

NPSA Regular Meeting Minutes March 18, 2004

Present: Don Bradley, Kathy Brooks, Nancy Fitz, Mary Grodner, Pat Hipkins, Joe Hoffman, Allan Hovis, Janice Oldemeyer, and Dan Schweitzer

Quorum Status: In Quorum (Five BOD members present; named underlined above.)

Meeting called to order by Board Chair Mary Grodner at 1:08 p.m. EST.

Minutes:

Previous meeting's minutes (02/18/04) approved with one correction; Janice Oldemeyer's name was misspelled in the minutes (and on the NPSA website).

Treasurer's Report:

Kathy Brooks gave a report for Rob Hofstetter. The treasury balance as of 02/29/04 was \$12,295.85. Total income for the month was \$425.00 for membership dues (three individual and one corporate). Expenses were \$1,105.80 -- for administrative salary / Arrowchase (\$990.00), telephone and fax (\$71.01), and credit card machine rental (\$44.79). This represents a new decline of \$680.80; however, Brooks noted that NPSA received 12 additional membership dues payments in March as of 03/18. The report was accepted.

Old Business:

#1: 2006 Conference Plans:

Nancy Fitz discussed tentative plans to hold the 2006 conference in Northern Virginia in conjunction with the spring AAPCO meeting, which is typically scheduled for early March. The two meetings may or may not have sessions in common; details are TBA. Don Bradley advised holding the NPSA meeting before vs. after the AAPCO meeting, because the busy season for ACRC/row crop growers begins in mid to late March.

#2: 2003 Conference in Tucson:

Alan Hovis reported that he conferred with the Bayer CS conference planner regarding the difficulties experienced with the Tucson Marriott. He learned that the simplest and most workable way to solve the problem is to schedule another meeting with that hotel in the near future; for example, 2007 or 2008. Bayer's conference planner agreed to review the contract for this conference in advance, and will advise NPSA if any terms or conditions are unwise or unacceptable. For example, the new contract should not include any attempt on the part of the Marriott to recover losses claimed as a result of the 2003 conference. Grodner asked that Gail

Amos, Kathy Brooks, and Rob Denny approach the Tucson Marriott to “bury the hatchet” and negotiate a new contract for a NPSA meeting in Tucson in 2007.

#3: 2004 Orlando Conference Plans:

Nancy Fitz discussed informed the group that the 2004 conference planning committee is meeting via conference call. In addition to NPSA’s core issues, 2004 conference topics will include stewardship issues relating to mixing / loading / handling in the field for farmers and for structural pest management applicators. With the help of Norm Nesheim, the group is working to set up tours of area farms/orchards as well as structural PCO (now PMP) and lawn care businesses. Fitz circulated a survey (12 March) to previous conference participants and has 13 responses to date; will send a reminder next week in the hopes of generating more replies. Participation problems identified in the surveys returned to date include cost / shortage of money and the need for a targeted work session (ex. homeowner disposal.) The group discussed using listserves to announce conference to prospective conference participants -- requesting input now; circulating registration information later: via AAPSE and AAPCO listserves, to registrants (Alan Hovis will handle), and to groups who work with household hazardous waste / medium hazardous waste disposal programs if possible (Janice Oldemeyer will handle if possible.) Oldemeyer noted that the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association (NAHMMA) will hold their 2004 conference in Florida after Labor Day.

#4. Pilot Project Update:

Nancy Fitz reported that a draft contract with revisions was sent to CropLife in late February. To date, NPSA is still waiting for a signature. Tom Hall of CropLife is checking on the document’s status, and will try to move things along. Roger Springman sent a progress report to NPSA’s advisory council and other interested/involved parties on March 17. NPSA representatives will discuss the pilot project with members of the SFIREG Water Quality and Pesticide Disposal Working Committee meeting on April 27. NPSA representatives should include a BOD member and an officer, as well as the two people that NPSA plans to hire to do the tasks involved (Bill McClelland and Theresa Dellinger). Nancy Fitz (BOD member) and Dan Schweitzer (officer) are tentatively planning to attend. (EPA’s label manual revision is also on the working committee agenda; Schweitzer will represent NPSA and discuss label disposal statements with the WQ&PD group at their April meeting.)

Fitz noted that Dellinger, a former VT student and current VT post-doc, was selected to do tasks #1 and 4 for the pilot project; however, she will not be available indefinitely. Hence, Fitz suggested that NPSA “front” VT Department of Entomology the \$3,000.00 for Dellinger’s part of the project so she can begin work ASAP. Tasks #1 and 4 are expected to take 60 hours over a 2-3 month period of time. In fact, Dellinger has begun making preparations for these tasks by studying materials forwarded to her by Fitz and Hipkins and constructing a draft data collection template. Dellinger is working in advance of payment to prepare for an informal planning meeting with Fitz and Hipkins (slated for April 9); Dellinger hopes to have work well underway by the time she attends the SFIREG working committee meeting later in April. The BOD agreed with Fitz’ recommendation, so Fitz will make arrangements for the transfer of funds. (In previous communication, Roger Springman and Fitz stated that they will draw up a short document outlining expectations and deadlines for this part of the pilot project.)

#5. Advisory Council Update:

Dan Schweitzer reported that the Advisory Council did not meet in February - March. Toby Jones (AAPCO President) appointed Jack Peterson, AZ Department of Ag, to be the AAPCO representative to NPSA's Advisory Council.

#6. Earth 911 Update:

Joe Hoffman reported is trying to make arrangements for a conference call meeting involving disposal coordinators for NC, PA, and WA, ACRC, and Earth 911. PA has "bought in", so all three states (NC, PA, WA) are in "go" mode.

Amy Sahnstock of Meister Media and a Senior Associate Editor for CropLife interviewed Hoffman and other NPSA members (Gail Amos, Don Bradley, Nancy Fitz, Mary Grodner, and Roger Springman), gathering source material for news articles about NPSA in CropLife magazine and/or other Meister Publication pieces. Hoffman's interview focused on the Earth 911 website and the advisory regarding counterfeit pest care product pesticides.

#7. SFIREG Label Manual Review Subcommittee Update:

Dan Schweitzer reported on the progress of this committee; he and Nancy Fitz are NPSA members who are also members of this subcommittee. Schweitzer circulated an issue paper and cover letter with notes and comments. This issue paper will be presented to the SFIREG Water Quality and Pesticide Disposal Working Committee meeting in April, to the full SFIREG in June. The full SFIREG will discuss if/when/how/with what priority to pass the recommendations in the issue paper to EPA. Don Bradley stressed the need to be proactive with label container disposal instructions, now that users can expect to find recycling centers for plastic pesticide containers. Schweitzer requested that the NPSA BOD review the issue paper and cover letter, and give comments to him during or before the April meeting.

#8. Committee Reports:

Finance - no report.

Communications - Nancy Fitz and Don Bradley reported that they plan a news release about the NPSA conference/annual meeting in early summer. Fitz hopes that a trial version of the listserve/discussion group will be ready by late March.

Stewardship/Awards - no report.

Membership - Allan Hovis reported that he received the current membership list from Kathy Brooks. Brooks will send him an updated list (w/renewals to date) as well as a list of lapsed members. He will contact those on the latter list, encouraging them to rejoin. Hovis plans to coordinate a membership drive with the 2004 conference announcements. Joe Hoffman will send Hovis the electronic files for the membership brochure so a supply can be printed for distribution. Plans were made to distribute flyers at the Southern, North Central, and Western Region Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) meetings this spring/early summer, and at the MSE booth at a waste management conference. (Note: the NC Region PSEP will also feature an AAPSE Professional Development Conference, thus attracting a wider than usual audience.) Mary Grodner reported that she approached Tom Delaney (PLCAA) about becoming a contributing member, but due to financial constraints, PLCAA is not able to offer that level of support at this time. NPSA membership is on a calendar year basis.

International Relations - Pat Hipkins contacted Don Mullins about becoming committee chair after the February. Mullins promised to consider the request, and said he would contact Jude Andreasen (EPA) about sharing duties by becoming co-chairs.

However, Mullins had not made a commitment, and Hipkins forgot to remind/check back with him. Hipkins will recheck with Mullins, and Nancy Fitz agreed to contact Andreasen.

Elections/By-Laws - no discussion.

Other / New Business:

#1: Don Bradley asked Kathy Brooks to send an invoice to ACRC for a \$5,000.00 donation. Brooks responded that she had already done this, and that the invoice was on its way. Janice Oldemeyer made the same request for MSE Environmental. Dan Schweitzer will request a donation from CARE Environmental. Brooks and/or Gail Amos were asked to contact Clean Harbors. Schweitzer reported that CropLife will not be making a donation this year, but noted that they are funding NPSA's Pilot Project.

Next Meeting:

Because those present were finding conflicts and because several BOD members and officers were not able to participate in the March meeting, Nancy Fitz agreed to schedule both an April and a May meeting by e-mail, based on Mary Grodner's availability.

Meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m. EST.

Prepared 29 March 2004; PAH