

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

August 6, 2010

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; Allan Hovis; Wayne Buhler; Cary Hamilton; Ed Cranson; Jen McLaughlin; Kevin Neal; Nancy Fitz; Don Bradley; Jack Peterson; Don Mullins; Roger Springman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 30, 2010 Board of Directors Meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Wayne Buhler. Nancy Fitz seconded the motion. The minutes were approved. A copy of the minutes will be posted on the website.

BYLAW AMENDMENTS

The proposed changes to the Bylaws were sent out to the membership on July 12th. Ballots will be sent on August 26th, after the required 45 day review period. Reminders to vote will be sent out on September 9th and the week of September 6th. An email account has been established to receive the ballots. Voting concludes on September 16th, at which time the votes will be calculated.

In order for Bylaws to be changed, we need to have the majority vote of the membership, not the majority of the votes that are cast. If the majority membership does not vote, then we would revisit this proposed amendment at the next conference. Ed suggested that this information be included as a statement in the email header to emphasize the importance of a returned ballot.

INVESTMENT PROPOSAL

The board has been discussing the option of investing a portion of TPSA funds to earn interest. A motion to move \$25,000 into a CD was made by Ed Cranson. Wayne Buhler seconded the motion. The motion did not pass. The majority of the board felt that the funds might be better used elsewhere, and that the small amount of interest generated would be spent on Bonnie's time managing the account.

LEGAL COUNSEL

The group discussed whether or not it was necessary for TPSA to retain legal representation, and in what situations having legal representation might be relevant. It was suggested that we may want to have legal counsel present at the annual meetings. There could be a concern with anti-trust issues. Fred made the point that if we had an attorney present at the conference, they could not be present in all sessions simultaneously. It was suggested that an attorney could brief moderators on how to manage unfavorable situations. Other suggestions were made to add a disclaimer on the program and to distribute an anti-trust/common accepted practices document to all speakers.

It was agreed that we should retain legal counsel for document review. TPSA has received a proposal from the legal representative that MACA uses. She is familiar with TPSA and is willing to work on an as needed basis. Fred will review the proposal.

WEBSITE

The Communications Committee has been looking into improving TPSA's website. They have requested a budget from the board to determine what funds, if any, could be utilized to make improvements. TPSA has received a proposal from Mirsky and the Center for IPM. Fred will obtain a breakdown of what our current costs are from Mirsky for web hosting and other projects they manage. Wayne and Nancy will review the two proposals to verify they are comparative. Fred will have a recommendation by the next board meeting.

WORKGROUPS

Ag Plastics – Roger, Rob and Lois will be discussing what modifications will need to be made if the changes to the Bylaws are passed such as the Mission Statement and website. The board will review the suggested changes prior to modifications being finalized.

Hazardous Waste – Nothing new to report.

COMMITTEES

International – The group is in the process of finalizing the triple rinsing brochure. The final version will be submitted to the board prior to distribution.

Communications – In addition to working on the website, this committee has discussed the possibility of creating a newsletter. There is a mixed response from the committee if a newsletter can be completed due to limited resources.

2011 Annual Conference – Dan and Kevin have been working together on conference planning. Rob has agreed to head the Alternative Technologies track. Roger and Lois will lead the Ag Plastics track and Dan will head the Waste Disposal Track. Kevin will be managing the scheduling (i.e. room assignments, time, etc.). Kevin will send out the Save the Date notice and the Call for Papers. Ed thought that Pesticide Container Containment might be a specialty topic for the conference that could bring in additional attendance.

ACRC REQUEST

The ACRC has requested TPSA's membership list. They would like to add our members to their distribution of their newsletter. It was discussed that TPSA would be willing to post their newsletter on our website or send a link to our membership to the newsletter, but not necessarily share the membership list directly with another organization. Nancy will be drafting a policy on sharing information. A precedent will be set once we make a decision, so a policy should be in place.

NEXT CONFERENCE CALL

Nancy will send out an email for availability for the weeks of September 20th and September 27th.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at ~ 12:25 PM EST.

[Submitted by Jennifer McLaughlin, September 28, 2010; Approved September 29, 2010]