

**THE PESTICIDE STEWARDSHIP ALLIANCE (TPSA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) MEETING MINUTES
January 18, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER:

Don Gilbert, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order shortly after 2:05p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Secretary Lois Levitan called roll. A quorum of voting members was present (names underlined): Don Bradley, Kathy Brooks, Chuck Cabbage, Nancy Fitz, Don Gilbert, Joe Hoffman, Allan Hovis, Greg Jackson, Lois Levitan, Don Mullins, Kelby Neal, Dan Schweitzer, Roger Springman.

APPROVALS: (i) The Agenda and (ii) Minutes from the Dec 15 2005 Board meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Kelby Neal reported (see Jan 16 email) that the checking account balance is \$11,043.37 as of Dec. 29, 2005. In December deposits totaling \$1810.00 (from 23 membership renewals) and payments totaling \$1449.79 to NDPS (\$44.79), Global Pay (\$35.00), and Arrowchase (\$1370.00) were made.

STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership. We discussed problem/possible solutions to not having a committee chair. The importance of naming a chair was reiterated. The chair need not be on the Board, but must be a member (current members of the Committee are Roger Springman, Kelby Neal, Angela O'Callaghan). The **Board agreed** that a recruitment notice for Committee Chair should be included in the Conference Brochure, if possible, and that recruitment would be a priority at the Conference. Suggestions for building membership were briefly discussed:

- (i) Give TPSA awardees an honorary membership at no fee for 1 year. While early thinking about awards was to "reward our own," this is not a requirement per TPSA policies/by-laws and may not be a good practice at this point.
- (ii) Outreach to related organizations, asking them to put a link to TPSA's webpage on their sites.

Elections/Bylaws. Gail Amos was absent, but reported by an email sent Jan 17:

- (i) **Board of Director Elections:** Ballots were emailed to all voting members on December 29, 2005, in time to meet the 45 day pre-conference notification requirement. Kathy Brooks is collecting ballots returned by mail by Feb 6 and will bring them to the TPSA conference unopened (if the envelope is clearly marked as containing a ballot). Eligible members may vote at the TPSA conference through noon Monday, Feb. 13, 2006. Ballots will be certified and counted shortly afterwards and the results delivered to TPSA President Schweitzer.
- (ii) **Membership Categories:** Gail asked the Board to take action to allow TPSA members to be associated with multiple categories of membership. This issue is pertinent because the "end-user" position on the Board will be up for election in the next cycle and to date TPSA has had only one member in this category, despite having many members who would qualify.

The **Board unanimously agreed** with the Committee's proposal. While Gail did not believe that this action would require a change to the ByLaws, review of the ByLaws by others during the call indicated otherwise (viz. Section 4.05: "Each Member shall select *one* of the following areas of affiliation on its Membership Application." Italics added). Therefore Dan will contact Gail to ask the ByLaws Committee to prepare an amendment to change this sentence in Section 4.05 to "Each

Member shall select one or more of the following areas of affiliation.”

Don Gilbert suggested and the **Board agreed** that there are other areas of the ByLaws needing amendment and that they should all be addressed at the same time.

Conference Program 2006. Dan Schweitzer and Joe Hoffman commented on the effort required to organize the Program and gave kudos to Nancy for having led this effort last year, on her own. Joe reported on last minute changes to the schedule because of travel arrangements.

Audio-visual needs were discussed: one room will be set up with a podium and table microphones for panelists. Four table microphones or moveable microphones will also be needed. The other room will have a podium and lapel microphones. Joe will put the final AV requirements in writing for Kathy to use as basis for discussions with Marriott, so final decisions can be made the week of Jan 23. Kathy noted that every AV request costs money, so that it is important to be frugal in our requests. She will circulate the discussion re: AV arrangements to Joe and others who are involved with AV arrangements. Lois will audiotape the PLCS discussion directly on to her computer (possibly with microphone feed). As backup, we should have small audio recorders in the room. The Committee is seeking **laptops and projectors** (Any information in addition or contrary to the following should be sent to Dan, Joe, and Kathy): Kelby Neal, Rob Denny and Don Mullins (likely) will bring projectors. Dan Schweitzer and Rob Denny will bring computers that run Windows XP. Lois Levitan and Don Mullins will bring Macintosh laptops. Joe will email Lois and Don with a presentation created in Windows XP to check that the Macs can handle these well without font changes. The need for AV troubleshooters in each session was expressed (in her absence, Carol Ramsey was volunteered for this role!). Hotels typically do not rent **laser pointers**; members with laser pointers are asked to bring them (Kelby volunteered).

The **Program** will be laid out/printed by Mirsky and Associates. Final materials should be sent to Kathy as soon as possible, including information about all sponsors and the event they are sponsoring, and logos in a format that is simple to include in the program (Mirsky may have some sponsor logos from last year).

A **Poster session** will take place during the welcoming reception. The Committee is hoping that the poster display can remain near the registration desk for the duration of the conference. We are renting two-sided rolling poster boards (6' wide x ~4' high). Three tables will be needed for displays during the reception. NAHMMA's is a stand alone display that does not need a table.

Welcoming speaker: Sam Gibson is working with Austin tourism and the Texas agency that covers environmental protection.

Keynote Speaker: Rob Denny is the only one who knows Keith Jones; Kathy will ask him to get bio and title information to Dan Schweitzer, who will introduce the speaker.

Committee Meeting: The committee will talk on Monday Jan 23 at 4p East Coast Time about details re: food, breaks (particularly vis-à-vis sponsorships). The Program should include information that the tours will meet in the hotel lobby, with final details announced on the opening day of the conference.

Photos: Don Mullins and Greg Jackson volunteered to take photos. Others should also be prepared to do so, if possible.

Hotel Rooms: Kathy has been told that we are 80% into our block commitment and that the hotel is not willing to increase the number of rooms available at government rate. There is a nearby LaQuinta hotel with rooms at lower rate, if needed.

Event Sponsorships: Dan Schweitzer and Rob Denny are contacting potential sponsors. Syngenta, Care Environmental, Two Rivers have committed to providing sponsorship money. Allan Hovis offered that he should be contacted if more is needed. There was a reminder not to forget that Washington Consultants Association sent sponsorship money in the last budget cycle.

Newsletter: It was agreed that print copies of all editions of the newsletter should be made available for distribution in Austin.

Communications Committee. Don Gilbert reported for Pat Hipkins, who had emailed a report to say that she and George Brooks are working on the Bulletin Board and membership directory; and have added some new newsbits (e.g., about Pesticide Life Cycle Stewardship, linking to the Prospectus and Executive Summary). Pat asked that others submit pertinent newsbits (e.g., Joe Hoffman on Earth 911, Lois Levitan re: EPA's PESP [Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program and Conference]).

Pat would like to have a **live internet connection** to give a demonstration of the website during the Sunday night reception. It was noted that all meeting rooms have wired ethernet and public areas of the hotel have wireless. Kathy will speak to the hotel's event manager to work out details.

Awards Committee: Dan Schweitzer reported that the Committee has met and made some selections; will make others in time for the Tuesday conference lunch. The **Board agreed** to use the awards in part as a recruitment tool.

Sponsorships. Allan Hovis is continuing his work to engage his industry colleagues in TPSA.

International Relations. Don Mullins. No report

PES (PESTICIDE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP) WEBSITE. Dan Schweitzer has been in communication with Carol Somody, Stewardship Manager at Syngenta Crop Protection (336-632-2029, carol.somody@syngenta.com) re: TPSA involvement in this project. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting. Dan will encourage Carol to attend the Austin Conference.

PESTICIDE LIFE-CYCLE STEWARDSHIP (PLCS) UPDATE. Roger Springman and Lois Levitan, with input from others who have been involved with various aspects of this project, gave an update on activities and plans to date:

(i) A conference call with key stakeholders was held January 6. Ten organizations had been invited to participate and, among them, six were represented: CropLife America (Tom Hall), ACRC (Johnny Berry), NAHMMA (Jennifer Volkman, sitting in for Mike O'Donald who has been working on pesticide disposal), AAPSE (Joann Kickrack), and EPA (Nancy Fitz). Roger, Lois, Bill McClelland, Dan Schweitzer and Don Gilbert represented TPSA. All were supportive of the basic concept, some more supportive of container recycling than of getting involved with collection of obsolete pesticides, and some more cautionary than others. We will follow-up with other invitees, including the Chemical Producers and Distributors Association, Agricultural Retailers Association (ARA), Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE) and USDA, as well as with a second tier of key stakeholders who will be encouraged to participate in discussions in Austin and in other venues.

To illustrate the need to take a long, patient approach, Johnny Berry described a six-year effort that he has been involved with to develop the narrowly focused American Agronomic Stewardship Alliance (AASA)—an alliance between CLA and ARA that involves six companies paying the bill for site assessment of bulk pesticide storage tanks. Tom Hall, representing CLA stewardship, described likely pitfalls, but encouraged the PLCS team to develop a simple proposal that can be discussed by the CLA Stewardship Committee at their next meeting, immediately following the TPSA Austin Conference. He stressed, however, that CLA does not want to be alone in supporting this initiative.

(ii) Roger has made arrangements with Jack Peterson of AAPCO for a PLCS session at the AAPCO Spring Meetings in March, which will enable us to meet with the registrants who typically attend and with the state officials who belong to AAPCO. Since the meetings are in the Washington metro area, we would also be able to use this opportunity to meet with EPA and others in the area. Don Gilbert noted that we should discuss this further at the next Board meeting, to be held in Austin.

(iii) Resources: Allan Hovis reiterated Tom Hall's message re: preparing a proposal for consideration at the CLA stewardship meeting, and assured us that he will be sure to put the PLCS initiative and proposal on the agenda. The need for resources is clear, although it is not yet clear whether it would be better for TPSA to contract with others to implement the project or to do it internally. Roger noted that he had recently spoken with Scott Casell, executive director of the Product Stewardship Institute (PSI). This group has a distinct approach to brokering between industry and government on product stewardship issues and would require funding to partner with TPSA on this project. The PLCS committee will convene before the conference to develop a proposal.

(iv) PLCS at the Austin Conference: The Plenary will include Roger introducing the concept; Cam Deveroux of CropLife Canada describing how end-of-life disposal is handled in Canada; and Gene Maahs, an aerial applicator from the Pacific NW, speaking from the end-user perspective. We are also working to identify another end-user who can speak from yet a different perspective. The Tuesday afternoon session is anticipated to be process oriented. It may be completely free-flowing, based on a few key discussion questions that will be put to the audience, or it may begin with models from PSI and AASA.

(v) Powerpoint. Roger and Lois are working to develop a simple powerpoint presentation that can be used to help convey basic PLCS concepts. Please send digital images and illustrative stories to them!

NAME CHANGE UPDATE Dan Schweitzer reported that it is a done deal. Official documents were submitted to the Treasurer of the District of Columbia. Lois has copies for the TPSA files and for our legal council. The legal council has been in correspondence with Dan about how the votes were taken, but he believes this issue has been resolved.

NEXT MEETING: Sunday Feb 12 3-4:30 in Austin, as part of the Conference. The Board meeting will be followed by the membership meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:02pm January 18, 2006.

Draft submitted by Lois Levitan January 23, 2006; rev. Jan 27 2006; approved Feb 12 2006.