

Glyphosate Commission Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2022 (virtual via Zoom)

Martin Suuberg, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and Chair of the Commission called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and called on members of the Commission present:

John Lebeaux
Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources

Marc Nascarella
Chief Toxicologist, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Representing Margret Cooke, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Eve Schlüter
Assistant Director, Assistant Director of Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program,
MassWildlife
Representing Mark Tisa, Director, MassWildlife

Julie Richburg
Lead Ecologist, Inland Natural Resources, The Trustees of Reservations

1. Approval of Minutes.

Minutes of the March 8, 2022 Commission meeting were distributed to the Commission members before the meeting. Commissioner Suuberg asked for comments on the draft minutes. Marc Nascarella (DPH) pointed out a spelling error in Commissioner Cooke's name.

Commissioner Suuberg moved to adopt the minutes as corrected; Commissioner Lebeaux seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Presentation from ERG on Phase I Report

Commissioner Suuberg introduced John Wilhelmi of ERG to present the status of the work on the Phase 1 Report. Mr. Wilhelmi introduced Clifton Dassuncao from ERG and Jerry Diamond from TetraTech, who will assist in presenting the Glyphosate work done in Phase 1. The Power point slides for the presentation were shared and a video of the meeting is available here: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/glyphosate-commission>

During the presentation questions were posed in the Q/A function of the Zoom platform.

The draft Phase I report is in the final stage of review and will be submitted soon to the commission. It will be completed within budget and before June 30, 2022. When submitted to the Commission it will be posted to the website. Suggestions of additional entities for ERG to consult were noted.

Next: ERG will share the draft report, and another Commission meeting will be scheduled to discuss comments and proceeding to Phase II.

Funding for Phase II. Chair Suuberg noted that the Commission was appropriated \$50,000, and at the last meeting DAR and DEP committed to looking for additional funds to complete Phase II.

Commissioner Lebeaux reported that approximately \$25,000 has been expended so far, which still leaves a substantial gap in covering the total project cost. Rep. Gentile was attending the Commission meeting but had to leave; a representative for Rep. Bond was in attendance.

Chair Suuberg called for any questions. None were raised.

3. Phase II. Will be discussed at the next meeting.
4. Other business.
 - a. Recent correspondence from Bayer to Commissioners Suuberg and Lebeaux, asking about the opportunity to present information to the commission. A response is in progress.
 - b. Recent correspondence was received from Ed Stockman with materials and resources to be considered in the evaluation of Glyphosate. The materials have been shared with DAR and with ERG for consideration in drafting the Glyphosate Reports.
 - c. Commissioner Lebeaux noted recent correspondence from industry representatives regarding products listed for use in sensitive areas that contain Glyphosate. They brought to DAR's attention supply chain difficulties, shortages, and discontinued production of some products, and requested consideration of additional products for the sensitive areas list. DAR and MassDEP have started to evaluate a response.
5. Commissioner Suuberg moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lebeaux seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned.