

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

October 15, 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; Rob Denny; Marty Fitzpatrick; Wayne Buhler; Ed Cranson; Bonnie McCarvel; Jen McLaughlin; Kevin Neal; Eric Laut; Nancy Fitz; Lois Levitan; Don Mullins; Roger Springman; Gail Amos

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 15, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rob Denny. Wayne Buhler seconded the motion. The minutes were approved. A copy of the minutes will be posted on the website.

OPERATIONS REPORT

The invoices for membership dues will be sent out in early November. A suggestion was made that verbiage should be added to the invoice that membership dues are included in conference registration to avoid duplicate payments. Bonnie had already printed all of the invoices, so Kevin will submit an email to the membership indicating this information.

A news release regarding the upcoming conference has been posted to the website, as well as distributed to the media groups. The registration for the conference form has been updated and is nearing completion.

Kevin will send an email to the membership group to remind them of the user name and password for the Members Only section of the website.

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is predicted that we will be under budget for contracted services this year, while over budget on technology due to the updates made to the website. It is estimated that the balance will be approximately \$40,000 at year end.

The budget sheet has been updated to clarify the International Projects that are being sponsored so we can clearly see what is being spent on each project.

POLICIES

All updated and draft policies have been posted to the website under the Members Only section. The policies in draft form need to be reviewed and updated. The review of these policies will take place during future Board of Directors calls.

WORKGROUPS

Ag Plastics – This workgroup has been very busy working on conference planning. They have plans to develop a sub group of the workgroup in the future.

WEBINARS

The topic of TPSA holding webinars was introduced. Eric Laut is working to figure out what the costs would be. This might be a way for TPSA to generate some revenue as well as recruit new members. Ed will also work with his IT department to determine costs, as they perform webinars frequently.

COMMITTEES

International Committee – This workgroup has been working on developing a training program for their projects. They have retained an individual to perform web research. Rob has been working on updating the artwork. The projects are on schedule to meet their deadlines.

Communications Committee – Nancy has been working on getting all of the conference information updated on the website. Lois suggested adding a link to Google calendar with this information. Various suggestions and comments have been presented for updates to be made on the registration form. These will be reviewed and updates will be made accordingly. We want to make sure that the form is very clear to new attendees.

Elections and Bylaws – The nomination form for elections has been sent out. The deadline for responses is November 13th. A reminder will be sent a week prior. The bylaws need to be reviewed and updated.

2010 CONFERENCE

Sponsorship dollars are beginning to come in. Washington Ag Plastics sent \$500 and Washington Potatoes sent \$1000. We have verbal confirmation of sponsorship from BASF, Monsanto, US Ag Plastics and Heritage. Additional sponsors are being solicited. Fred will work with Sam to estimate the actual dollars we are expected to obtain this year.

TPSA would like to have a well represented poster session at the conference. Kevin will check with the hotel on what type of displays they have available. We need to determine costs and give plenty of notice to presenters on how the posters need to be set up for display.

Kevin will draft a letter to get a speaker from EPA to the conference. Nancy will assist on making this happen. Terry Collins has been confirmed as a Keynote Speaker. Rob will confirm with Terry on the topic he will be presenting. Other speakers will be approached in January to determine what they will require for their presentation.

Fred has been working on an offsite activity for Tuesday evening. The art museum that was thought to be an option is out of our budget. Fred is talking with The Lady and Sons Restaurant as an option.

The group discussed the idea of offering scholarships for the conference. Scholarships have not been included in the budget for this year. It was determined that financial requests will continue to be reviewed on a case by case basis at this time. The future of TPSA offering scholarships will be discussed at a later meeting.

PESP CONFERENCE

The PESP conference will be held November 17 and 18. Nancy will be attending. Liza is acting as the TPSA liaison so information regarding this should be filtered through her. Fred will contact Liza to confirm her attendance.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

An email will be sent to check availability for the next board meeting. Possible dates are during the week of November 23rd or November 30th.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at ~ 1:00 PM EST.

[Submitted by Jennifer McLaughlin, December 2, 2009, Approved December 3, 2009]