



# Florida EPPC

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As I said in my previous address this summer, it seems that time is getting away from me. And I'm sure that I am not alone. So, in keeping with this thought of not enough time in the day (week, month, year...), I will keep my message brief. This should give us plenty of time to organize the 2010 Symposium at Plantation Inn located in beautiful Crystal River.

This location was chosen for several reasons, including economy, central location, excellent opportunities for field trips, and best of all, a great variety of options for spending off hours in a beautiful natural setting right outside the back door. We should all take the time to thank those who will be working diligently over the next several months to make the 2010 Symposium as informative and fun as you have come to expect. This year Jon Lane, USCOE, has accepted the post of Program Chair, with help from Jackie Smith and Adam Grayson (and a few others that will come forward, I'm sure). The legendary Mike Bodle will once again organize arrangements with the Inn as our Local Arrangement Chair, with help from Jackie Smith and a local FLEPPC member. Donna Watkins has agreed to accept the challenge of organizing field trips this year. Thanks to all (even if I forgot to mention everyone already involved). So as not to be left out, anyone reading this is invited to contact myself or a committee chair to offer your assistance or local knowledge.

Alright, I did say briefly, so thanks to all of our dedicated members still sticking together during these hard times and have a great fall 2009. We look forward to seeing everyone in April (yes April, not May).

Jim Burney  
FLEPPC Chair



## Announcements:

• Mark your calendars for the 2010 Annual FLEPPC Symposium:  
\* April 5-8th, 2010 at the Plantation Inn  
Crystal River, Florida

Look for more details in the next FLEPPC Newsletter.

• The 2009 Invasive Plant List is now available. It can be found at <http://www.fleppc.org/list/list.htm> and the Fall issue of Wildland Weeds. For hard copies of the brochure, please contact Keith Bradley at [bradley@regionalconservation.org](mailto:bradley@regionalconservation.org) or Karen Brown at [kpbrown@ufl.edu](mailto:kpbrown@ufl.edu)

• The FLEPPC education program now has a webpage. Visit [www.FLEPPC.org/edgrants.html](http://www.FLEPPC.org/edgrants.html) for up-to-date information about the grants and deadlines.

• The USDA has responsibility for screening plant imports and they have just released new guidelines that the public is invited to comment on by October 21, 2009. To learn more about this important legislation, please visit: [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import\\_export/plants/plant\\_imports/Q37\\_revision.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/plant_imports/Q37_revision.shtml)

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## Florida EPPC Board of Directors Meeting May 26, 2009, Delray Beach Marriot, Delray Beach, FL

The meeting was called to order at 10:39am by Jim Burney. Minutes were taken by Hillary Burgess. The following officers and members, constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors, were present: Adam Grayson, Hillary Burgess, Jim Burney, Jim Burch, Donna Watkins, Ben Gugliotti, Dustin Hormann, Dianne Owen, LeRoy Rodgers, Jackie Smith, Karen Brown, Kris Serbesoff-King, Chris Lockhart, Doria Gordon, Todd Olson, Bill Kline, and Jennifer Possley

### *Administrative*

*Approval of Last Minutes:* Todd Olson motioned, Adam Grayson seconded, and the previous minutes were approved unanimously by the board.

### *Chair Activities:*

Jim Burney, most recent past chair still residing in Florida, took over as acting chair officially on April 1st. He worked with Scott Ditmarsen to transition until the last part of April, when Scott relocated to Wisconsin. Following approval by the board and membership, Jim Burch will be chair-elect. Mike Bodle is currently past chair.

The secretary will check with Chuck Bargeron to see if Jim Burney is listed as the e-mail contact for questions that come in from the FLEPPC website.

There was no significant correspondence since the last board meeting.

*Clematis terniflora* – This issue was shelved because too much time has

passed.

*Treasurer's Report* – Dianne Owen— Report available. Diane reported that there were several issues with the online registration but these have mostly been resolved. The total revenue so far from the symposium is \$22,595, which is similar to previous years. However, none of the expenses have yet been paid out. By Friday Dianne should have a good idea of the net gain. Karen suggested paying someone to handle the online registration because it seemed difficult this year and was time consuming for both Dianne and Chuck. Kris suggested talking to the person who handles this for FNPS and she will get in touch with Dianne about this. There were 128 actual registrations. Karen commented that SE-EPPC had the same registration system, also administered by Chuck, but no problems. Donna commented that state and other agencies are unable to use Paypal with their credit cards, and this may have been the source of some of the issues. Dianne is to seek resolution by the next board meeting, when we will revisit our options.

Jim Burney asked when the checks would be cut for Education/Research grants. Dianne responded that these are still outstanding debts for this year, and will be sent out about a week following the symposium.

*Editor's Report* --Karen Brown— Report available. The spring issue of Wildland Weeds was mailed in April. We lost some money on the winter issue, made some on spring; there was a net gain between the two. The upcoming issue will have SE-EPPC and FLEPPC sym-

posium write ups. Karen brought up the issue of trying to promote Wildland Weeds as a regional publication (not overly Florida). Following the discussion at the last meeting she changed the masthead to reflect SE-EPPC more strongly. She and others thought this format wasn't ideal. Karen asked for opinions and she is going to try to do a more balanced page. Karen identified a new vendor for advertising in the magazine at the SE-EPPC meeting, and has plenty of articles and ad support so far.

*Secretary's Report* – Hillary Burgess— The March newsletter went out in early March. We had planned to send out a postcard to advertise more for the symposium but couldn't get the funding figured out in time.

Hillary brought up the issue that if folks don't send in their committee reports in time, then there is no time to review them at the last minute. She will send out more reminders in the future. She will also check in with task forces and committees to see if they have status updates; if they do not, they will not be on the agenda. The next newsletter will be sent out in June.

LeRoy Rodgers motioned to accept the officer reports and Jennifer Possley seconded the motion. The reports were approved unanimously by the board.

### *Committee Reports*

*Bylaws* — Sandra Vardaman—No Report. Hillary will follow up with Sandra to see who will present the changes that we are voting on at the business meeting and if Sandra wants to continue serving as the bylaws chairperson.

*Checklists* -- Donna Watkins—Donna

asked to be kept in the loop on any changes to checklists so that she can have them updated on the website.

*Control and Evaluation* –LeRoy Rodgers-- LeRoy became chair of this committee following an e-vote after the last board meeting. He has ideas that can be put into place soon for the next symposium. The Loxahatchee field trip is based on this committee. Following the symposium LeRoy will work on SOPs for this committee.

*Education* – Jennifer Possley—Report available. Winners need to either write an article for *Wildland Weeds* or present at the symposium. LeRoy suggested noting expected complete dates so that the program chair can follow up with them to present at the symposium. Someone [I think it was Dustin but not sure] wondered if we have rights to use the graphics that come out of these projects? And if not, how can we accomplish this? Jennifer is going to look into this. She wants to improve the Education program's FLEPPC website presence and will work with Chuck Bargeron to do so. Karen mentioned that the grant funded education projects are now reviewed by the committee for accuracy.

*Finance* – Ellen Donlan—No Report. This committee is awaiting input from the strategic planning committee.

*Legislative* – Matt King—No Report Doria Gordon provided an update on Quarantine-37—which would affect plant quarantine rules. It will be posted in the Federal Register in early July, with sixty days allowed for comment. Doria suggested that FLEPPC should comment. Currently no risk assessment is done on the importation of plants; this rule would require an assessment for potential pest plant species and other taxa. It will include

plants that are currently not in the US, but have demonstrated weediness elsewhere. NAPPRA (Not Allowed Pending Plant Risk Assessment) – a “gray list.” Doria feels that FLEPPC could comment that this is a step in the right direction. She also reported that state funds for invasive plant management were severely reduced.

Kris Serbesoff-King reported on Federal Bill 669, which addresses non-native Wildlife. It would complement the Lacey Act, which is a black list, and would require predictive screening before any non-native animals are imported. A white list would be produced of animals that have no invasive potential and would be exempt. There is a lot of opposition from the pet industry. USFWS would have regulatory authority.

*Merchandise* – Tony Pernas—Tony gave Jim Burch the merchandise to be sold at the symposium. Dianne was going to help set up; she and LeRoy have several volunteers that can help Jim at the table.

*Nominations* – Jim Burney—Jim Burney picked up awards and plaques which will be presented at the awards banquet. Karen Brown motioned to approve Jim Burch as Chair Elect nominee, Adam Grayson seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously by the board. It will be voted on by the membership at the general business meeting, as will the other board nominees.

*Outreach* – Katy Roberts—No Report. The secretary will follow up to see if Katy is still available to chair this committee or if she is looking for a successor. Adam Grayson will help Karen to produce a PDF file that can be used for educational displays to cut down on shipping of the large, heavy display unit.

*Plant Industry Liaison* – Doria Gordon—Report Attached. Doria reported that the voluntary codes of conduct developed by Missouri Botanic Garden were signed by Walt Disney World and the Jacksonville Arboretum. Florida DOT resigned the codes (as reported in the Spring issue of *Wildland Weeds*). Also, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and Longwood Gardens are testing the predictive tool developed by IFAS to screen the potential invasiveness of their plants. Doria also commented on the IFAS Assessment and the Invasive Plant Working Group. The Assessment was reworked in view of the issue of biofuels. *Jatropha*, *Arundo* and *Eucalyptus grandis* were predicted to be invasive using the Assessment. The Assessment now has regulatory authority and species predicted to be invasive require a permit.

*Plant List* – Keith Bradley—Chris Lockhart spoke for Keith and reported that this committee will meet in July so that they can have the next FLEPPC Invasive Plant List prior to the next board meeting. Keith asks that if anyone has plants that they would like to be reviewed, to please send them along.

*Research* – Betsy Von Holle—Report available. Jim Cuda reported that ten proposals were received, three grants were awarded, for a total of \$4,000.

*Scholarship* – Tony Pernas—Todd agreed to get door prize items and scholarship prizes.

*Strategic Planning* – Roger Clark—Roger intends to step down. Jonathan Taylor is willing to chair. Jim Burney will appoint Jonathan soon.

*Symposium Local Arrangements* — Mike Bodle—Mike is still uncertain if FLEPPC will meet the needed room block. One way to deal with this would be to agree to come back in two years and add the balance to that contract.

*Symposium Program* — LeRoy Rodgers—LeRoy reported that everything is coming together, and that they stayed within budget. There are 32 oral presentations scheduled, 13 posters, and 3 workshops. 75 people are registered for field trips. Unfortunately, the Kenyan speaker will not be able to make it this year but hopes to be able to make it next year. There is still a need for a program chair for next year.

*CEUs* —Katy Roberts—CEUs will be available for the field trips as well as oral presentations. Jackie Smith will help this year. The secretary will follow up with Katy to see if she is available to continue chairing this committee or if she is looking for a successor.

*Symposium Field Trips* — Donna Watkins—Donna and Chris Lockhart are still working out transportation and the venue for the GPS workshop. Donna reported a net gain of \$785.00 for field trips.

*Training* —This committee is currently un-chaired. The responsibilities are currently covered by CEUs and Symposium program. For now we will keep the committee until the Strategic Planning committee decides whether there is a need for it. If it is determined that it is not needed, then the board will vote to dissolve it.

*Vendor* — Todd Olson—Bill Kline will be taking over as chair for the next symposium. Adam Grayson motioned to limit the chance drawing prize to \$100 to benefit the scholarship

fund; Hillary Burgess seconded this and it was approved unanimously by the board. The money will come out of the scholarship fund and any net gain will go back into it. Todd agreed to acquire this and the door prizes for this year. There were 15 vendors registered but two were unable to attend due to work constraints.

*Website* — Tony Pernas—Kris Serbessoff-King asked whether the EDD-MapS plants database would need to be retained on the FLEPPC website or if it could be housed on the comprehensive EDDMaps site. The general response was that moving the database to a single location would be fine, as long as FLEPPC was still present in the banner. The board will be approached on this issue within the next month via e-mail.

Adam Grayson motioned and Jennifer Possley seconded to accept the committee reports. This was approved unanimously by the board.

#### *Liaisons with other organizations*

*SE-EPPC Liaison* — Karen Brown/Tony Pernas -- Karen is now secretary for SE-EPPC, Chuck Bargeron is president. They are trying to return to officer terms specified in the by-laws. They are currently looking for more involvement on committees. This year's symposium was more successful than last year. They are interested in exploring a joint symposium with FLEPPC. SE-EPPC has had a lot of success with outside sponsorship of their symposium. FLEPPC could look into sponsorship opportunities as well.

The question came up of who should administer the silent auction. There is a need to solicit for possible donated items.

*NA-EPPC Liaison* — Matt King—No report. Karen reported that Damon Waitt of the Texas Invasive Plant Council is currently president of NA-EPPC.

*Florida Invasive Species Partnerships* — Alison Higgins— They are working on a way to alleviate some of the burden on Keith Bradley for reviewing species if there are local experts that can work with him.

#### *Task Force Reports*

In the future Hillary will send out a notice to task force chairs to see if there are any status updates. These committees will be omitted from the agenda unless a report is received.

Jim Cuda suggested a designated time during the symposium for task forces to meet. LeRoy informed us that this year meeting rooms would be available and that task forces could arrange to schedule meetings for their groups. Jim will work with the next program chair to try to schedule a meeting ahead of time for future symposia.

Jim emphasized that task forces are never completed. In the future, the agenda could include the date of the last completed management plan, rather than "finished."

*Australian Pine* -- Tony Pernas – Status: No report.

*Brazilian Pepper* -- Jim Cuda – Status: finished. Jim reported that the Federal Agriculture, Food, and Research Initiative sent out a call for proposals for funding. A high priority is an IPM program that includes an economic analysis component, an extension component, and a management component. Jim applied for

Brazilian Pepper and got a positive response. The project will include three demonstration sites and will require collaboration with other agencies. He is hopeful that funding will be granted.

*Carrotwood* -- Chris Lockhart – Status: Report attached, Aimee Cooper and Chris are working on a germination study. They plan to get together in July and already have a lot written. They would welcome anyone else that is interested in helping.

They are concerned with estimating the economic cost of management given that Carrotwood is often treated as a byproduct of managing other infestations.

*Chinese Tallow* -- Drew Leslie – Status: No report

*Colubrina* -- Jonathan Taylor – Status: No report

*Dioscorea* --- Bill Overholt – Status: No report

*Exotic Grasses* --- Greg McDonald – Status: No report

*Lygodium* -- LeRoy Rodgers/Kris Serbesoff-King -- Status: Active, no report.

*Melaleuca* --- Francois Laroche – Status: No report

*Skunkvine* --- Brian Nelson – Status: No report

## Operations

**Old Business**---No old business.

## New Business

During the annual business meeting, awards for outgoing chairs, etc. will be handed out by Jim Burney.

Corrie Peterson, a student from UF with an interest in starting a student chapter of FLEPPC, joined the meeting. She outlined their early goals for the group: to bring people together with a similar

interest, to provide an opportunity for them to network with each other and with professionals. So far students from several Universities are interested. They may meet here at the symposium. They hope to recruit more membership for FLEPPC, get involved in committees etc. Jim Burney suggested bringing in guest speakers from each alma mater to talk about their careers in the field. Corrie and Jim will connect regarding gaining a presence on the website. For future meetings members of this group will be invited to attend and give a report. The secretary will include them in the call for reports, and in receiving the newsletter. There are no other EPPC or IPC student groups known.

*Teleconference Board Meetings*-- Jim Cuda reported that these have been effective for his uses. Extension facilities are equipped for this purpose. Jim will look into FLEPPC's ability to use these. Hillary will send out a request for the county within which board members and committee/task force chairs reside so that we can look into what locations will be needed.

Joint Symposium with FNPS--In 2011, FNPS will be holding their conference in Orlando and they would like to know if we are interested in having a joint conference. The question of concern is how the money would be divided and worked out. Dianne will need to be involved in the discussion. Once enough details have been collected we will have an e-vote. Kris suggested that it could be worked out so that registrants could choose between one, the other or both symposiums with the money being directed appropri-

ately. A conference will be scheduled between LeRoy Rodgers, Mike Bodle, Kris Serbesoff-King and Karina Veaudry (FNPS).

For conference calls, Jim Burney will look into acquiring a new call-in number. Symposium conference calls were very helpful this year and will be continued next year. This year they started in October and went on monthly until the symposium. The only change suggested was to have one two weeks prior to the symposium next year.

Mike Bodle will look into potential locations for next year's symposium within the central region of the state. Clearwater, Crystal River and Plantation were two suggestions. It was agreed that the symposium should be planned for early May or late April in 2010.

Adam Grayson motioned and Jim Burch seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:15pm. The motion was approved unanimously by the board.

*The next BOD meeting will be July 28, 2009, at a location TBD, hopefully a teleconference.*



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