

Minutes – AAPSE Executive Committee Meeting

9:00 – 11:00 CST April 6, 2004

Conference Call

Attendees: Win Hock, Amy Brown, Dean Herzfeld, Joanne Kick-Raack, Bob Wolf

AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1. EPA Funding.** PSEP Coordinators and AAPSE members were informed that another budget reduction is coming this year. The news came in the form of a joint email communication from Monte Johnson (USDA-CSREES) and Jeanne Heying (EPA-OPP). The communication also states that 50% of the funds will be up front and the remaining 50% will come after the states submit their annual reports. Amy and others voiced strong concerns over the continued decrease in funding. Amy and Dean also pointed out that states cannot continue to “forward spend,” thus will have real problems implementing their programs on 50% of the funding. Brown noted the email did not state whether mere submission of an annual report would be enough to release the remaining funds, or whether there might be some review for quality or completeness of the report before a decision would be made. **Action item: Win was directed to draft a letter to inform other groups and provide an official AAPSE stance. He was also directed to draft a letter to Kevin Keaney and Monte Johnson with copy to EPA regions expressing AAPSE concerns about a reduction and the 50/50 proposal. Win will also contact Carol Ramsay, CTAG co-chair, to work with EPA to get the task force going on this issue.**
- 2. CTAG Update.** Win reported on two major discussions of interest to AAPSE that were held at the recent CTAG meeting. He indicated that a major change is forthcoming on how items will be communicated. Items will be posted with an open period for discussion. **Action item: AAPSE should promote using the list serve to share comments of posted items.** The second point of discussion was concerned with establishing a minimum age for certified applicators. It is agreed that this is a regulatory issue and will be highly influenced by Federal child labor laws and quite possibly by state laws with more restrictions.
- 3. EPA Core Manual Update.** Win reported that the manual is nearing completion. Plans are for a hard copy and electronic distribution. Concern for archiving the electronic format was expressed by Joanne. **Action item: Win was encouraged to bring up the matter of having a state archive the electronic version of the manual with the core manual committee.**
- 4. Professional Development Workshop.** The first AAPSE Professional Development Workshop is being planned for the NCR Meeting in St. Louis in

June. A very strong program and speaker lineup is promised. Out of state travel restrictions may influence attendance. **Action item: Win was encouraged to poll the Board of Directors again to make sure a forum will be attending the St. Louis meeting to justify holding an AAPSE Board meeting.**

5. **Associate AAPCO Membership.** Win indicated the possibility of the AAPSE President being provided a non-paying associate membership in AAPCO. A decision will be forthcoming. Amy suggested AAPSE may want to reciprocate, if AAPCO does follow through with this arrangement. The EC indicated it would consider establishing a non-paying membership in AAPSE for the AAPCO President at such time as the arrangement for the AAPSE President on AAPCO is finalized.

6. **Health Care Providers Position Statement.** Amy led a discussion of the prepared position statement by the National Environmental Education and training Committee on Pesticides and National Strategies for Health Care Providers. Prior to the EC teleconference, the EC had voted 4 – 1(via email) to send the matter to the Board for their endorsement of the statement. Joanne expressed concern related to a reference cited in the statement. The reference (but not the statement itself) referred to the Precautionary Principle. **Action item: As AAPSE's liaison on this issue, Amy will send the statement to the full, AAPSE Board prior to the June meeting so that they can be prepared to discuss and vote on the statement at that time.**

7. **CAST Membership.** AAPSE should consider becoming a member of CAST. The type of membership is still not clear. **Action item: Amy is to prepare a hard copy handout for the full AAPSE Board meeting in June. Win will provide advance electronic notification to the Board so they can review the materials on-line. EC should review the membership options to determine what to recommend.**

8. **Mosquito PR Notice.** Win informed the EC that a PR Notice is forthcoming in the Federal Register on mosquito labeling. **Action item: As Chair of the Issues and Evaluations Committee, Joanne should plan to form an ad hoc committee to respond to this when it occurs. A response should be approved by the EC and Board.**

9. **Support for Drift Conference.** A request for AAPSE to join as a sponsor for the International Conference on Pesticide Application and Drift Management (Oct. 27-29, 2004 in Waikaloa, Hawaii) was presented. World-wide speakers, posters, and exhibitors will be present to discuss and display the latest information on

drift. In addition, Best Management Practices sessions and model training workshops will be held. Past drift conference proceeds have added several thousand dollars to the AAPSE treasury. Sponsorship would provide a way to showcase AAPSE's dedication to education and to get international recognition. A \$500 or \$1000 pledge would put AAPSE's name, link, and logo on many conference marketing items. Concerns expressed: Meeting is in Hawaii-possibly not many AAPSE members will be going; do we want to start a precedent of financially supporting conferences; we need a budget plan to work from. Win suggested it may be time for AAPSE to begin putting its financial resources to work by sponsoring conferences or through other actions. **Action item: Dean is to develop a budget plan. Make decision at June board meeting.**

10. Budget. Dean made the following points referencing budget items:

- a. AAPSE needs to set up budget plan
- b. Develop a business plan for AAPSE
- c. AAPSE now has a credit card
- d. AAPSE needs to develop a stronger member benefits message
- e. A web site data base management system is in place at V-Tech
- f. Plans are to maintain bank accounts in Washington State
- g. Establish a procedure for reimbursements to Dean
- h. Win should use the credit card to purchase flight tickets in the future

11. Improving Training Skills. A major issue involving trainer accreditation was discussed. A white paper and several other items were reviewed by the EC prior to the meeting. **Action items: It was decided to take the issue before the June Board meeting for discussion. Win will advise the Board and provide them copies of all documents and comments for review prior to the meeting.**

12. Loss of Competency. Win referenced an email from Murray Walton discussing a 'loss of competency' by some certified applicators. The EC believes this to be a regulatory issue and not training. AAPSE should not take any initiative on this now. **Action item: Win will inform Carol of AAPSE's position.**

13. Email Follow-up Items:

- a. Amy – Anything from PPDC about appointment of AAPSE member to committee? Response from Win: After checking with Margie Fehrenbach, EPA, it appears that Amy is due to be confirmed as a member of the PPDC. She is being formally invited to attend the meeting on May 25-26.
- b. Amy – What is the status of the Recognitions and Resolutions Committee? Response from Dean: Dean is on the R & R Committee. After checking with Sandra McDonald (Chair), he reported that she is ready to have the Committee resume its work on designing guidelines.