



Minutes

Pesticide Advisory Board Meeting

September 14, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Shrawder, Joe Demko, Don Eggen, Beth Gugino, Sally Holbert, Jessica Lenker, Tim McGinty, Lisa Murphy, Martin Overline, Heather Smiles, Joe Farwell, Matthew Persons

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES: David Dressler, Sharon Gripp

MEMBER UPDATE: Jessica Lenker gave updates on members expiring that have been renewed and should be good for a few years before any members will be expiring.

New member: Matthew Persons from Susquehanna University representing Entomologist previously held by Chris Tipping. Matthew is an Arachnologist who studies spiders primarily. He is a professor of Biology, a program coordinator, he is associated with the Freshwater Research institute and the Center for Environmental Educational research at Susquehanna University.

Motion to approve the June 15, 2022, minutes was made by Lisa Murphy and second by Martin Overline.

Fertilizer Law update: David Dressler, Agronomic Program Specialist gave an update on fertilizers. The Fertilizer Act 83 went in law July 2022, the previous law Chapter 67 has been replaced and repealed with chapter 68. All previous requirements are still in effect. The update mainly effected manufacture and guarantors, not so much of the application industry. Chapter 73 Fertilizer Regulation has not been replaced; it is still effective.

Some of the biggest changes that effected the new law requirements: labeling, turf fertilizer, turf fertilizer application rate, restriction of turf fertilizer application, prohibited acts, outreach and education, exclusion of local law and fees. The new act will be updated on the website fertilizers website and will be emailed to the pesticide advisory board.

PAB Committee Update: No updates from advisory board members.

Board Member Roundtable: Beth Gugino asked PDA what the process and procedures to give the to the extension team when growers call and complain about herbicide drifting. Jessica Lenker stated that PDA can enforce that pesticide regulation laws to ensure they are complied with. The sooner the information comes into PDA from the grower the better an investigation can be conducted. Growers can also take their own samples to an independent lab to get results. Larry Shrawder discussed he used a private lab with quick turnaround to allow them to act on the issues caused by drift. The PDA is responsible to make sure the law is being followed and can issue penalties and fines as a result of an investigation.

Martin Overline gave information about the EPA requiring reviews of pesticide labels every 15 yrs and are currently reviewing rodenticide. Three of the top items enforced are bulk applicators will have to be license, it

might become a restricted use product, after applying you will have to follow up with the area daily to remove carcasses.

Matthew Persons asked if there are any exemptions to the right to know law and proprietor laws about inactive ingredient in pesticides. Some evidence show inactive ingredients can be toxic to arthropods. You can't separate out the substance because of the proprietor laws. Jessica Lenker did suggest it's something to investigate as she is not aware of any exemption and will get answers or give Matthew a resource for communicate. Sally Holbert also suggested resource for Matthew.

Sally Holbert discussed the fertilizer law that was present in the meeting, that turf manager mostly golf courses and school districts will use a combination formulation of pesticide and fertilizers. She feels the board should stay on top of the fertilizer law and the formulations.

Jessica Lenker had a follow up from last board meeting: A fumigation rep will be invited to December's pesticide board meeting; the law would need changed to add new voting member to the pesticide board. Jessica gave an update on the Chemsweep program protocol. The program will stay the same but will be going electronic. The industry suggested the practices are updated by giving an option to electronically upload documents or mail paper copies. This will be implemented next season.

Don Eggen gave information about PEMA updating the state hazard mitigation plan for 2023 and may reach out to state agencies for questions.

Public Comment Period:

Christine Weidner had a comment directed to Matthew Persons; She has been reaching out to the environmental protection for over 30 years to get the inactive ingredients when they test commonly used pesticides. Christine and Matt will discuss their concern during a personal conversation.

John Lake offered to assist Christine with communicating with Regional 3 EPA and Office of Pesticide Programs.

Larry Shrawder adjourned the meeting without objection.

Next meeting: December 14, 2022

Minutes submitted by Kiana Lewis