

May PARC board meeting minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
5/18/2022	Virtual meeting	9:05 AM	10:40 AM

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE
Curtis Cude	curtis.g.cude@state.or.us	(971) 673-0975

PARC Member Agencies Present

Rose Kachadoorian, PARC Board Administrator, Program Manager (*ODA*)

Curtis Cude- PARC Board Co-chair, *Oregon Health Authority (OHA)*

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

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

Mark Johnston- Special Operations Unit, *Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM)*

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

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

David Gruen- Columbia River Coordinator, *Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)*

PARC Consultants Present

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

Other Persons Present

Andrea Sonnen- Lead Pesticide Investigator, *ODA*

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

Christina Higby- Citizen Advocate, Tribal Liason (*ODA*)

Introductions and Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. with housekeeping and review of the agenda. March's PARC Board minutes were reviewed and approved.

Agency Updates

Ted Bunch, Technical Specialist, Standards and Technical Division, *OR-OSHA*

- 1) In terms of PARC, we are continuing to update internal processes following Garnet's retirement.
 - a. When there is a PARC case, it will be sent to me and Penny Wolf-McCormick (Statewide Health Enforcement Manager). We will then evaluate and decide if it's appropriate for OSHA to follow up from a regulatory perspective.
 - b. We've started to update Oregon OSHA's PARC SOPs.
 - c. I received a list of OSHA cases so I could correlate with PARC cases. We have a data base that I will be able to access and provide PARC with completed inspection reports.
- 2) Renee Stapleton, who was our former policy manager, is now currently the acting OSHA administrator.

Stacy Savona, Forest Practices Field Support Coordinator, *ODF*

- 1) We don't have any new cases, but we have had some interested parties that have concerns about pesticide use around operations, primarily the Cave Junction area, where we have salvage from the Slater Fire going on on private lands there. Not much follow up required other than education.

Becky Anthony, Water Quality and Mitigation Specialist, *ODFW*

- 1) We approved the pesticide use plans for the vector control districts. All of them were submitted and approved by early April.

Mark Johnston, Special Operations Unit, *Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM)*

- 1) I'm here representing the Community Right-to-Know program. We were advised of a crop duster in Ontario that was storing pesticides and might be subject to the Community Right-to-Know reporting program. We were able to

get him, and coincidentally some other crop dusters, in compliance and reporting to us. During COVID we suspended field operations such as trying to identify facilities that need to be reporting or verifying reports for accuracy. We resumed field operations last year. We have two compliance specialists that are going out about once a week and are identifying many facilities that are not currently reporting.

- 2) OSFM is now our own state agency effective 7/1/23. We are very busy hiring for various staff roles including HR, procurement, fleet, logistics, & accounting. We're getting ready for fire season. Excited about the opportunity that will allow us to serve Oregonians more in the future.

Rose Kachadoorian, PARC Board Administrator, Program Manager (*ODA*)

- 1) We received an email from our director last Friday letting us know that President Joe Biden has asked her to join the U.S. Department of Agriculture team as Undersecretary for Trade and Foreign and Agricultural Affairs. Until the United States Senate confirms ODA Director Taylor, she will continue to serve as ODA Director and help in a smooth transition. We are excited and I think having someone so high up dealing with trade it will be beneficial to our state. We don't know who our next director will be and no one has been appointed as Acting Director. There are a lot of unknowns until we have a new governor.
- 2) I talked with Andrea Sonnen about an increase in enforcement calls. We've seen the same in PARC. Possibly due to the interesting weather we've had this year. There are a lot of times that people can't spray because maybe the label prohibits use in conjunction with certain weather conditions.
- 3) There have been some changes with our partners in the Pesticide Stewardship Partnership (Kathryn Rifenburg, Coordinator) Program. Our partners have had some changes in leadership and until those positions are fully filled again we will be ceasing certain activities in those areas. This might free up some money so we're talking about possibly re-opening a grant cycle and having additional money for outreach and education.
- 4) We're trying to revamp our webpages for certification and training due to getting many phone calls from people who are having trouble finding information.
 - i. Also, we're starting work with the industry on updating the General Pests study material and exam for applicators. Currently the material is not ideal. We want to get a better idea of what the industry priorities are, and also have more of a focus on risk mitigation, safety and increasing awareness.
- 5) We're developing a pesticide program annual report. It will show things such as how many products we're registering, how many people we are licensing, and enforcement activities. This will be helpful for the general public and the legislature to see what we're doing in pesticides.
- 6) We started PARC fact sheets on pesticide storage, transport, and disposal. We should have some good tangible materials coming out soon. PARC board member review of these materials will be welcomed.

Rose was asked if there is any registration news since the last PARC Board meeting:

- We're still waiting for EPA as far as existing stocks for chlorpyrifos. All the tolerances were revoked, but haven't seen anything else come out.
- There have also been concerns about an herbicide called diuron. This has been a pesticide of high concern in a number of areas. EPA recently indicated that they were proposing to revoke tolerances and cancel nearly all conventional uses (including all food uses) to resolve cancer dietary risks of concern. The refined human health risk assessments identified potential cancer risks from food, drinking water, and residential handler painting exposures.
- The situation with paraquat has been a confusing one for many users and agencies as far as labeling and requirements. There will be changes with paraquat labels in 2023. One will be adding a buffer for aerial application next to residences. We're waiting for EPA to accept the new labels and will let people know when we have them.

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

- 1) This is my first PARC board meeting and I'm excited to be here. The pesticide symposium was a great learning experience for me and good opportunity to network with the people I'll be collaborating with. I learned so much valuable information from ODA, OPC and other PARC board agencies.
- 2) I'm starting to work on some of the PEST cases. I was able to get access to the system and I've been learning how the system operates and inputting data so that when its requested by the agencies we can collaborate together.

Curtis Cude, PARC Board Co-Chair, *OHA*

- 1) It's been great having Alan Martinez come on board. He has started working on our backlog of cases. We discovered a problem reporting out of the system. We realized the problem extends back for at least the last few quarters and we are working on a fix and then we will revise our reports.

Rose Kachadoorian, PARC Board Administrator, Program Manager (ODA)

Biennial Report Update

Warren and Christina sifted through all of fiscal 2020/2021 cases and tabulated all the data. To determine what data they were pulling and how it would be presented they tried to focus on what questions the general public or legislature might ask. We really want to cater to the reader and what people care about. Warren did a lot of different versions of combining active ingredients and looking at properly identifying adjuvants and other non-pesticidal ingredients in case those were of interest. We're also looking at enforcement actions for PARC related cases. We're figuring out where those are at and whether they can be included in the biannual report. Warren sent a message to each of the PARC agencies to see if there are any updates on any cases to get an idea of whether we should be focusing on certain ones. He will be including NPIC data in that report to see if there's something we're not identifying and if we have to do more outreach to a particular community in order to be able to capture those extra pesticide related calls. We have talked about making sure everybody is on same page as far as what should go into the report. We want your feedback. I know Warren wants it when he's putting together this report to make sure everybody is seeing the situation the same way. He has been putting a synopsis into the database of what is going on, so when he has to write these reports that he has pieces he can grab. The report covers 2019-2021 and we're hoping to get it done within the next month or two.

Management Companies and Applicators Discussion

Rose Kachadoorian, PARC Board Administrator, Program Manager (ODA)

Over the years I have seen a trend where people are complaining about applications taking place in public spaces such as apartment complexes. For example: the applicators not being very friendly or very knowledgeable. To help deal with this we are working on three things:

1. An advisory for people who are licensed to make applications.
2. A brochure that enforcement can hand out if they are called on to a case.
3. Having something in the study materials for applicators. The focus would be on good communications when making applications, having a professional attitude, having base information about the products being applied, being aware of the surroundings, ideal timing, selection of products, etc.

We're also looking for other topic suggestions in this educational material from PARC members and NPIC.

Curtis Cude- PARC Board Co-chair, *Oregon Health Authority (OHA)*

We recently had a project with Home Forward and helped them with a risk communications tool kit to help their residents and staff understand the hazards of radon, how testing works and what to do if they find a problem. We also worked to develop a guideline for facility and property managers on testing for radon. Now that we've built a relationship with them they might be a good resource to help ground truth the materials and provide some feedback.

Other suggestions that were made:

1. Translating brochures and study materials into other languages.
2. Brochures and handouts that have information geared equally toward both the complainants and the party being complained about.

PARC Case Discussion

Christina Higby- Citizen Advocate, Tribal Liaison (ODA)

Warren sent me three cases he thought may be of interest to the group. All were reported in March.

PARC # 22-0138: Six complainants called in regarding an herbicide that was applied to a dog park in Silverton. At least one individual reported that their dogs were adversely effected. An investigation was initiated and it turned out that Cornerstone (glyphosate) was applied. The investigation is still open, but I think the conclusion is that they applied appropriately. The problem was that people were frustrated that they weren't notified and thought that they should have been. The city is trying to come up with a better solution to notify people.

PARC # 22-0139: A worker for the city of Dayton was performing a backload test for water valves at a baseball field. He saw blue liquid in the area and got it on his hands. He later felt sick and thought it was connected. After doing some research he thought it might be Paraquat. An investigation was initiated. It was found that this is a field maintained by a local group that applied had glyphosate, but it wasn't related. After more investigation they figured out there was a port-a-potty in the vicinity that someone had possibly tampered with and that was where the blue liquid came from. No samples were collected due to the person reporting two months after the fact. Based on investigations they are confident that it was from the port-a-potty waste. As for the individual who applied the glyphosate-they were not licensed and may be cited, but that still has to go through a case review.

PARC # 22-0153: A complainant who lives next to a tree farm tested their well water and it came back positive for pesticides. They were concerned because they believed the results were at a high toxicity level and they thought the tree farm was responsible. They reached out to the tree farm and the tree farm provided a list of the pesticides they used. The test actually only showed for atrazine and simazine. Considering the product used by the tree farm wasn't related to the positive in the test, ODA decided not open an investigation. It was recommended that the complainant get it tested at a certified testing facility. And if it does come back positive then they would reach out to DEQ to talk about what to do from there.

Another case that came in yesterday: DEQ received a complaint from a past employee that worked at a landfill down in the Klamath area and they are claiming that the county built an evaporation pit and dumped a bunch of pesticides and unknown chemicals. He is concerned about ground water contamination and the wildlife next to it. I think DEQ is on point to follow up on it. And ODA may have a role if they see additional information. We will report out as we get more information.

Public Comment

No public comments

Closing

The next PARC board meeting is scheduled for July 20th, 2022 at 9-12. If you have any suggestions for agenda items for that meeting, please let Curtis and/or Warren know.