



Minutes

Pesticide Advisory Board Meeting September 15, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Shrawder, Jessica Lenker, Joe Demko, Don Eggen, Bob Williamson, Beth Gugino, Sally Holbert, Ken Martin, Lisa Murphy, Michael Myers, Marty Overline

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES: Ruth Welliver, Don Gilbert, Destiny Zeiders, Sharon Gripp, Ed Crow, Gregg Robertson, John Lake, Melanie Donnelly, Nada Manmiller

Motion was made to approve the June 16, 2021 minutes. Sally Holbert requested that a statement on page 3 of the minutes be removed. Motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Michael Myers and seconded by Joe Demko. Motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Chairman Shrawder welcomed Ken Martin to the board. Ken represents the food processing industry. Jessica Lenker updated the board that they are still working on the vacancies for the Game Commission and Fish and Boat Commission.

Subcommittee Updates:

Certification for Spanish Speaking Individuals – Timothy McGinty, Committee Chair

Jessica Lenker updated the board that Tim had put some information out to the committee and that is as far that the committee has gotten.

Funds for Pesticide Drift in Specialty Crops – Sally Holbert, Committee Chair

Sally let the board know that the committee has not had the time to meet yet.

Chairman Shrawder appointed Ken Martin to this committee.

Board Member Roundtable:

Don Eggen informed the board about a national issue with Imidacloprid. EPA and some other states have taken actions with Imidacloprid. There is an EPA comment period right now looking at the environmental review process. Don explained that the science behind the label was created based on agricultural and homeowner uses and not forestry use. DCNR has been using this product for control of hemlock woolly adelgid. If the registration of Imidacloprid is brought up for consideration in Pennsylvania, Don's recommendation would be not to ban it, but instead make it a restricted use pesticide, as some other states have done. This would make it available for use by trained applicators, in situations where it is still the most effective chemical to use.

Ruth Welliver stated (via chat) – PDA has sent comments to EPA on their registration of neonicotinoids, as well as other pesticides, to support responsible use of chemicals, and careful review of scientific data on environmental, animal and human health. We are slow to put additional restrictions over EPA's at the state level, because it becomes a patchwork of regulations across states that make it difficult for users and companies.

Chairman Shrawder asked if there was any information on the fish kill in the Pittsburgh area. Jessica replied that it is an ongoing investigation so she could not discuss it at this time.

Jessica informed the board that EPA published a final rule revoking all tolerances for Chlorpyrifos on food. More information is coming soon. Out of 42 products registered in PA for 2021; 29 of them were for food products.

Public Comment Period: No comments

A motion was made to adjourn. Motion made by Bob Williamson and seconded by Marty Overline. None opposed.

Minutes submitted by Nada Manmiller