

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

August 10, 2021

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:04 AM on August 10, 2021, online via Zoom. All Commission members were present: Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger, Vice-Chair; Greg Holley, Dr. Brian Forschler, Christy Kuriatnyk, Bodine Sinyard and Kim Bragg.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA and CPCO representatives, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. Motion was made by Mr. Holley to approve the minutes of the June meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion and motion passed.
- D. The Commission approved company license applications (see Attachment 2).
- E. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology update. He spoke about a recent WDO workshop for new state inspectors where he partnered with SPD on the training of termite identification and biology. Dr. Suiter's Home IPM Workshop was held last week. The School IPM Workshop will be August 19. Termite Workshops will be held September 2-3 and 16-17. All workshops are held at UGA Griffin Campus. Dr. Forshler expressed interest in a survey regarding economic impact on pest control companies, Florida is reviewing a similar survey. He plans to publish the spray foam insulation research project report soon.
- F. Ms. Angie Simmons provided the compliance and enforcement update. SPD recently had three for-cause joint inspections. These included a moth ball complaint with the GA Dept of Public Health, a bee kill investigation with GDA's Ag-Inputs and Plant Protection Divisions, and an alleged pesticide improper disposal investigation with Ag-Inputs. SPD is back to normal with inspection priorities, inspecting companies with the longest interval since their last inspection. SPD has a new 12 district map that is based on population, number of companies and square mileage. Mr. Lastinger expressed appreciation to Angie for stepping in as interim compliance specialist.
- G. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the certification and training update. He reviewed the cheating policy and gave a reminder that if caught cheating on an exam, there will be a one year wait and requirement to go before the SPCC before testing again. If caught cheating a second time, there is a five year wait and SPCC approval. Mr. Taylor provided an update on license renewals. Companies that have not renewed yet have until September 30 to pay their renewal fee including late fees. The current number of licenses that have renewed to date: 1,196 companies, 6,144 registered employees, 2,182 certified operators. GDA will reach out to the 106 companies that have not renewed yet. Registered Employee trainings earned on or after March 1, 2021, will post online after September 30, 2021.
- H. Ms. Nan Collier reviewed GDA's outreach events. Mr. Lastinger recently provided outreach at GPCA's Summer Conference. SPD inspectors, John Huff and Kevin Hancock provided outreach at the Home IPM Workshop. Other SPD inspectors will provide outreach at the

upcoming School IPM Workshop and the Termite Workshops. GDA will provide consumer outreach at the Gwinnett Fair in September and the Georgia National Fair in October.

- I. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He expressed appreciation to Dr. Forschler for his assistance with the recent state inspector WDO workshop. SPD inspector, Carl Schnabel, is the lead inspector for training new staff on fumigation audits. There was an article in the June 30 edition of the Market Bulletin on the role GDA plays in these audits. LeAnna Merritt is taking on a new role as routine case processor. GDA's Summer internship has ended. SPD's intern, Ryann Smith, wrote a paper on Formosan Termites and will share it with the Commission when it's finalized. The July 1 bulletin of *The Inside Buzz* focused on internships and includes a couple of articles written by interns.
- J. Mr. Gorecki provided an update on the proposed spray foam insulation code amendment. DCA's subcommittee voted in favor of the Commission's proposal. The final vote will come from DCA's full committee. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation for all the support and letters the Commission received during this process. He encourages industry associations to become familiar with building codes.
- K. Mr. Lastinger provided an update on the Honeybee Control and Removal rule. A workgroup has been put together to focus on implementation of the rule. Their first meeting was July 21st. The focus was on training, certification, and a timeline for implementation. A draft document including recommendations will be reviewed by the Commission. Mr. Lastinger spoke about a news story that aired with misinformation about the new rule and the inquiries it generated to the department. He said that GDA will make an announcement after the recommendations on implementation are approved by the Commission. Mr. Sinyard and Dr. Forschler thanked Mr. Lastinger and Mr. Gorecki on the time and hard work they put in to move the rule forward.
- L. The Commission discussed the 3-day right to cancel for WDO and HPC contracts and how to bring awareness of the verbiage requirement to the industry. This is a rule of the Federal Trade Commission. GDA will draft the guidance and share with the Commission at the next meeting.
- M. Mr. Lastinger provided an update on EPA's response to OIG's 2016 report regarding the testing of portable clearance devices with sulfuryl fluoride. EPA is taking the next step in response to the OIG report for this pesticide and has proposed new mitigation measures in the following areas: clearance devices, posting signs, criteria for stewardship training, aeration time, and a fumigation management plan requirement. The SPCC put a workgroup together to help the Commission and GDA collect information on the proposal. The first meeting was August 2nd. Discussions included aeration devices and how drastically the fumigation industry could change in Georgia.
- N. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. Georgia Link will continue to provide legislative updates to the SPCC, a new representative will attend the next Commission meeting. EPA is working with state engineers on pre-proposal recommendations on WOTUS (Waters of the United States). Public hearings will start August 18.
- O. Mr. Lastinger provided an ASPCRO update. The virtual conference starts today with inspector trainings. General session starts tomorrow. Agenda topics include pesticide pre-emption issues, sulfuryl fluoride, impact of the pandemic, EPA updates, and updates from committee chairs. The mid-year meeting planned for April 2022 will be held in person.

P. Meeting adjourned at 11:27pm.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	New Company Licenses

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Gary W. Black, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman
Christy Kuriatnyk, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

August 10, 2021

Open - Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. New Company Applications – Tim Taylor
- b. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- c. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance/Enforcement – Angie Simmons
 - Certification & Training – Tim Taylor
 - Outreach – Nan Collier
- d. Spray Foam Insulation and proposed building code amendment
- e. Rule 620-9 work group
- f. Rule 620-6-.02 (2) Contracts & 16 C.F.R. 429
- g. U.S. EPA Sulfuryl Fluoride Draft Interim Re-Entry Mitigation Measures
- h. Legislative update – GeorgiaLink
- i. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- j. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Armor Pest Defense, LLC – Blackfoot, ID
- GA Lawn Care and Pest Solutions – Gainesville

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Nature's Turf Inc. – Fayette County (insurance)
- Clutch Johnson LLC, DBA: 1 Chance – Lowndes County (research fee)