

AAPSE Executive Committee Telemeeting Minutes - 4 October 2001

President Brown e-mailed the final meeting agenda to the EC members just prior to the meeting:

Agenda:

1. Discussion of draft strategic plan
2. Status of Professional Development Conference
3. AAPSE's role in re USDA and EPA
4. Discussion of non-member service on AAPSE committees
5. Request for AAPSE production of USDA-funded recordkeeping book.
6. NPSA meeting update; reevaluation of Executive Committee meeting timing

Thursday, 4 October 2001. Meeting started at 1:00PM.

On the line:

Amy Brown, President

Bob Bellinger, Secretary

Win Hock, President-Elect

Carol Ramsay, Treasurer

1. Discussion of draft Strategic Plan (SP)

General comments made by the Executive Committee (EC). Hock - thought Brown's comments were good on the Strategic Plan (SP). The question was raised should we use "Pesticide Education" or more generic to include C&T? Agreement to be more generic/broader. This approach better includes the SLAs. Hock (Brown concurs) makes it more inclusive. Ramsay and Bellinger agreed. We don't have a current revision of the SP since San Antonio. Past Pres Nesheim told Brown that many comments received to date were very general or did not direct to the location of the SP to which they pertained. Hock volunteered to collate our comments and send to Nesheim.

Committee plans to telemeet on the SP (only or mostly) at 3PM on either 31 Oct, or 01 or 08 Nov. Brown and Ramsay have concerns re biases that are in the SP due to committee makeup, individual state projects in action at the time. Want more generalized SP. Brown noted the industry had input, but that "environmental groups" did not. Brown and Ramsay both felt a need for better balance both for substance and perception. Brown will ask Nesheim to provide a second draft, including the revisions so far, and to have it in the hands of EC members no later than one week before the telemeeting.

2. Status of Professional Development Conference

Professional Development Conference will be with the North Central Region PAT meeting - our theme is Changing Clientele. Pat O'Connor Marer is heading the program committee. North Central Conference will be on June 12, and the AAPSE Professional Development Conference on the 13th at Des Moines. Ramsay likely will not attend so that she can instead represent AAPSE at the Canadian pesticide meeting on June 14-15.

Sidebar: Hock asked that we all share Bio-security info. All agreed. Agreement that the ListServ continued to be the best venue. Brown said she would put message on AAPSE ListServ requesting that we all continue to share info. [Brown did so immediately after the telemeeting.]

3. AAPSE's role in re: USDA and EPA

Brown to meet with Monte Johnson on October 18 in Washington. Meeting between Brown and Kevin Keaney is planned for late October, but as yet unscheduled. Concern that there is a perception that AAPSE does not support Johnson and his USDA position. This is not the case. Further, Brown noted that we are all glad for Johnson participating in CTAG, Drift Minimization Conference, regional PAT meetings,

influence with Fitzner, etc. The EC noted that Dennis Kopp should be commended for supporting Johnson's participation in CTAG and Drift Minimization Conference. The focus of each of these two meetings will be AAPSE's continuing desire to work with the two agencies and especially to support the work that Johnson and Keaney are doing that falls in with AAPSE initiatives.

Budget concerns for the future may affect our funding and funding currently being offered/provided because of the events of September 11. Bellinger noted high incurred costs of actual damage. Add to this military related spending, the establishment of a new cabinet level office and tie this all in to finite dollars and we will see lots of dollars being reallocated. Agencies such as the USDA and EPA could very well see some serious cuts the next two years, at least. We need to support EPA and USDA.

Ramsay - need to get clear on the continuation of EPA support for PAT programs. What is the life span of the current EPA/USDA MOU? Hock noted that it is important not to ask too much from EPA, and that we need to find ways to help EPA. Bellinger - although he doesn't believe that we will (ever) get USDA funding, we should give support to USDA as much as we can. Ramsay - yes, give support to USDA.

4. Discussion of non-member service on AAPSE committees (actually discussed chronologically as second item of the telemeeting).

Brown raised concerns related to AAPSE committee make-up that is not limited to AAPSE members: 1.) focus may move off of AAPSE concerns to issues important to the non-members; this may not serve our members' needs well; 2.) AAPSE could not reasonably take credit for work by committees that are largely non-AAPSE, and it is imperative that AAPSE continue to build a reputation for being able to contribute. However, there will be cases where expertise does not exist within AAPSE itself and we would want to seek input from non-members. The EC concurs that service on committees should be limited to AAPSE members in most cases (conference program committees may be an exception), with non-members participating as resource people designated by the respective chairs. We need to come up with some guidance relative to funding these persons' expenses, e.g. travel. We need to be sure committee chairs understand what policy is.

5. Request for AAPSE production of USDA-funded recordkeeping book.

Bonnie Poli, USDA Recordkeeping Program, has funding to produce a pesticide recordkeeping book for the Federal requirements - product needed by Feb 2002. She asked if AAPSE would be interested in developing the book with a grant from USDA. Due to USDA requirements, it could not be published under the logo of a particular state agency or university, but could be published under the logo of a professional organization such as AAPSE. Brown expressed concern about the mechanics: 1.) short time frame, 2.) how to ensure a fair process for allowing all interested AAPSE members to have an equal chance of submitting a plan to produce the document. There was general discussion of utility of such a book across states because of differing state requirements. The question was raised about which states use only the Fed standards? To pursue this book we would need time to gather info on this. The EC not sure that this is useful product, or that it is useful to AAPSE to pursue. In particular, the EC concurs that AAPSE products must serve a truly educational purpose rather than strictly supporting (meeting) a regulatory requirement. Thus, AAPSE would want to broaden the document and include suggestions on additional information that should be maintained although it may not be required, such as weather conditions, equipment/nozzles used, etc. This would require a longer time frame to produce in order to ensure enough time for peer review. Brown will talk to Poli on details, needed options, whether time frame can be extended.

6. NPSA meeting update; reevaluation of Executive Committee meeting timing

Brown has newer draft NPSA meeting agenda from Roger Springman (received the morning of the EC telemeeting). NPSA has added a session on pesticide security Thursday afternoon. Ramsay will

moderate a roundtable on training resources Thursday morning. The training resources session will include presentations by a technical writer (How to target your audience) from WSU, as well as three sessions on novel approaches to training (Susan Whitney (DE), Pat Hipkins (VA), Ramsay). EC meeting is currently scheduled from 1 – 9 PM Thursday afternoon, but we would then have to miss the new session on security, which all expressed desire to attend. EC agreed, instead, to set aside two time periods for the EC meeting: 3-6 PM on Wed and 3-6 on Thurs.

AAPSE has also been asked to join the session on NPSA initiatives wherein affiliated and/or interested organizations will attempt to help NPSA identify new goals and foci. Because this session is set during the time of one of the two EC meetings, Brown will ask another AAPSE member, who plans to attend NPSA but is not on the EC, to attend as the official representative. The EC wants the representative to express concerns for cost of attending the NPSA meeting. The EC feels it is desirable to have AAPSE-sponsored sessions at non-AAPSE meetings, but they need to reduce costs if they want AAPSE's continued participation. A registration fee of \$350 (especially with a pay-your-own-way reception) and high-cost cities will preclude attendance by many, of not most, AAPSE members now and in the future. In any case, AAPSE will not use the NPSA 2002 meeting as a forum to stage an EC meeting because we don't want to tie our meetings tightly to other meeting due to lack of flexibility, perceptions of our goals, costs of these meetings.

Bellinger (new to the EC) asked about travel rules for the committee. Answer: try to cover travel costs from home base. AAPSE can cover travel if really necessary to do so. Be reasonable in all.

End of agenda discussion.

Additional issues discussed

1) Spray Drift Issues - Tom Dean (FL) had comments on the draft Drift Proposed Registration Notice (PRN) at the SRPAT meeting and Brown encouraged him at that time to send comments to Win Hock. Win has comments from only two people. Brown will recontact Dean and reencourage. Ramsay noted that EPA requested that submitted comments should be positive, i.e. if there is problem wording, then suggest new wording, don't just identify bad wording and leave them hanging. Ramsay noted that AAPCO wants to see AAPSE letter to EPA Ellenburger before they send theirs.

2) Tom Delaney (Professional Lawn Care Association of America - PLCAA) expressed concerns to AAPSE via the Listserve related to alleged scare tactics being used by some county health departments. He also mentioned what he felt was problematic wording on the new EPA IPM website. The EC felt there were two issues here, and that we could not deal with what they may be at this time. The EC did not necessarily see the same problem with the wording on their IPM website that Delaney saw. Brown will contact Delaney, using wording based on a comment by Ramsay (which she is to e-mail to Brown) to tell him this.

3) Bellinger will finalize the vote web page so we can move forward with the vote.

Meeting adjourned at 2:58 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Robert G. Bellinger
Secretary