

**THE PESTICIDE STEWARDSHIP ALLIANCE (TPSA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) MEETING MINUTES
Dec 15, 2005**

CALL TO ORDER:

Don Gilbert, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order shortly after 1p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Secretary Lois Levitan called roll. A quorum of voting members was present (names underlined).
Present: Don Bradley, Don Gilbert, Joe Hoffman, Rob Hofstetter, Lois Levitan, Don Mullins,
Janice Oldemeyer, Roger Springman.

APPROVALS: (i) The Agenda and (ii) Minutes from the Nov 3 and Nov 17 2005 Special Board meetings were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Kelby Neal reported via a prior email that the checking account balance as of November 30, 2005 is \$12,683.16. Since the last report, there have been deposits of \$4,300.00 from Washington State, Northwest AgPlastics, MN Dept. of Ag, and MSE; and payments totaling \$2261.73 to AT&T (\$59.67 and 68.07), NDPS (\$44.79), Global Pay (\$35.00), McKenna and Long (legal council, passing through the Washington DC Treasurer fee of \$65 for the organization name change (\$65.00), George Brooks for web hosting and website changes (\$131.70 and 537.50), National Corporate (\$150.00), and Arrowchase (\$1170.00).

STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership. Don Gilbert reported that Angela O'Callaghan resigned as Chair per an email he received earlier today, due to time constraints. Great disappointment was expressed. It was agreed that (i) having a dynamic person in this position is tremendously important to sustain the organization; (ii) TPSA is not sustainable at its current membership level; (iii) if a chair is not identified in the coming month, we should plan to do so at the member meeting in Austin; (iv) there is considerable growth potential from among others in positions comparable to current members, e.g., persons who oversee pesticide container and/or obsolete pesticide collections in each state, additional members of the crop protection community, pesticide safety educators, etc.

Elections/Bylaws. Gail Amos has circulated a list of nominees to the Board members for their information. He is waiting to hear back from a few nominees re: their willingness to serve and biographical sketch before distributing ballots, which must be distributed at least 45 days in advance of the annual membership meeting.

The proposal to amend by-laws to change our name, from the National Pesticide Stewardship Alliance (NPSA) to The Pesticide Stewardship Alliance (TPSA), was approved unanimously in balloting that concluded on November 18, 2005. The change reflects TPSA's commitment to international pesticide stewardship and is hoped to facilitate involvement by an interested international contingent. Paperwork to legalize the change is in process: the President and Secretary have signed documents attesting to the by-law amendment and submitted a \$65 filing fee to the Washington DC Treasurer.

Conference Program 2006. Joe Hoffman reported that he has circulated a draft flier and needs comments immediately. Comments sent after today should go to Don Bradley, who is working with

the designer. The intent is to distribute the final version by Monday or Tuesday, sending by email to a list of about 100, and mailed to a list of about 500 that includes all attendees of past conferences. In addition, Joe will distribute to all state pesticide disposal coordinators; San Gibson will contact a broad array in Texas; and the rest of us are asked to distribute the brochure through our contact networks. The brochure will be sent to George Brooks for posting to the web (this request should be cc'd to Pat Hipkins, Communications Chair, so she is kept in the loop of web postings).

The Committee has received conflicting information re: the government rate at the hotel; if this cannot be clarified before printing, Joe will use the higher figure so that people will feel good if they are then given a lower rate (rather than vice-versa).

The Committee does not have a title for Keith Jones presentation and will leave it out if unable to get details in time from Rob Denny or perhaps from Nancy Fitz.

The email address <conference@tpsalliance.org> should be used as the contact for conference-related correspondence; messages sent to this email address go to Dan Schweitzer, Joe Hoffman and Kathy Brooks.

The **Board decided**, given that the brochure is not going out until close to year's end and because recruitment and other activities relating to the Life Cycle initiative will be taking place in mid-January, to change the late registration deadline to January 27, two weeks before the conference. However the hotel deadline is firm at January 21 to receive conference rates.

Communications Committee. Don Gilbert reported, based on a memo received from Pat Hipkins. Rob Denny and George Brooks are working on changing the URL to reflect the new name. George has been making obvious changes on the website to incorporate the new name. It was noted that the membership application document on the web that still refers to NPSA not TPSA, and George should be asked to fix this. A question was raised re: changing old dated documents to reflect the new name; the **Board decided** this should not be done. The Members Only section of the website is up-and-running. George will be working on developing the directory of members, which is thought to be a big job. Assuming that the new URL is in place, it will be announced in the December e-newsletter together with announcements about the members-only section and the password for accessing it (the password will also be distributed with acknowledgements for paid-up membership).

Janice will write a blurb for the newsletter about the name change, taking information re: why the name was changed from the Conference brochure and from previous minutes and emails.

Don Gilbert will confer with Kathy re: finding the original artwork that was used for the NPSA logo and letterhead, on which to base the new TPSA logo and letterhead.

Finance. No committee report was given.

International Relations. Don Mullins reported. Nothing currently in process.

Life-Cycle Stewardship Prospectus. Roger Springman reported that (i) letters of invitations were sent to 10 key organizations earlier this week, asking them to participate in a mid-January teleconference and in the Austin Conference. [The letter, the list of recipients and the current version of the prospectus were distributed to the Board via an email from Dan Schweitzer on Dec

12.] Bill McClelland and Roger have begun planning the related sessions at the Austin meeting. Three slots have been allotted, beginning with a Plenary on Monday, and followed by a breakfast roundtable and a work session on Tuesday, with option of a follow-up breakfast meeting Wednesday. Roger would like to present the concept and need on Monday, without getting bogged down in minutia. He laid out a possible scenario for the work session that would involve dividing into two groups, one looking at voluntary options and the other at mandatory approaches to pesticide end-of-life stewardship. There was some discussion, with the question of ‘who would attend the session on voluntary options’ raised. The Life-Cycle Initiative focus group will meet to hammer out details of these sessions. [CONFERENCE CALL JAN 3, 2-4]

Ad hoc Pesticide Container Recycling Communication. Don Bradley suggested that TPSA should disband the ad hoc committee because while it was formed to assist in publicizing the current difficult situation, CropLife is taking on this role in their own fashion. The **Board decided** to discharge the Committee. Don also reported that the 2006 ACRC budget is flat or somewhat less than in 2005, so there will not be any additional container recycling programming. A 1.5 hour session has been set for the Austin meetings on pesticide container management..

OTHER BUSINESS

TPSA Board Meeting in Austin. It was clarified that the TPSA board meeting in Austin is open to the public, and that it should be listed as such in the Conference Brochure.

Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Website. Don Gilbert reported for Dan Schweitzer, who is asking for Board feedback on a request from Carol Somody, Stewardship Manager at Syngenta Crop Protection, for TPSA’s involvement on a proposed pesticide environmental stewardship web site. Carol’s request was conveyed to the Board in a Dec 7 email from Dan, received subsequent to the deadline for formal involvement.¹ Most of the Board/Officers on today’s call had not yet reviewed the powerpoint presentation sent with that email (filename: PES_Website.ppt) and are unclear and nervous about the time/resource commitment that a “yes” answer would involve. It was noted that the presentation materials do not address container stewardship, and suggested that TPSA should point out this gap. It was also noted that if this project is targeted to pesticide applicators, then perhaps the website title should refer more specifically to applicator stewardship (*i.e.*, the field of pesticide environmental stewardship is enormous, whereas aspects pertaining to applicator stewardship are more circumscribed.). Don will ask Dan to elaborate on his and Carol’s concept of TPSA participation in this project; the Board is asked to review materials provided thus far and be prepared to discuss this topic in the future.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 2:29pm, Dec 15.

NEXT MEETING: Nancy will be asked to find a suitable time in about four weeks, during the period Jan 12-19. For the foreseeable future the call-in number will be **(866) 299-3188**, with Nancy’s phone number **(703-305-7385#)** as the **access code**. [NEXT MEETING, Jan 18 2006, 2-4pm]

Draft submitted by Lois Levitan December 23, 2005; revised Jan 3, 2006.

¹ Excerpted from Dec 6 email from Carol Somody to Dan Schweitzer: “What we would like from TPSA is a commitment to provide editorial support and/or educational materials to the project. We are particularly going to need editorial support, to review, update, and consolidate the materials that exist, and, later, assistance developing training modules and self-assessment tools.”