



January 21, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Crooked Pint, Maplewood, MN 55117 651-252-6500

The following were in attendance:

Dr. Stephen Kells: University of Minnesota
Matthew Eickman: Abra Kadabra
Dr. Mohammed El Damir: Adam's Pest Control
Todd Leye: Adam's Pest Control
Larry Ruffedt Sr.: Westside Pest Control
Larry Ruffedt Jr.: Westside Pest Control
Lance Watrin: Granite Pest Control
Caroline Kirby: Plunketts Pest Control
Rich Hodgson: Orkin
Travis Chambers: BASF
Kelly Olson: Ecolab
Christine Wicks: Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Roger Mackedanz: Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Mike Fresvik: Minnesota Pest Management Association

2020 MPMA President Rich Hodgson opened the meeting at 11:30 AM, calling for any old business, being none, she opened the meeting to new business. Rich introduced MPMA's new Board of Director, Lance Watrin. Thanks, Lance, for your support of our association.

MPMA President Rich Hodgson asked for a roll call of those present.

Todd Leye: Adam's Pest Control

Todd opened the discussion on the subject of Chapter 18B. Preemption and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) delegation of pesticide regulatory authority. Chapter 18B is a follow up of legislative language proposed during the 2019 Legislative Session that would allow to delegate pesticide regulatory responsibilities to Minnesota cities of the first class, which includes Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester, and Duluth.

Todd noted that the driving force for the delegation language was pollinator protection. This is a false concern in that during calendar year 2019, MDA investigated only two possible bee kills due to



pesticides, one was agriculture related and the other was unsubstantiated. If the Minnesota Legislature were truly serious about pollinator protection, more bee habitat should be encouraged.

Todd mentioned that during 2019 Legislative Session, MPMA worked to defeat this language. The Minnesota House of Representatives passed legislation that included delegation language; however, the Minnesota Senate did not include this language in their final Agriculture Omnibus bill. The Minnesota House of Representatives and Minnesota Senate met in a conference committee where the language was defeated. Even though MPMA was successful in eliminating the delegation language, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture did not take a position opposing the language.

Todd noted it is MPMA's understanding that this language will again be proposed during the upcoming Minnesota 2020 Legislative Session. MPMA and other pesticide applicator associations met on January 13 with the MDA Commissioner Thom Petersen and his staff. The goal of the meeting was to indicate support 18 B. Preemption and detail the concerns regarding delegation language. Hopefully, MDA Commissioner Petersen will better understand our concerns, and take a position in opposition to delegation language that may be introduced during the 2020 Minnesota Legislative Session.

The meeting was well attended with major agriculture organizations and associations whose members apply pesticides in the urban environment. The MDA Commissioner stated that he was impressed with the number of various organizations that attended the meeting expressing support for 18 B. Preemption and concern that MDA would consider delegation of pesticide authorities.

Todd mentioned that it was a lengthy meeting with excellent discussion.

At the close of the meeting, Commissioner Petersen did indicate that given the excellent regulatory work done by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, cooperation, and compliance by the regulated clientele, he saw no need to delegate regulatory responsibilities.

Christine Wicks: Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Christine discussed the upcoming 2020 Association of Structural Pest Control Regulatory Officials (ASPCRO) Annual Meeting which will be held this summer in the Twin Cities. ASPCRO is a professional association comprised of structural pest control regulatory officials of any state. The annual meeting is attended by anyone interested in the regulation of the Structural Pest Control industry including local, state, and federal officials charged with the regulation of pesticide use within their respective jurisdictions, members of the regulated industry, pesticide safety educators and private enterprises. The meeting is scheduled for August 17-21 in Minneapolis.



Christine gave an excellent discussion of the upcoming meeting. I will continue to stay in touch with Christine and provide further updates on the meeting agenda, and how MPMA may participate or provide assistance relating to this meeting.

Dr. Stephen Kells: University of Minnesota

Dr. Kells presented information as to the agenda, topics, and speakers, for the March 9 and 10 Minnesota Structural Pest Management Conference.

The details for the 2020 PMC are in the link below. Please review the information and register for the conference.

<https://sites.google.com/view/2020-mn-structural-pmc/home>

- Conference Dates: Monday, March 9 and Tuesday, March 10
- Location: Minneapolis Convention Center
- Registration Fee: \$214.00 per person

Registration Due Date: February 28 (to avoid late registration fee)

There will be no on line training option available in lieu of attending the 2020 March 9 and 10 Conference.

The new Structural Pest Management Study Manual is not available at this time. The testing of individuals for a Structural Pest Management license is based on the existing study materials.

On a personnel note, we are very fortunate to have an individual of Dr. Kells caliber interested in and working with our industry.

Minnesota Pest Management Association: Mike Fresvik

Mike opened with a discussion of MPMA plans for addressing MDA delegation language should it be introduced during the 2020 Minnesota Legislative Session.

In December, MPMA sent an email to Roger Mackendanz, Assistant Director, Pesticide and Fertilizer Management Division, Minnesota Department of Agriculture. The purpose of the email was to inquire whether the Minnesota Department of Agriculture has formulated a position on pesticide regulatory delegation language. In addition, has MDA received a response from the Environmental Protection Agency on the feasibility of MDA delegating pesticide regulatory responsibilities.



MPMA is in the process of scheduling a meeting with Minnesota Representative Jeanne Poppe, Chair Agriculture and Food Finance and Policy Division. Legislative language relating to MDA pesticide delegation would have to be heard and pass through this division. The goal of our meeting with Representative Poppe is to express our concerns.

Next Mike then provided a listing of firms that have registered for March Conference exhibit space.

B & G Equipment Company
BASF
Bayer
Bell Laboratories, Inc.
Catchmaster
Cardinal Professional Products
Conidiotec LLC
Contree Sprayer & Equipment Co.
Control Solutions Inc
Liphatech
MGK
Neogen
Nisus
PelGar USA
Pest Control Supplies
Pest Management Supply
Pumptec Inc.
Rhodes Chemical Company
Syngenta
Tomahawk Live Trap
Trece Inc.
Univar Environmental Sciences
Wildlife Management Services
Zoecon-Central Life Sciences

Please let me know if I should be contacting other interested vendors.

Mike then presented the MPMA Financial Status Report:



January 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2019

Income- \$42,256.07

Expenditures- \$37,408.57

Net worth December 31, 2019- \$33,237.79

January 1, thru January 21, 2020

Income- \$11,220.00

Expenditures- \$754.63

Net worth January 21, 2020- \$43,703.16

Mike provided MPMA Board members with a detailed accounting of income and expenditures for calendar year 2019. MPMA Board Members were asked to review the 2019 accounting report and contact Mike with questions.

MPMA President asked for any additional items that need to be addressed, being none Rich asked for a motion to adjourn.

MPMA thanks you for your membership and support.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Mike Fresvik, MPMA
Secretary/Treasurer
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