



**Minnesota Pest Management Association
October 27, 2015 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Moe's Restaurant, Mounds View, MN**

The following is a listing of those in attendance:

Dr. Hao Yu, Guardian Pest Solutions
Rob Greer, Rove Pest Control
Richard Turbett, Terminix
Stephen Kells, University of MN
Joe Spitzmueller, Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture
Jenny Williams, Plunkett's Pest Control
Jay Bruesch, Plunkett's Pest Control
Larry Ruffedt, Westside Pest Control
Dr. Mohammed El Damir, Adam's Pest Control
Todd Leyse, Adam's Pest Control
Allison Forcier, Forcier Event Solutions
John Wagner, EcoLab
Brent Kostka, Bug Busters
Michael DuFort, Bug Busters
Travis Garner, Rove Pest Control
Dr. Mohammed El Damir, Adam's Pest Control
Mike Fresvik, MN Pest Management Association

MPMA President Matt Ferguson was ill and not able to attend the meeting. MPMA Secretary/Treasurer, Mike Fresvik, called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM. Calling for any old business, being none, opened the meeting to new business.

Mike Fresvik asked for a roll call of those present.

Dr. Stephen Kells, University of MN:

Dr. Kells opened with a discussion of the March 2016 Structural Pest Management Conference. Dr. Kells is formulating the agenda at this time. A number of proposed speaker contacted had conflicts. Therefore, Dr. Kells has had to adjust the agenda topics.

Dr. Kells mentioned that he is aware of problems associated with control of bed bugs primarily in multi housing units. A few of these situations were the result of work done by licensed pest control



firms. In addition, he is aware of pesticide misuse by the residents or landlords. Dr. Kells discussed that a few residents have used fire ant products for the treatment of bed bugs. Not only are the residents using illegal labeled products, but they are applying the material at extremely high dose levels. When licensed pest control applicators becomes aware of illegal pesticide usage, they should discuss this with the landlord and/or the individual that is making the illegal application.

On site involvement on the part of the licensed applicators may reduce future problems associated with bed bug infestations.

Dr. Kells mentioned that during the planned MPMA Reception he will request agenda speakers to be available. This will allow reception attendees to have one on one discussions with the program speakers.

Dr. Kells noted that conference costs have increased yearly. To offset the rising cost, conference registration fees will be increased by five dollars. He is also looking at vendor advertising in the conference manual. Vendors will have the opportunity to purchase product or service advertising.

The noon meal on the second day has always been difficult to determine the number of attendees. A system is being set up that will more accurately determine the number of attendees and will lower conference cost.

In conclusion, Dr. Kells noted we are approaching the 10th anniversary of holding the conference at the Minneapolis Convention Center. He is looking ahead at possibly moving the conference to another location. The 2016 Conference will be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Allison Forcier, Forcier Meeting & Travel and Mike Fresvik, MN Pest Management Association:

Allison and Mike discussed the planned MPMA Reception at the 2016 Structural Pest Management Conference. The reception will be held at the conclusion of the agenda on Monday, March 7. Owners, managers, and technical directors (decision makers) will be invited. The reception will take place in the exhibit area and last one hour. The menu will include a Taco Fiesta Food Station and two drinks per individual. Attendees will be able to visit with agenda speakers, conference planners, and exhibitors.

MPMA is exploring the idea of offering various levels of reception sponsorships to conference exhibitors. In addition, MPMA will recognize firms that elect to sponsor the reception.



A suggestion was made that MPMA may want to consider having entertainment at the reception. One idea was an accordion player. Mike and Allison will work on this possibility. Mike will contact Jay Bruesch to secure information (cost, availability) about a particular accordion player. The information will then be presented to the Board for a final decision.

The question was raised; can vendors purchase extra drink tickets for customers? It was determined that MPMA will explore this possibility and provide further information prior to the conference.

It was suggested MPMA hold a raffle during the reception. Those attending the Board meeting thought that was an excellent idea. Mike and Allison will check with exhibitors for possible raffle donations.

Joe Spitzmueller-Minnesota Department of Agriculture:

Joe noted MDA is in the middle of an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) program review. EPA funds approximately 3% of MDA's pesticide program budget.

Joe mentioned that EPA has a new technical contact for Minnesota. The new contact is Seth Dibblee, EPA Region V, 312-886-5992, dibble.seth@epa.gov.

Joe then called attendees attention to EPA's proposed rule changes for Certification and Training. At this time, EPA has an open comment period ending November 23. Joe encouraged MPMA to comment on these proposed changes.

Jay Bruesch volunteered to draft MPMA's comments to EPA. The draft comments will be reviewed by the MPMA Board prior to submission to EPA.

As a side note, MPMA comments have been drafted, reviewed, and submitted to EPA. MPMA members have been emailed a copy of the comments.

Joe then discussed MDA's Legislative proposals. This is a short legislative session, thus there are not many proposals. The MDA Commissioner is looking at a proposal relating to pesticide notification after a particular application. MPMA has previously commented on this proposal. In those comments to MDA, MPMA expressed various items of concern. MPMA will continue to monitor the status of this possible legislative proposal.

Joe was asked if he was aware of MPMA's comments to the Commissioner concerning internet sales of pesticide. This relates to the sale of pesticide products that are labeled for use by trained applicators. Joe was not aware of the status on this item. It was suggested that Mike, contact Gregg Regimbal, MDA, for a status report.



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Jenny Williams, Plunketts Pest Control- Larry Ruffedt,-Westside Pest Solution- Kathy Watrin, Granite Pest Control, Past President

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Mike Fresvik raised the question of an MPMA web site. Todd Leyse volunteered to do some development work on a web site prior to MPMA's January 19, 2016 Board Meeting.

Mike Fresvik then reviewed MPMA's Financial Report.

MPMA has a balance of \$19,118.22 as of November 25, 2015. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Financial Report.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Mike Fresvik, MPMA
Secretary/Treasurer
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