

November PARC Board Meeting Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
11/15/2023	Virtual meeting	9:00AM	10:30AM

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE
Warren Hanson	warren.hanson@ODA.oregon.gov	971-600-7447

PARC Member Agencies Present

- Warren Hanson**, PARC Board Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)*
Gilbert Uribe, PARC Board Administrator, Pesticides Program Manager (*ODA*)
Ted Bunch, Technical Specialist, Standards and Technical Division, *Oregon OSHA*
Rebecca Anthony- Water Quality Specialist, *Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)*
Stacy Savona, Forest Practices Field Support Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)*
Charisse Pizarro-Osilla, Director, *Oregon Poison Center (OPC)*
Todd Raska, *Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM)*
Jen Seamans, PARC Board Co-chair, *Oregon Health Authority (OHA)*

PARC Consultants Present

- Fred Berman, DVM, PhD**, Director, Toxicology Information Center, *Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences*
William Lackey, Statewide Vegetation Management Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)*

Other Persons Present

- Toby Primbs**, Pesticides Compliance Program Manager (*ODA*)
Christina Higby, Citizen Advocate and Tribal Liaison, *Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)*
Alan Martinez, Occupational Health, Pesticide Exposure Program Coordinator (*OHA*)
Tiffany Monroe, Associate Director, *Oregonians for Food and Shelter (OFS)*
Meredith Cocks, Project Coordinator, *National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)*

Introductions and Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. with housekeeping and review of the agenda. PARC Board minutes for September were reviewed and approved.

Agency Updates

Ted Bunch, Technical Specialist, Standards and Technical Division, *Oregon OSHA*

- 1) Oregon OSHA is working on their annual EPA report and plans on submitting that by December 1, 2023.
- 2) Oregon OSHA will be sending a couple representatives to the upcoming EPA Region 10 meeting in Seattle.
- 3) Ted will be speaking at Oregon Vegetation Management Association Conference again in Seaside on February 20-22, 2024.

Stacy Savona, Forest Practices Field Support Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)*

- 1) ODF is still working on the ongoing herbicide concern in Seal Rock. Ground applications have been made in those units and staff from ODA and ODF have been on site for some of those. The public interest has been a good opportunity to provide education on what is happening there.

Fred Berman, PhD, Director, Toxicology Information Center, *Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences*

- 1) No updates at this time.

William Lackey, Statewide Vegetation Management Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)*

- 1) No updates at this time.

Rebecca Anthony, Water Quality Specialist, *Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)*

- 1) ODA had received some calls about dead geese at Staats Lake in Keizer, Oregon and whether it was pesticide

related. This is an ongoing issue and there are now up to 1,000 dead birds that have been collected. But this is not pesticide related, it is because of the highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Todd Raska, *Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM)*

- 1) Filling in for Mark Johnston. OSFM received complaints from people in Lane County about fireworks being used to deter birds. The fireworks program requires registration for permits to use explosive devices to deter birds and in this case that did not happen. Staff are going down there this Friday to audit at the Eugene airport as well as a couple other locations.

Jen Seamans, *PARC Board Co-chair, Oregon Health Authority (OHA)*

- 1) As part of the CDC NIOSH Surveillance Program, OHA has been encouraged to submit a manuscript to the CDC Mortality and Morbidity Weekly Report on the public health consequences of several pesticide drift cases that occurred this summer.
- 2) OHA also received a report from CDC about an event of public health significance involving carbon tetrachloride. Further updates are pending additional information from OPC.
- 3) Alan Martinez has been incredibly busy with juggling case investigations and community outreach events.

Alan Martinez- *Occupational Health, Pesticide Exposure Program coordinator (OHA)*

- 1) Attended the Binational Health Week at Chemeketa Community College and gave a presentation at Oregon OSHA Safety and Health Conference in Ashland, Oregon.

Gilbert Uribe, *PARC Board Administrator, Pesticides Program Manager (ODA)*

- 1) Also attended the Binational Health Week where materials were provided on PARC as well as other licensing information, worker protections standards, etc.
- 2) The Worker Protection Standard Outreach Specialist position recruitment is moving forward. The hope is to have the position announced and be in the recruiting process within the next few weeks.
- 3) The program is trying to keep up with changes regarding pesticide policy and regulation through EPA that will affect labels. EPA is still in the process of making final decisions. There will be an online component that will be guiding applicators through parts of the label that they will have to reference in many cases. Concern has been expressed to EPA on how this will affect those with limited internet access.
- 4) The program is focusing outreach on changes to chlorpyrifos use both at the state and federal level. A couple years ago EPA revoked tolerances for chlorpyrifos on food and feed uses. Now, a court has vacated that decision from EPA, which puts food and feed uses back on the table. At the state level, Oregon has their own rules against chlorpyrifos uses. At the end of this year additional restrictions will go into effect for chlorpyrifos uses. Commercial seed treatment and granular chlorpyrifos products will only be allowed for use continuing after December 31, 2023.
- 5) The department is preparing for renewal season for licensed applicators and product registrations. ODA now has the capacity to issue public applicator licenses to federally recognized Indian tribes based on the new bill that was passed this year. There is also a new license type that is being implemented after going through the rulemaking process. This license is the Noncommercial Pesticide Applicator license for those who are not producing an agricultural commodity, but also not applying pesticides to other people's property as a business.

Warren Hanson, *PARC Board Coordinator, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)*

- 1) The ODA newsletter just went out. It included PARC materials such as fact sheets on pesticide storage transport and disposal, and risk communication brochures with links and/or QR codes.
- 2) PARC is one step away from sending out the search for a public member for the PARC board.

Charisse Pizarro-Osilla, *Director, Oregon Poison Center (OPC)*

- 1) No updates at this time.

Continuing Improvement of Communication within PARC

Gilbert Uribe-Valdez discussed the ongoing conversations that have been had about improving communication between agencies. There have been meetings scheduled between ODA and the other agencies to discuss the need to better understand processes. The goal is to foster better communication and continue improvement in this area. Gilbert encouraged reaching out if there is anything that may help to understand the different responsibilities of each agency, especially for those who are new.

Jen Seamans commented that she appreciated the opportunity to familiarize herself with the different roles and tools that each agency brings to PARC and expressed agreement on how important it is to continue to have and improve this communication.

Warren Hanson remarked that he welcomes open communication. He encouraged anyone to reach out and notify him when more information or details are needed to move forward or even to provide suggestions or feedback on how he's doing.

PARC Case Discussion

Warren Hanson shared the information from the following PARC cases:

PARC Case #24-0046: The Pesticide and Fertilizer Program at ODA initiated a stop sale investigation at a Lowes in Keizer, Oregon. Members of the program had issued a stop sale on several pesticides, fertilizers, and combo products at this store in August. When they followed up in September, they noticed that many of the products were sitting outside behind the building. It had rained heavily a couple days before and the investigator noticed there was a trail leading toward the storm drains. This case is still open, but the investigator has made progress on getting the products moved.

PARC Case #24-0054: An anonymous complaint came in from OSHA about employees working with herbicides who were not licensed. The complaint included that employees were also not provided training or PPE. The employees were using faulty equipment that was breaking during applications and dousing people with what was being sprayed. There were complaints of adverse health effects and numerous employees were affected.

PARC Case #24-0063: There was an anonymous complaint about workers in a distribution warehouse for a clothing store. Clothing was coming in from overseas that were being fumigated for insects. The workers were complaining that the warehouse didn't have any ventilation and they were experiencing adverse health effects. They claimed when concerns were expressed the managers were not taking them seriously. There is no additional info at this time.

Public Comment

No comments were made.

Closing

The next PARC board meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2024, at 9am. If you have any suggestions for agenda items for that meeting, please let Warren know.