (2007 or 2009) since his last increase and also on how much time and effort he gives to the Foundation above and beyond the 20 hours a month for which he is compensated. Phil Marshall made a motion to increase Ed's salary to \$25,000 per year. Tivon Feeley seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Future Meetings

The next Board conference call will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2014.

Meeting Adjourned

Carl Harper moved to adjourn the meeting. Phil Wilson seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.

2014 STS Conference Call and Meeting Schedule

Conference calls are scheduled for the 1st Wednesday of each month at 9:00 CT/10:00 ET unless otherwise scheduled by the Board President. The call in number for the STS monthly conference calls in 2014 is **888-844-9904 with access code 658 3639.**

January 1	Conference Call	Cancelled
February 5	Conference Call	Held
February 19	STS Annual MT	Held
March 5	Conference Call	Cancelled
April 2	Conference Call	
May 7	Conference Call	
June 4	Conference Call	
July 2	Conference Call	
August 6	Conference Call	
September 3	Conference Call	
October 1	Conference Call	
November 5	Conference Call	
December 3	Conference Call	

The foregoing motions and actions, by unanimous consent are to have full force and effect as of February 19, 2014, unless otherwise indicated by the Board.

Melody Walker, Secretary