

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

**March 12, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Fred Gabriel at ~11:00 AM EST.

**ROLL CALL**

A quorum was present. (Board Members underlined): Fred Gabriel; Marty Fitzpatrick; Rob Denny; Wayne Buhler; Cary Hamilton; Ed Cranson; Bonnie McCarvel; Kevin Neal; Eric Laut; Jen McLaughlin; Nancy Fitz; Liza Fleeson; Joe Hoffman; Lois Levitan; Jack Peterson; Carol Ramsay; Don Mullins

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the February 10, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting and the February 22, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting were approved. A copy of the minutes will be posted on the website.

**OPERATIONS REPORT**

Currently 132 members from 23 different organizations have renewed their annual membership. Bonnie has been working on post-conference activities. Conference photographs and Powerpoint presentations are being loaded onto the website. All conference related press releases have been sent. All thank-you letters have been sent as well.

As of February 27, 2009, the checking account balance is \$90,593.71. A check has been submitted to Hotel Albuquerque for conference expenses for \$23,857.25.

**ELECTION RESULTS**

Cary Hamilton, Wayne Buhler and Ed Cranson were welcomed to the 2009 Board of Directors. Fred Gabriel will continue his role as Chairperson. The 2009 Officers include Kevin Neal (President), Eric Laut (Vice President), Jennifer McLaughlin (Secretary) and Charles Luper (Treasurer) Marty Fitzpatrick motioned to approve this slate and Wayne Buhler second.

A motion was made by Nancy Fitz and a second made by Marty Fitzpatrick to appoint J.D. Fish to the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy of the position held by Lee Brown Jr. According to section 5.09 of the TPSA By-Laws, "The Board shall have the power to fill a vacant Director's position for the unexpired term." This motion was approved.

## **2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SUMMARY**

Financially, the numbers were slightly down from last year's conference. Sponsorship was down approximately \$5000. Corporate sponsorship totaled \$30,000 and conference sponsorship totaled \$14,500. Additionally, travel expenses increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Overall, the conference was very successful. There was a tremendous amount of positive feedback on both the venue itself as well as the food. Comments were expressed on the success of the reception, as it thinned out fairly early. The goal of the reception will be evaluated while planning the 2010 conference.

It was discussed that attendees missed not having a tour, as we have had during past conferences. Kevin will start exploring tour options for 2010. There is a PGA Golf Course near the next conference location that may be an option.

The conference schedule was briefly reviewed. It was determined that an opening session should occur each day so that announcements can be addressed to all the attendees at once. There were discussions of repeating sessions, cutting the schedule early one day or possibly adding a half day to the schedule. These ideas will be reviewed by the 2010 planning committee, which Kevin is working on recruiting.

## **POLICY 9.0 SPONSORSHIP**

Updates have been made to this policy to add a third level of sponsorship recognition. The Individual Sponsorship category has been added to accommodate sponsors donating less than \$1000. This will allow TPSA to recognize these donations as a sponsorship, where previously there was not a mechanism to do so. Additional language is being added to reflect that this sponsorship does not include silent auction donations. With this language added, a motion was made by Rob Denny to approve this policy update. Marty Fitzpatrick seconded. The motion was approved.

## **PESTICIDE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP DISTANCE LEARNING CENTER**

Previously, TPSA had committed to provide editorial assistance to the development of the national Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Distance Learning Center (PES), sponsored by Syngenta. Our commitment would include reviewing information that was put on PES, and offer additional material if appropriate. Dan Schweitzer was the previously liaison to this program, but is no longer available to continue this. Liza has agreed to be the interim contact at this time.

## **PESTICIDE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

Liza will draft the annual report for the Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program in conjunction with the five year strategic plan. Liza will forward this draft to the working groups for updates. Once updated, she will forward this to the board for review prior to submitting to the EPA. Once submitted, this will be shared with the membership and posted on the website.

## **COMMITTEES**

International Committee – This workgroup has been working on a triple rinse project. Rob has been developing a task force, and hopes to have something released to the group by sometime in April. Additionally, a proposal will be submitted to the board in April for some funding for this project.

Communications Committee – Pat Hipkins has agreed to remain involved with this committee. This committee needs to be reformed. Gail Amos and Don Mullins have also agreed to serve on this committee. An email should be forwarded to the membership to recruit for this group. Once this committee is developed, this group needs to have the authority to be able to get items added and removed from the website in a timely fashion.

Kevin will submit an email to the membership to recruit members to all of TPSA's committees.

## **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

An email will be sent to check availability for the next board meeting. Possible dates are during the weeks of April 13<sup>th</sup> and April 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **MEETING ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at ~ 12:45 PM EST.

[Submitted by Jennifer McLaughlin, April 20, 2009; Approved April 21, 2009]