



American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators

Minutes - March 12-15, 1995

1995 Informal Meeting in Conjunction with the AAPCO Spring Meeting

An informal AAPSE meeting was held in conjunction with the AAPCO spring meeting at the Doubletree Hotel in Arlington, Virginia from March 12-15, 1995. This meeting involved a meeting of the Executive Board and several days of meetings on topics of importance to AAPSE and Extension Pesticide Education Programs. Specific topics included: the 1995 AAPSE agenda, USDA budget, AAPSE committees, and unfinished business from 1994. The formal meeting of AAPSE will be held in San Diego in April. Details of this informal meeting are as follows:

Submitted by Michael J. Weaver, AAPSE Secretary

March 12, 1995

The AAPSE Executive Board met on Sunday, March 12, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. in the Madison Room of the Doubletree Hotel at Pentagon City in Arlington, Virginia. President Mac Horton welcomed the AAPSE Board of Directors, Officers, one ex-officio member, and three members to the meeting. Present were: Mac Horton, Mary Grodner, Jim Criswell, Mike Weaver, John Impson, Larry Olsen, Susan Whitney, Barry Brennen, Gene Burgess, and Roger Flashinski. Mac indicated the meeting was not a formal AAPSE meeting. The formal meeting was slated for San Diego, CA on April 10-13, 1995. However, there were several items that needed to be addressed prior to San Diego.

Mac stated that we were held to established procedures in regard to the Constitution and by-laws and elections of new officers and Board members. There were several other issues which needed to be brought up as well.

Secretary's Report

Mike Weaver handed out a copy of a new AAPSE directory, a new sample AAPSE brochure, a copy of the 1994 annual meeting minutes, and a copy of the new AAPSE Homepage interface to the Internet World Wide Web (WWW). Mike explained the make-up of the new directory and the need for up-to-date information being sent to the Secretary to keep the directory current. This hasn't happened in the past, particularly with members providing up-dates of their personal data to the Secretary. The brochure was a first attempt to provide a short explanation of what AAPSE is all about. It included an invitation to membership, including a membership form inside. Mike also explained that AAPSE was now on the Internet WWW. AAPSE is now visible to millions of Internet users worldwide. The Homepage provides a summary of the association to the public and a means for members to read, print or download copies of association documents, news, directories, and other items. Members can also send information to the computer where the site is kept and it will be posted on the server. The server site can be reached with web-browser software (Netscape, Mosaic, etc.) by opening the URL at "<http://www.vtpp.ext.vt.edu:1080//aapse.html>".

Treasurer's Report

Jim Criswell reported that all checks were deposited in the Association bank account. The new account was finally resolved with a bank last fall. The treasury balance now totals \$4174.00. Obviously, there would be costs from this meeting (i.e.- hospitality suite on March 14) subtracted from the total.

Committee Assignments

The nominations and elections committee needs to be organized. There were only two regions that elected members to this committee last year. One notified the Secretary as required by the Constitution and by-laws. Since we have missed deadlines, we must get the committee elected, have them make their nominations for the 1995 elections, and we must have an election. Since none of these issues has been resolved, it is not possible to notify the association in time for the San Diego conference. If we get the regions to elect two more committee members, we can charge the committee to come up with nominations. These nominations must be sent to the Secretary, 30 days prior to the elections. If the committee is established, the names are submitted to the Secretary and the Secretary can send out ballots to each member. The members would then have a set period of time (i.e. - 30 days) to send the completed ballots to the chair of the nominations committee. These ballots could only be completed by the designated (representative) voting member from each state. This too must be resolved, since many states have not settled on who is their representative voting member. This notification must also be sent to the Secretary. There was a discussion as to whether the ballots could be sent or returned by e-mail, fax, or mail. It was agreed that any of these methods would be allowed by the by-laws. Two regions need to elect members to the nominations and elections committee; the South and Northeast. Mac would make the contacts to get this done.

Assignment of chairs was not resolved due to the elections being so close. These assignments should be made by the next president. As for the Issues and Evaluations Committee, Mac indicated that we have had a problem resolving the chairmanship. Several people have been asked to serve as chair, but have turned it down due to travel distances and restrictions. The chair must serve as the SFIREG liaison and travel to a number of meetings. Jim Criswell indicated that he would be willing to serve as chair after he leaves the Treasurer's position. Larry Olsen indicated he would be interested in serving as Treasurer if elected.

Mac Horton and Mary Grodner agreed that they would get together and select committees. They would select committee chairs on the standing committees (nominations and elections, issues & evaluation) and leave it up to the committees to elect the chair of the other committees. Barry Brennen indicated that after a few years we could determine which of the other committees (ad hoc) should be set to standing committees. Mary indicated that the names on the lists distributed as committees represented a list of members willing to serve on certain committees. These lists would be the basis for selection of each committee.

Mac indicated he would speak to the AAPCO meeting for 30 minutes on Monday, March 13, 1995. AAPSE's informal meeting was slated for Tuesday. A hospitality suite was set for Tuesday evening.

John Impson presented an update of the USDA Budget. John Impson, AAPSE President Horton, and President-elect Grodner met with USDA administrators to discuss the pesticide applicator training budget in January. The FY96 budget has the \$2 million (lost from FY95) put back in for pesticide education. Last year we ended up with \$160,000 in grant funds from the IPM budget. USDA did identify pesticide education as an area of emphasis for FY96. John also met with various agricultural and industry associations in January to get their support and input on suggestions of how to approach Congress. John also produced a white paper of which he will summarize for use with Congress and potential supporters. He suggested a two pronged approach to getting the budget funded for FY96. One at the federal level and the other at the state level. Our current budget from EPA is set at \$2,080,000. We have permission to spend 10% on equipment over two years. John suggested that AAPSE elect another PAT budget committee (re-election of the same committee as last year would be fine) to assist him with FY96 budget issues. Last year's committee should be commended for their

hard work. One issue is the revision of the pass-thru formulas. The formulas will most likely be used to assign USDA funds as well. John indicated he would probably change the program name. One suggestion was "health and environmental protection". The Executive Committee was asked for alternative names by Wednesday. Mac indicated that each member should provide two suggestions by the end of the meeting Wednesday. John indicated that EPA funds would be diluted by the addition of two more territories -- American Samoa and Guam. Many members were surprised that these two territories were not funded already since they had active training programs already.

Mac indicated that a USDA "roundtable discussion" was slated for Tuesday at 1:15 p.m. for all members. The USDA representatives included: A. J. Dye, Bonnie Poli, Mike Fitzer, Dennis Kopp, Jim Miller (will not be present due to conflict), Brad Rein, Jan Singleton, and Andy Webber. EPA would send Cathy Kronopolis. The purpose of the meeting is for members to have an open discussion of concerns and try to tie the programs together. Emphasis will be placed on strengthening relationships and developing partnerships. Emphasis will not be placed on trying to pressure representatives for funds.

At 3:15 p.m. on Tuesday, representatives from 44 associations were invited to meet with members. These were primarily trade associations. AAPCO and ASPCRO representatives were also invited. This will be followed at 7:00 p.m. with an AAPSE sponsored hospitality hour. John Impson indicated that we need to get support from these associations for the proposed PAT budget, or at least inform them so they are not surprised or try to work against us. Mary Grodner stated that we need to emphasize that we need their support to put on a better educational program. AAPSE can do this type of thing as an association. Members went on to discuss local issues and problems relating to relationships with industry and lead agencies. Barry Brennen asked about the possibility of these associations donating funds to AAPSE to support pesticide education.

Mike Weaver followed up by asking for the groups input on the format of the AAPSE directory. He asked and got support to use the AAPCO directory as a model. He also distributed a short note from AESOP. AESOP is a consulting group under contract to lobby for support of Extension and Research (Ag. Experiment Station) programs. Members discussed the issues brought out in the memo, including calls for elimination of extension and research by conservative and liberal think tank groups. Members were asked to keep close tabs on this issue and to work with state and federal counterparts to support the AESOP effort to make the benefits of extension and research programs known to Congressmen and the public.

Mary Grodner indicated she would give an up-date of the San Diego meeting at the Tuesday AAPSE meeting. The group then adjourned for the evening.

March 13, 1995

Mac Horton spoke to the AAPCO group regarding AAPSE's agenda and progress since last year's meeting.

March 14, 1995

AAPSE met at 1:15 p.m. in Arlington North of the Doubletree Hotel. The meeting was a "roundtable discussion" with program leaders at USDA, EPA, various AAPSE members and guests. Arthur Hart (ACPA), Lonnie Mathews (ASPCRO), Tom Delaney (PLCAA), and Punk Bonner (AAPCO) attended as a guests. The meeting included introductions by each person in the room. AAPSE members included: Mac Horton, Mary Grodner, Mike Weaver, Jim Criswell, Larry Olsen, Jack Baniecki, Amy Brown, Joanne Kick-Raack, John Impson, Roger Flashinski, Candice Bartholomew, Barry Brennen, Gene Burgess, Norm Nesheim, Rhonda Ferree, and Susan Whitney. USDA representatives included: Dennis

Kopp (ES-NAPIAP), Mike Fitzner (ES-IPM), Andy Webber (ES-Water Quality), Jan Singleton (ES-Food Safety), Brad Rein (ES-Farm Safety), and Bonnie Poli (AMS-Farm Recordkeeping). EPA representatives included: Cathy Kronopolis (Chief - OPP/Certification, Training & Occupational Safety Branch) and Kevin Keeney (OPP/CTOSB/WPS). The discussion centered around the USDA Pesticide Education Program, its budget, and a need to form partnerships between agencies and USDA programs. The group was asked for their input and each representative gave a short explanation of their programs and how they should interface with the pesticide education program.

At 3:15 p.m. the same AAPSE members met with agricultural association members in the same room. The meeting was initiated by Mac Horton who welcomed the guests and explained the reason for the meeting. Mac had earlier written to 44 organizations and invited them to attend. Mac explained that the meeting was an effort to gain the groups support and make them aware of the USDA Pesticide Education budget, AAPSE, and how the groups can work together. John Impson gave an explanation of the USDA-Pesticide Education budget and its impending journey through the various legislative channels. The floor was opened to comment by the members. Many association representatives asked for further explanation and provided words of support for the program. A few members gave advice and a critique of how the session had gone. Many offered advice on how to continue with the effort and word of appreciation for past efforts. The session closed on a positive note. Association representatives included: Arthur Hart (American Crop Protection Association), Punk Bonner (AAPCO liaison to AAPSE), Lonnie Mathews (Association of State Pest Control Regulatory Officials), Jim Cranik (International Apple Institute), Tom Delaney (Professional Lawn Care Association of America), Jim Egenreider (Agricultural Retailers Association), Allen Noe (ACPA/RISE), Jim Boillot (National Agricultural Aviation Association), and Turney Hernandez (National Roadside Vegetation Management Association). In addition, Kevin Keeney and Cathy Kronopolis also attended.

At 7:30 p.m. AAPSE offered a hospitality suite for representatives and members who attended the afternoon meetings. The social was attended by approximately 25 members and guests.

March 15, 1995

AAPSE did not meet in a formal meeting. Members of the executive committee got together to work out details of committee assignments, an AAPSE membership brochure, and other details. Committee assignments were based on application information and other input. The Executive Committee made a first cut at the core committee assignments including chairpersons. Mac Horton will contact the members listed to determine if they would like to serve. The list of committees and all committee assignments will be finalized in San Diego in April. The group adjourned at 12:00 p.m.