

**THE PESTICIDE STEWARDSHIP ALLIANCE (TPSA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) MEETING MINUTES
February 12, 2006, Austin Texas**

CALL TO ORDER:

Don Gilbert, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order shortly after 3:05p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Secretary Lois Levitan called roll. A quorum of voting members was present (names underlined): Gail Amos, Johnny Berry, Don Bradley, Chuck Cabbage, Nancy Fitz, Don Gilbert, Pat Hipkins, Joe Hoffman, Allan Hovis, Lois Levitan, Don Mullins, Kelby Neal, Angelo O'Callaghan, Dan Schweitzer, Roger Springman.

APPROVALS: (i) The Agenda and (ii) Minutes from the Jan 18, 2005 Board meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Kelby Neal provided an annual profit and loss statement for the 2005 calendar year. Total income \$29,876.36; total expenses \$30,554.90. Net income = (\$678.54). Loss due to (i) problems with the contract for the hotel in Tucson where the annual conference was held in 2003, which cost the organization \$10,568 (listed as uncategorized expense) and (ii) fact that we did not have a conference in 2005. Given these factors there was little concern about the loss, but much attention focused on building membership. Current checking account balance = \$21,750.88.

DISTANCE EDUCATION FOR PESTICIDE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PROJECT (PES).

Wayne Bueller joined us by speakerphone to introduce the PES project. He walked us through the slideshow that had been previously distributed to the Board and Officers (sent by Carol Somody from Syngenta through Dan Schweitzer). Wayne is Pesticide Coordinator for North Carolina, with counterparts in all other states. Most of his work is with regard to certification of pesticide applicators, but he has been involved with PES for about a year since Carol Somody presented him with the opportunity to develop the PES website. His hope is that what would otherwise be a monstrous project will be do-able with collaboration from partners. PES is anticipated to be a self-assessment tool with educational modules (e.g., venue for CES credits, on-line training) as well as a pesticide information resource. Syngenta has provided seed money through the IPM Center at NC State. They anticipate targeting a national audience, with links to regional and local information. Wayne is currently soliciting a team of counterparts in other sections of the countries to be the scientific team. He will be working with Ron Stinner from the National IPM Center, who will be developing the website (whereas he and the others will be providing scientific content).

The **Board agreed** to support and partner on the PES project. Dan will convey this decision to Carol Somody. Board discussion points included:

- (i) recommendation that information be resident on the project website, rather than just be provided via links to other sites in order to maintain currency and accuracy;
- (ii) recognition that the currently available seed money will not fully make this project work; it will require additional funding from other sources. Discussed possibility of developing funded partnerships in the future.
- (iii) recognition that the Board remains somewhat unclear how this partnership will be operationalized, but content to figure out these details in the future.

(iv) suggestion that while it is clear that PES will look to TPSA for input on pesticide and container disposal, we should survey TPSA members re: other areas of their expertise. In addition to providing additional support to PES, this would also be a means of involving the TPSA membership in TPSA activities.

STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership. Don Gilbert urged us to use the Conference to build membership. Don Bradley pointed out that TPSA has only two pesticide industry representatives. Joe suggested that we offer a \$100 conference deduction to members, which would be a short-term loss to the membership till (because cost of membership is \$75), but could draw in additional members from among conference attendees. Others wondered if money is the issue, or if the more important point is that TPSA must demonstrate value of membership and the meeting.

Elections/Bylaws. Gail Amos. The Board previously recommended a change to the by-laws to permit members to specify more than a single membership category. It was decided to wait to put this proposed by-law revision to a vote of the membership until comments were solicited from the Board and membership re: other proposed changes. For example, (i) the by-laws mention only five standing committees, whereas there are eight; (ii) the roles of the Chairman and committees are not defined, and the roles of the president and other officers would benefit from additional clarification; (iii) when the organizational name was changed, the Board discussed designating one or more Board positions for international representation, but did not act on it. Gail summarized that, given the recommendation of the Board, the Committee will first alert the membership to an open comment period, then will prepare a set of proposed revisions and distribute to the membership for a vote.

Communication. Pat Hipkins reported that two new sections of the website have been developed: a members-only section with a bulletin board and the directory of members. The **Board requested** that we develop a web repository for member forms, logos, etc. and Pat will ask George Brooks to set up this section. Don Gilbert suggested changing the newsletter to quarterly, rather than attempting a monthly publication.

International Relations. Don Mullins, no report

Pesticide Life Cycle Stewardship. Lois Levitan and Roger Springman gave a quick update including plans for the Austin meeting and for a session at the AAPCO meetings in early March. Specific plans for the AAPCO meeting are expected to evolve from sessions at this conference.

OLD BUSINESS

Don Gilbert had reviewed minutes of the past 15 months to see what other issues might have been left hanging. He asked Nancy Fitz to speak to the status of the Phase 1 Pesticide Disposal Pilot Project, noting that CropLife also wants closure on this project because they provided funding.

Pesticide Disposal Pilot Project. This project involved getting updated information from the States re: their pesticide disposal programs. Nancy Fitz reported that the research has been completed, much valuable information has been compiled, many of the pieces are written. and that it will be worthwhile to pull together. Research results that are now in tabular form require additional narrative. Detailed discussions with a sub-set of the States await write-up. Nancy believes that the project needs a week or two of effort. However, she does not have time to wrap it up. Roger asked if money remains in the project account, but others doubt it. It was agreed that it would be best if

someone with experience with this project could complete it. Roger will ask Bill McClelland re: his interest/availability.

NEW BUSINESS

Article on Pesticide Disposal for Reviews of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology.

Roger brought up a conversation he had with George Ware, editor of the *Reviews of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology*, asking for TPSA to write a review article about pesticide disposal. The concept was that this article would update and be complementary to the 2003 article by Alan Felsot et al.¹. In a previous conversation about this proposal, Lois had suggested that a TPSA article could focus on the regulatory environment and infrastructure, whereas the Felsot article focuses on technical options. Lois also pointed out that the Felsot review appears to have been a large and funded undertaking, with funding coming from the Division of Chemistry and the Environment of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry. No formal decision was made, but comments indicated that this would be too large an undertaking without a funded project.

Don Gilbert expressed appreciations to the Board and Officers for efforts during this past 15-month "year."

NEXT MEETING: It was decided to wait until after results of the Board election are in on Monday night before setting the date for the next meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:30 Feb 12, 2006.

Draft submitted by Lois Levitan Feb 20, 2006, rev Feb 24. Approved by the Board Mar 3, 2006.

¹ Allan S. Felsot, Kenneth D. Racke, Denis J. Hamilton. 2003. Disposal and Degradation of Pesticide Waste. *Reviews of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology* 177: 123-200.