

**THE PESTICIDE STEWARDSHIP ALLIANCE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES**

**June 11, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at ~1:00 PM EST.

**ROLL CALL**

A quorum was present. (Board Members underlined): Dan Schweitzer, Don Bradley, Lois Levitan, Johnny Berry, Derrick Bell, Wayne Buhler, Carl Key; Nancy Fitz; Roger Springman; Carol Ramsay; Jen McLaughlin; Margaret Jones; Steve Pizzitola; Liza Fleeson; Gail Amos; Joe Hoffman; Don Mullins; Bonnie McCarvel.

**OPERATIONS REPORT**

Bonnie McCarvel informed the group that the Chevy Chase bank account had been closed in early May. There has been a mail forward submitted with the Post Office. Emails and phone calls are being received. A concern was addressed regarding the website on whether we will have access to modify the existing website with the new address and phone number. A request will be forwarded to Maria Mirsky to see if this is possible.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The balance beginning April 2, 2007 was \$45,442.95 from Chevy Chase Bank. After conference expenses, the current balance is \$18,435.60, which is the operating balance for the year. It was noted that there were still some outstanding checks valued at \$500 or less. Bonnie will provide an updated list of what was outstanding. Financials will be posted in the Members area of the new website. It was discussed whether there should also be a report emailed, possibly just to a distribution list.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the May 1, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting and the May 14, 2007 Second Annual Business Meeting were approved. Approved meeting minutes will be posted on the TPSA website.

## **BY LAWS/ELECTIONS**

Margaret Jones developed a timeline for By Laws Amendment and Elections. She has allowed an extra two weeks to finish amending the bylaws and begin the election process. The objective is to be able to announce the new board at the conference. It was discussed on whether we would allow write in votes at the conference as it has been done in the past. It was noted that there were many changes made to the By Laws this year, but we anticipate fewer changes in the future. It was discussed that if we identify concepts of the By Laws that may need to be changed, the board can then determine which specific items are critical to change at that time. It was noted that both By Laws amendments and slate of candidates are slotted for 45 days for member consideration. By Laws must be completed before we begin elections. A discussion took place to move up the date to have the By Laws completed by the beginning of November.

Carol will work with Margaret and try and find a new member that would be willing to work with Margaret as an understudy for this process. The plan is to have Joan continue to collect the ballots. There is the option that members can vote by mail, e-mail, fax and other means.

## **BOARD CHAIR**

Don Bradley was nominated to continue his role serving as Board Chair. A motion was made to appoint Don Bradley as Chair. The motion was approved.

## **WORKGROUP DISCUSSIONS**

- Pesticide Drift: The group is still being organized. There are currently agenda items to fill one half day, plus an additional workgroup. An agenda will be completed by the end of the summer. Anticipating that an additional 60 people will attend these workshops.
- Pesticide Disposal: Roger met with a group of 6 in late May. Currently have three 75-minute sessions slotted. DOT Training was discussed, possibly slotting time on Sunday with a provided lunch. Derrick Bell thought he could locate a trainer from NC State HHWIE. Initial thought is to charge a minimum of \$25 to cover lunch and the cost of the room and materials, as well as to get people to commit. We need to determine those costs first before determining the actual fee. We can advertise to NAHMMA as well as the individual state contacts. Believe that we can pull 10 to 30 people to attend. It was brought up that the ACRC meeting is usually held on Sunday. TPSA will email ACRC to request that they move their meeting to Wednesday. Carol will call the hotel to secure conference rooms for Sunday and Wednesday.
- International Stewardship: Currently approaching individuals to participate. A mission statement is being developed. A white paper will be put together to be clear on the purpose.
- Recycling Ag Plastics: The group is in the process of being formed. Lois is fine tuning a mailing list of 2,000 to 3,000 to get a newsletter out. One half day to one full day session will be slotted.

Carol put together a skeleton of 75 minute sessions. We may need an extra breakout room. Liza will assist Carol with this.

## **2009 CONFERENCE**

Tucson, Albuquerque and Portland were explored. Carol received positive feedback from Albuquerque. The Hyatt Regency offered \$70 government rate, \$145 conference rate and no room rent with \$14,000 food purchase. The Hyatt Regency is located downtown, one mile from old town. The second choice is Hotel Albuquerque which offers \$70 government rate, \$139 conference rate and no room rent with \$18,000 food. Liza has been to Hotel Albuquerque and recommended this hotel over the Hyatt Regency. There was a motion to empower Carol to move ahead with Hotel Albuquerque and negotiate the government rate room block to 40% and the food purchase to \$14,000 to keep in line with previous conferences. The motion was approved. It was noted that the St. Louis and Kansas City options were explored, but the ideal dates were not available.

## **TPSA WEBSITE**

The website is in the process of being rebuilt. A draft will go to the board within a week, at which time updates/changes will be solicited. The website will have a new look with additional features in the member areas, including a directory and monthly financials. A brief discussion occurred on whether we should launch the draft live. It was noted that the improvements made to the website will come from the feedback from the members.

## **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

Nancy will send an email to check availability for the next board meeting, which will occur sometime in July.

## **EPA CONTAINER RULE**

Nancy Fitz gave the following update:

*EPA has decided to pursue an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) as the next step in the Pesticide Container Recycling Rule project, instead of a proposed rule for the following reasons:*

*1. There are several concerns/questions about the data supporting the rulemaking.*

- A. Human health and environmental risk: There are concerns about the qualitative nature of the human health and environmental benefits of the pesticide container recycling rule. In particular, there is less information on the quantitative risks associated with certain*

*pesticide container disposal practices (such as burning, burying, and dumping) than EPA would like to have to support a rule proposal.*

- B. Economic analysis: EPA developed cost estimates assuming a recycling rate of 20%, 30%, or 40%. Therefore, the economic analysis doesn't cover the full range of recycling rates (up to 100%) and does not identify whether there is a break point at which the costs of the rule would dramatically increase. As mentioned above, the lack of quantitative information on the environmental and human health risks means that the economic analysis does not quantify most of the benefits of avoiding container disposal methods such as burning, burying, or dumping.*
- C. Recycling rate: EPA considered several potential recycling rates both above and below that achieved by the existing industry program. However, the pros and cons for each are mainly policy considerations and there is no clear, quantitative justification to choose one recycling rate over another. EPA would prefer to have additional information and/or analyses that would help support a specific recycling rate as the most appropriate choice.*

*2. This rule could set a precedent.*

*The proposed pesticide container recycling rule would be the first mandatory recycling rule promulgated by EPA. The Agency has some concerns about a precedent-setting rule that doesn't have the strongest possible quantitative risk assessment or economic analysis.*

*3. An ANPRM could help EPA gather information.*

*Although the EPA has conducted research and consulted with many stakeholders, the Agency has not spoken with all potentially interested parties. While an ANPRM would add time to the project, it could produce additional helpful information or analyses from sources that may not have been contacted yet.*

The group discussed what immediate steps TPSA should be taking. It was mentioned that perhaps it is time for TPSA to look out of the Federal box and start looking at key states rather than EPA. Perhaps TPSA can work together with AAPCO as a joint effort to stop this. It was noted that Crop Life did not have the ability to sway this, and they have a strong relationship. Any effort to sway this decision will need to come from the White House or Congress. It was determined that a letter should be written by TPSA, at least to give the EPA our opinion of their decision. Roger, Jonny and Don will work on getting the letter going.

A “news update” will be sent to the membership, possibly suggesting a conference call to have a “strategy session”. There was an idea to capture a rolling record of concerns on the website in a blog type format. Don will check with the webmaster to determine whether this could be set up within 10 days. If not, Carol will build a website. Gail Amos indicated that he has a PowerPoint presentation that shows damage of unburned, unrinsed containers that he will send to add to the website.

## **2008 CONFERENCE**

It was determined that a Central Conference Coordinator will need to be put in place. This person should be aware of timelines and make sure we are not missing opportunities for sending postcards out. Carol will send out a timeline with the Call for Papers and Call for Posters. We need to get Vince to start working on the conference portion of the website.

## **MEETING ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at ~2:40 pm EST.

[Submitted by Jennifer McLaughlin, July 9, 2007; Approved July 11, 2007]