

# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

## Plant Science Research Greenhouse (PSRG) Facility PSRG Executive Committee Meeting Minutes December 18, 2025, 1:00 pm

Present: Norman Birge, (College of Natural Science), Hannah Burrack (ENT), Bjoern Hamberger (BMB), Linda Hanson (USDA), Jeremy Johnson (FOR), David Lowry (PLB) (Interim Co-Chair), Eric Olson (PSM), Chrislyn Particka (PSRG, Director), Erik Runkle (HRT)(Co-Chair), Thomas Sharkey (BMB, PRL)

Absent: Mary Hausbeck (PSM), Carolyn Malmstrom (PLB), Roberto Lopez (HRT)

Erik Runkle called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

A summary of the discussion about each agenda item is included below:

*Specialized equipment policy:* During the September meeting, the committee determined that a specialized equipment policy was needed, and that Chrislyn, Erik, and David would draft a policy and send it to the entire committee for review. The draft was circulated later in October. During this meeting, the committee reviewed the comments and suggestions that had been made, and chose to adopt the policy, with some minor revisions, effective in January. A copy of the policy will be circulated to the listserv along with the meeting minutes. It will also be added to the [PSRG website](#) under the Policies tab.

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*Updates on greenhouse renovation:* Chrislyn reported that the renovation project is going well. New greenhouse range 7 is scheduled to be finished on January 19, 2026, and new greenhouse range 15 should be finished on February 23, 2026. Greenhouse staff will then take approximately two weeks to check the systems and make final adjustments to ensure the greenhouses are ready for use. Once complete, this will mark the end of the project, which included renovation of two ranges, demolition of seven ranges and the old headhouse as well as the construction of the new headhouse and five new ranges with 33 zones.

Chrislyn also reported that there have been issues with some of the unit heaters in the new greenhouses and that the fertilizer and acid injectors are not working properly. She has been, and will continue to work with, the contractor and subcontractors until the problems are resolved. Greenhouse users who are impacted by these issues are informed as needed.

Larry is making good progress installing the Bartlett environmental control systems in the greenhouses that were still controlled by thermostats. He has completed greenhouse ranges 1, 18, and 22 and should have ranges 3 and 11 finished by February. When done, all greenhouse zones in the facility will have environmental control systems to control the heating and cooling equipment and supplemental lighting, instead of using thermostats and outdated time clocks.

*USDA greenhouses:* Linda reported that the federal government funding package that was passed in November included \$3M to renovate the USDA-owned greenhouse ranges (5, 24, 21, and 33) that are part of the PSRG complex.

*Greenhouse use and occupancy status:* Chrislyn reported that the eight large zones in new greenhouse ranges 7 and 15 are already reserved and that the two small zones are available. Some greenhouse zones are currently empty, but they are reserved for projects that will start soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.