

AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Ecology Committee (7/29/09) \_\_\_\_\_ (Dotson)

Committee Members: Whitney Dotson, Carol Severin, Mike Anderson, Gail Broesder,  
Anne Scheer

EBRPD Staff: Nancy Brownfield, Aileen Theile, Gayle Still

Public: Diane Sequoia

A meeting of the Ecology Committee was held on Wednesday, July 29, 2009 at District Headquarters, Oakland, CA. This meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Chairperson Whitney Dotson. The following is a summary of the items discussed:

I. Draft 2008 Annual Analysis of Pesticide Use at East Bay Regional Park District (Brownfield)

IPM Specialist Nancy Brownfield presented the draft report for 2008 and explained that it provides the following information:

- Discusses current program alternatives to pesticides.
- Summarizes the total of all pesticide usage District-wide for 2008.
- Compares 2008 pesticide usage with that of the prior year 2007.
- Analyzes pesticide usage by Park Operations, District Units (trails, FEMA/Fuels reduction, Design/Construction), Concessionaires and IPM invasive weed and vertebrate control projects.
- Reviews the progress of priority Resource Management projects.
- Lists pesticide exemptions for 2008.
- Sets annual pest management goals for 2009.

The findings of this draft report indicate that the overall usage for District Park Operation has slightly increased (2%) over that of 2007. This slight change is attributable to better timing in weed and vertebrate control, weather conditions, and use of alternative pest management strategies.

Ms. Brownfield pointed out the errors in Table 5 and advised they would be corrected for the final report. Maintenance Chief Anne Sheer suggested the use of aluminum phosphate, which has been used for several years, be added to the approved list on Table 5. Ms. Brownfield agreed.

Ms. Brownfield requested approval of the 2008 Annual Analysis of Pesticide Use at East Bay Regional Park District be accepted with the revisions discussed. Chairperson Whitney Dotson agreed, Director Carol Severin seconded and the remaining members concurred.

## 2. Alternative Pest Management Questionnaire (Theile)

Resource Analyst Aileen Theile presented the draft “Methods of Pest Control Questionnaire”. At a union member’s request, the Ecology Committee agreed that IPM would develop a questionnaire and send it to Operations to determine what “pest control methods” besides pesticides might be used at the District by park staff. A draft questionnaire was developed by IPM and approved by Jack Kenney for limited distribution to operations.

The methods included: mechanical, cultural or biological. The uses requested were for: weeds, yellowjackets, ants, aphids, small and large mammals, and turf health. The results are looked at on a “case by case” basis, as different parks have different problems and circumstances. The results of this initial questionnaire while yet undetermined, will give the IPM department and the Ecology Committee current information on alternative methods other than pesticides being used in the district.

Committee Member Gail Broesder suggested that staff not be required to follow strict guidelines so that creative methods continue to be captured. Assistant General Manager Mike Anderson asked if the results from this questionnaire will be incorporated in the 2009 Annual Analysis of Pesticide Use at East Bay Regional Park District. Ms. Brownfield responded that it would and also be used in staff training.

## 3. Agenda Items for the Next Ecology Committee

- Committee acceptance of the finalized report: 2008 Annual Analysis of Pesticide Use at East Bay Regional Park District.
- Progress report on the Tilden Golf Course IPM Program.
- District response to PIDO letter requesting use of a natural weed killer at Pt. Isabel Shoreline Park.

## 4. Public Comment

Diane Sequoia suggested, as she did the previous year, that it would be helpful to the public if there was an appendix that stated what outlying parks, such as Pt. Isabel, are included in the report. IPM Specialist Nancy Brownfield asked if a fold out map would be beneficial. Ms. Sequoia

responded that would be more expensive than a table, but whatever provides the information such as Miller Knox being part of Pt. Pinole would do.

Chairperson Whitney Dotson informed the Committee of a letter he received from the Pt. Isabel Dog Owners Association regarding the use of Roundup and information about the product Burnout. Ms. Sequoia said she understood that the two products are not synonymous; that Roundup is selective and even though Burnout is made from plants, it is broad spectrum and kills everything. She agrees in general principal with the letter, but not some specifics. When Ms. Sequoia pointed out the difference between the two products to the PIDO association, they said perhaps Burnout could be applied in only certain areas. Assistant General Manager Mike Anderson said he would review and respond to the letter from Pt. Isabel Dog Owner Association (PIDO), incorporating Committee and staff technical comments to PIDO and will return the sample product provided by PIDO at the September 9<sup>th</sup> Ecology Committee meeting.

Chairperson Whitney Dotson adjourned the meeting at 3:38.