

# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

October 14th, 2025

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- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:04 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Kim Bragg, Greg Holley, Bodine Sinyard, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. He noted that all is going well with the UGA Urban Entomology department currently. He also highlighted that the Georgia Mosquito Control Association's 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is taking place from October 5<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> at the UGA Continuing Education Center in Athens, GA. Notable speakers include SPCC member Dr. Nguyen and Billy Blasingame Jr. He encouraged everyone to attend if they are able.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. The Georgia National Fair is currently taking place and will conclude on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lastinger also noted that several members of the SPD team are currently volunteering through the end of October to aid the Plant Protection Division's team with their Yellow-legged hornet eradication efforts. In response to a reduced budget, the SPD is currently operating while reducing expenditures and relying on our support systems.
- F. Mr. Taylor gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. He emphasized that there has been a rise of over 30% in the number of complaints, especially in regard to unlicensed operators. He also stated that the SPD is seeing incidents of falsified records, where PURs are being filled out based on the label despite those directions not actually being followed. With the prevalence of modern home security cameras, it becomes increasingly easy to obtain a clear picture of how applications are being performed. Mr. Taylor emphasized the requirement to follow label use directions.
- G. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. The 2025 renewal season has come to a close. Anyone who has still not renewed will now need to recomplete all initial licensing requirements. The Fall 2025 issue of [the Inside Buzz](#) features an FAQ for those seeking to get relicensed. The final totals of unexpired licenses were: 4,324 Registered Employees, 239 Certified Operators, and 56 Companies. Ms. Ikner noted that there were approximately 20 fewer unexpired companies than in the last renewal season. She praised the hard work of the office staff, inspectors, and website team in helping to get the word out and provide assistance throughout this renewal season. Ms. Ikner also announced that the course renewal webpage is being finalized and emails will be sent out to the sponsors as soon as it is available.
- H. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. The 2025 Fall Workshops at UGA Griffin have concluded, these were well attended this year. She also spoke about the GPCA's South Georgia Conference which had recently occurred on October 8<sup>th</sup>, and the many positive

interactions the SPD team had with attendees there. Mrs. Collier also noted that SPD will be hosting a compliance table and participate in speaking events throughout the CPCO's Annual Fall Conference October 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Collier also highlighted the recent edition of The Inside Buzz, which featured guidance on renewing your license if you missed the late renewal deadline. This edition had a 7% increase in its already competitive open rate. We appreciate everyone staying tuned into the department news! Mrs. Collier also emphasized an upcoming SPD special presentation of the School IPM program at Friendship Elementary School's A.G.D.A.Y. (Always Growing a Desire for Agriculture in Youth) to be held on October 16<sup>th</sup>. SPD Outreach will be somewhat winding down as we move into the winter months, but we will be gearing up behind the scenes for next spring.

- I. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- J. Mr. Gorecki gave the update on Rulemaking. He began by opening the floor to comments and questions about the proposed rule changes. He thanked the GDA team for their work in organizing these rule changes into a format that was easy to work with. Mr. Gorecki also highlighted several proposed changes and made clarifications on the reasoning and intent of those changes. He noted that some were simple language updates, updating references to federal laws, and other changes that are administrative "clean up" in nature. He discussed the newly included definition of the HBR "reentry point" to better clarify expectations, and the proposed increase in licensing fees. He also elaborated on federal changes that are driving state level rules and regulation modifications. This includes changes to the rules under which a Registered Employee is able to apply RUPs. He encouraged everyone to read through all the changes thoroughly to understand what will need to be done for Registered Employees to be able to apply RUPs. Another change is that the SPCC is proposing is that Georgia drop its state specific requirement that the Certified Operator must be on site to oversee the application of RUPs, but rather in line with federal standards is able to be reached if and when needed. Mr. Lastinger clarified that the reason for proposing the removal of the onsite requirement was due to new extensive federal training requirements which help to add an additional layer of protection. Mr. Gorecki continued the discussion, speaking about the newly proposed Certified Applicator License, which may provide another option to allow a person to apply RUPs as well as act as a good steppingstone for career advancement for Registered Employees. A motion was made by Mr. Greg Holley to accept the Rule Change Draft to move forward with the public comment period. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- K. Mr. Lastinger explained the next steps in the Rulemaking process. For each of the chapters with proposed amendments the GDA's legal team has drafted copies as well as a synopsis of changes. Once legal services have finalized these drafts, they will post these rule amendments for public comment. The 30-day comment period will open once everyone has received those notifications via email. An in-person event where all members of the public are welcome to submit comments will be held at the GDA during this time period. At the end of the 30 days the SPCC will review all the comments, consider them, and make any final edits to the draft rule changes and GDA will file with the Secretary of State's Office. Once the rules become law, the GDA will begin working on its formal implementation process. This will include outreach on rule changes and a timeline for compliance assistance and enforcement date. Outreach on approved rule changes is expected to begin in January of 2026.

- L. Mr. Gorecki provided the NPMA update. Pest World 2025 starts next week kicking off with the Board of Directors meeting in Orlando, FL. The agenda promises a great conference. He also stated that the NPMA public policy group is working with the US Chamber and providing comments back to the FTC on Employment agreements. NPMA is continuing its work on the Rodenticide issue and will continue to monitor changes regarding these policies.
- M. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 10:58am.

**ATTACHMENTS**

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Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

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Chris Gorecki, Chairman

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Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

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**ATTACHMENT 1**



## Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman  
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman  
Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, 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

October 14, 2025

#### **Welcome**

**Open** – Chairman Gorecki

#### **Minutes**

#### **Old Business**

#### **New Business**

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
  - Compliance/Enforcement – Tim Taylor
  - Certification & Training –Ali Ikner
  - Outreach – Nan Collier
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. License Renewal 2025-2027
- e. Rulemaking
- f. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- g. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- h. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**

## ATTACHMENT 2

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### Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- C-Con Exterminating, LLC – Jenkins County – Company Name Change Application
- Hurst Pest Prevention – Habersham County

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Breda Pest Management – Hall County – Pending Insurance
- Lake Hartwell Pest Control – Elbert County – Pending Insurance
- Brothers Pest Control, LLC – South Carolina – Pending Email Address
- Northwest Exterminating Company, LLC – Jenkins County – Pending Insurance
- Safe Haven Pest Solutions – Cherokee County – Pending Insurance
- Cake Pest LLC – Coweta County – Pending DCO & Insurance
- The Bug Doctor LLC – Catoosa County – Pending Email Address and Investigation
- Simmons Pest Control Inc. – North Carolina – Pending Insurance
- Premier Pest Solutions – Bartow County – Pending Payment, Insurance, and Email Address
- Grace Valley Pest Control – Lumpkin County – Sub Office – Pending Insurance
- Rogue Pest Solutions – Alabama – Pending DCO and Payment