



Washington State  
COMMISSION ON  
PESTICIDE REGISTRATION

**Matthew Blua, Chair - Presiding**

**February 24, 2023**

*Special meeting; Quorum present*

*Via Zoom*

*Meeting minutes*

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am.

### **Introductions**

Commission members present: Matthew Blua, Neil Withers, Gary Melchior, Bryn Hubert, Maggie Elliot, Jason Beechinor and Leighton Overson

Commissioners absent: Doug Walsh, Sally Buckingham, Greg Caron, Anneke Jansen, Erik Hodson, David Gang, Kelly McLain and Aylin Moreno, Catherine Jones

Staff: Alan Schreiber, Alicia Adler, and Liesl Zappler

The Commissioners met to evaluate two proposals for OP alternative funds. Commissioners will email their blue sheets to Alicia, and she will gather the scores, rank and then share them. Dr. Zachary DeVries could not be present to present his proposal. If there are questions that need to be asked of him, they could delay the review until next Friday when he will be speaking at the meeting. The OP funds of approximately \$68,000 need to be spent within five months. Zack's bed bug proposal is \$25,000.

The second proposal on behalf of the blueberry industry was presented. The EPA is proposing to cancel/ revoke uses for Diazinon, Mocap, and Imidan, all of which the blueberry industry heavily relies upon. There is a boom in blueberry production and now garden symphytan is a growing problem in NW WA. In 2014 there was a research project addressing this issue and Mocap was most effective. As a result of that research project Mocap was registered with a 24c registration. Mocap is highly relied upon in the establishment of blueberries and is also highly toxic. There are some products thought to have similar efficacy, such as brofanilide, but there isn't data on efficacy against symphytans in a woody perennial crop. This would be a soil injection trial. There is no organic production in areas with garden symphytan. The work would be done this spring, and they could apply for a 24C for next year's production. Louis Nottingham is too busy to take the lead on this but will be working with Alan Schreiber on the project.

The Commissioners submitted their scores to Alicia. The average score was 90.6 for the \$14,000 blueberry OP proposal.

*Gary made a motion to approve the research project for funding. Jason seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Gary made a motion to wait until next Friday to review the Zachary DeVries proposal. Neil seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

Alicia will contact Zack regarding this. There is one proposal that was approved in December for tree fruit vibrational mating disruption that didn't go forward due to staffing issues.

The RFP is still open for OP alternatives. Funds need to be spent by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Public sector, non-WSU projects need to submit their invoices by May 1. Alan will mention to Tim and Doug that there are OP funds left. There are OP issues for vegetable seed but there aren't any researchers available to do the work.

The meeting adjourned at 9:44 am.