

**GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON POLLINATOR PROTECTION
MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 16 2017
MnDOT Office of Aeronautics
222 Plato Blvd, St. Paul MN 55107**

Governor's Committee on Pollinator Protection Members present: Erika Bailey-Johnson, Jim Calkins, Steve Ellis, Dave Flakne, Sarah Foltz Jordan, Lex Horan, Bob Koch, Dan MacSwain, Kevin Paap, Erin Rupp, Dan Schutte, Marla Spivak, Ted Suss, Yao Yang

I. Welcome, agenda review and introductions

II. Review and approval of meeting notes

III. Process updates

Charlie Petersen (Management Analysis and Development) continued the discussion of the Committee's scope as written in Executive Order 16-07.

Mr. Petersen also presented a road map for the Committee's activities, which includes spending the next few months establishing a common base of knowledge on how agencies are working on the pollinator issue.

Finally, Mr. Petersen and Mr. Schutte went over the final draft of the values statement, which incorporated elements of Mr. Flakne's contributions.

IV. Interaction between the Interagency Pollinator Protection Team and the Governor's Committee on Pollinator Protection

Mr. Petersen led a discussion on how the Committee envisions its relationship to the Interagency Pollinator Protection Team (Interagency Team). The Committee wishes to zero in on building partnerships and promoting pollinator protection in the state.

The Committee hopes that state agencies will reach out to them with ideas and program plans, as well as opportunities to leverage partnerships that Committee members may be able to develop. Additionally, members hope that the Interagency Team might start with larger associations and work with them to engage individual farmers on pollinator issues. Many members also discussed how to engage with pollinator groups and make the Committee a presence at pollinator events.

Will Seuffert, Executive Director of the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) noted that the Interagency Team would like to involve the Governor's Committee more in future goal-setting exercises.

V. Discussion of Committee purpose, Committee values, and pollinator protection interests

Charlie Petersen led the group through an interactive exercise to identify purpose, values, and interests for the Committee. The group identified the following interests:

- Land stewards are part of the solution
- Economic benefits of producers and eaters are distributed equally and not concentrated
- Protect and sustain biodiversity (including humans)
- Recognize and protect pollinators as a resource
- Pollinator protection policies that can be supported by all interest groups
- Catalyze people
- Science-delivered policy

The key values identified were:

- Integrity – *Be ethical; honest; trusted.*
- Equity – *Treat constituents fairly and in a consistent manner.*
- Accountability – *Inform the profession of statutes, rules and standards and provide clarity and transparency as to their application.*
- Collaboration – *Work together as Board Members, along with other stakeholders, to provide quality services to protect the public.*
- Responsiveness – *Meet the needs of the public and practitioners effectively and efficiently.*

A subgroup consisting of Steve Ellis, Dave Flakne, Dan Schutte, and Yao Yang agreed to take these words and develop value statements to discuss at the next meeting.

VI. Department of Agriculture presentation on current pollinator protection initiatives

Jamison Scholer, a research scientist with the Department of Agriculture, presented on pollinator initiatives, the neonicotinoid special registration review, and the action steps that came out of that report. He then responded to questions from the Committee.

VII. Review of the Interagency Pollinator Protection Team draft report

Claudia Hochstein, the pollinator coordinator with the Environmental Quality Board, asked Committee members for fatal-flaws feedback on the Interagency Pollinator Protection Team's draft report. As a result, the Committee discussed potential changes for the indicator used to track progress toward Goal 2.

VIII. Next steps and adjournment

The Committee will meet again on March 16, 2017.