

Pesticide Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
December 14, 2023



The first meeting of the Pesticide Advisory Board established under ESHB 1019 was held on December 14, 2023, at 2:00 pm.

Present were:

- Voting members: Griselda Arias, Craig Blackwood, Ronald Cline, Israel Delamora, Matthew Harris, Joe Ben Herrera, Jefferey Leonardini, Kelly McDonald, Robin Schoen-Nessa, and Patrick Williams.
- Non-voting members: Katharine Buckley, Greg Caron, Bertha Clayton, Elinor Fanning, Bradley Farrar, Allan Felsot, Marie Hallinen, David Heimer, Matthew Murphy, Louis Nottingham, Ryan Pessah, Wendy Sue Wheeler, and Ray Willard.
- Pesticide Management Division Staff: Robin Schoen-Nessa, Kelle Davis, Daleena Blair, Savannah Richard, Kevin Huynh, Tim Stein, Christina Zimmerman, Brent Perry, and Ofelio Borges.
- Other attendees: stakeholders and members of the public.

Board members not present were:

- Steve Bennett, Kaci Buhl, April Clayton, Mary Fee, Edward Kasner, Junior Islas Sanchez, and Bud Lynn Wilhelm.

Pesticide Advisory Board Coordinator Kelle Davis opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. She gave a brief overview of the background of the Pesticide Advisory Board and then invited the board members and PMD staff to introduce themselves.

Once introductions concluded, the first order of business for the board was to elect a chair. Kelle Davis gave an overview of chair duties. Nominations were then opened, and nominations were made for Wendy Sue Wheeler, Elinor Fanning, and Robin Schoen-Nessa. Voting was done by polling, voting by chat box, or by voice. Once voting had concluded, Wendy Sue Wheeler was unanimously elected board chair.

Kelle Davis then discussed some of the operations of the board, including the purpose of the board, term limits and vacancies, communications with board members and the public, options for the formation of subcommittees or workgroups, and reimbursements for board members' in-person meeting attendance.

Board Chair Wendy Sue Wheeler then opened the discussion for the next Pesticide Advisory Board meeting, including location, date, and topics that the board would be interested in hearing about. After discussion, a hybrid meeting tentatively scheduled for March 27, 2024, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm was agreed upon. Location is still to be determined, but the preference was in eastern Washington.

Meeting topics the board is interested in were:

- Pesticide licensing--finalizing state plan and updating to align with federal rules.
- Developing a process for providing advice to the agency
- Updates from EPA on bulletins, herbicides, and sensitive species rules.
- Information on the application of L&I heat rules and pesticide applications.

- Past Advisory Board Meetings (held between 1994 and 2010) What did and didn't work well about how the previous work was done?
- Information on drone pesticide application policies.
- Timely review of topics that had been an issue from the last growing season, and not wait until the middle of the next growing season.

There being no more discussion, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.