



*Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission  
19 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30334*

***Georgia Structural Pest Control  
Commission Fiscal Year 2025  
Report to the Governor***



*Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission*

# Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

## Fiscal Year 2025 Report to Governor

As required by O.C.G.A. 43-45-8 (3), the Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission submits the following annual report of the activities, expenditures, and other matters pertinent to the operation of the commission.

The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission met monthly during Fiscal Year 2025 on the following dates:

August 13	January 14
September 10	February 11
October 8	March 18
November 12	April 8
December 12	May 20
	June 10

All meetings were held at 10:00 AM online via Zoom or Microsoft Teams with the exception of the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting held at the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area, and the January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting held at the UGA Chapel in Athens.

Expenditures for the Commission and records of attendance for each member are included.

Minutes for the Commission meetings are included. If additional information is needed regarding the report, contact Derrick Lastinger, Director of Structural Pest Division, at 404-656-3641 or [derrick.lastinger@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:derrick.lastinger@agr.georgia.gov)

---

Tyler J. Harper  
Commissioner

**STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION  
DAILY EXPENSE AND MILEAGE  
FISCAL YEAR 2025**

NAME	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
Chris Gorecki	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(ABS)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	
Derrick Lastinger	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(ABS)	(V)	(P)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	
Daily		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 1,050.00
Mileage													
Christy Kuriatnyk	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	Retired						
Daily		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00							\$ 525.00
Mileage													
Dr. Brian Forschler	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(ABS)	(V)	(P)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	
J Bodine Sinyard	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	(ABS)	(V)	(P)	(V)	
Daily		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 1,050.00
Mileage							\$ 245.00				\$ 350.00		\$ 595.00
Greg Holley	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(ABS)	(V)	
Daily		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00		\$ 105.00	\$ 1,050.00
Mileage							\$ 139.30						\$ 139.30
Kim Bragg	(N)	(V)	(ABS)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(ABS)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	
Daily		\$ 105.00		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 945.00
Mileage													\$ -
Tiffany Nguyen	Sworn in at January 2025 meeting						(P)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	
Daily							\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 630.00
Mileage													\$ -

**TOTAL** \$ 5,354.30

**Note:** Christy Kuriatnyk retired at the end of 12/24. Her seat on the commission was filled by Dr.Nguyen who was sworn in at the 1/25 SPCC Meeting.

(P) = Present in Person

(ABS) = Absent

(CAN) = Cancelled

(T) = Teleconference

(N) = No meeting scheduled

(V) = Virtual Online

# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

August 13, 2024

---

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:02 a.m. via Microsoft Teams on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Greg Holley, Christy Kuriatnyk, Bodine Sinyard, Kim Bragg, and Dr. Brian Forschler.
- 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. Holley to approve the minutes of the June meeting. Dr. Forschler seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. Research is ongoing. A call went out earlier this year asking anyone in the industry to notify Dr. Forschler or Dr. Dan Suiter if you encounter a Formosan infestation. Dr. Forschler also asked that if anyone has any particular questions that research might address, please bring them up. Dr. Forschler and Dr. Suiter are always looking for new projects to take on and may be in a position to self-fund some research that could be of importance to the industry. Chairman Chris Gorecki encouraged the industry to reach out to their contacts for potential research topics. Mr. Terry Bowen thanked Dr. Forschler for his assistance with army worm issues. Mrs. Julie Fogg will be sharing resources with Mr. Lastinger to distribute. Mr. Jacob Winkle's Economic Impact Study was also discussed and there will be the Economic Impact Study presentations at the upcoming ASPRO conference, and at the NASDA meeting next month. Mississippi is also looking at doing their own survey based on Winkle's model as well. Mr. Lastinger also stated that the GDA is in strategic planning and the SPD is utilizing the economic impact study to further support requests.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department and program updates. The Structural Pest Division has been receiving inquiries through the Agricultural Inputs Division regarding Joro spiders. Companies are inquiring if mosquito control licenses would also include treating for Joro spiders. However, it has been determined that Joro spider treatments in and around residential areas would fall under structural pest control licensing. Therefore, companies seeking to treat for Joro spiders must be licensed in HPC. Mr. Lastinger also discussed the upcoming move for GDA to the other side of the capital to be completed by mid-September. Details on logistics and impacts to the industry are still being determined. Mr. Lastinger also brought up a recent discussion involving HOA's ordinances against posting pesticide application warning signs that are required by regulation. The HOA's have requested that these signs not be posted, or if posted require a visual removal date on the sign. Currently we require the dates on the PUR; The Agricultural Inputs Division is still considering the matter. Mr. Lastinger stated he will keep the commission updated should the topic go to rulemaking.
- F. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the Compliance and Enforcement update. SPD recently referred a case to the EPA involving an unlicensed operator that had previously been issued an

administrative order involving the sale of unregistered pesticides through social media. This is an active ongoing case.

- G. Ms. Ali Ikner gave the Certification and Training update. She began her report by highlighting the work of SPD's intern Stefanie Goshko which included assisting with a substantial file purge, multiple consumer outreach events, the creation of outreach materials, and her assistance in day-to-day operations through the busy season. Ms. Ikner also discussed meetings held in July with the IT department concerning making more processes available online as well as some quality-of-life updates. She also spoke about attending the American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE) conference, where EPA discussed C&T plan updates and guidance that will be published soon. Ms. Ikner also noted that Registered Employees who pass the registration exam on or after October 1st are exempt from the training requirement for the current renewal period.
- H. Ms. Bradshaw provided the Outreach Report. She detailed the updates that have been completed on the SPD website, including a major reorganization, newly available fillable forms, visual guides, webforms, and individual licensing pages. She also noted that a new HBR page would be published soon. Many of these website highlights were detailed in an infographic, created by Stefanie Goshko, that was recently published in this quarter's edition of The Inside Buzz. This edition also featured a spotlight on Ms. Goshko's experience and a link to the newly available Structural Pest Division Coloring book. Ms. Bradshaw also listed the upcoming conferences that SPD would be attending including the GEHA, GPCA, and CPCO Fall Conferences. SPD will also be assisting at the Georgia National Fair in the Baby Barn and presenting the IPM lesson as part of the School House. Additionally, the team will be providing a booth at this year's Ray Day Celebration in October. She also spoke about the success of the recent Home IPM workshop, and highlighted upcoming plans for the School IPM workshop, and two Termite workshops at the UGA Griffin campus.
- I. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- J. Ms. Ikner gave the update on HBR pre-exam training. Dr. Suiter has finished the recording of a previous HBR pre-exam training. This has been sent on to UGA Extension, and we are currently awaiting notification from Extension that this has been made available.
- K. Mr. Lastinger provided an update on the Yellow-legged Hornet eradication efforts. The GDA continues to be very busy in the Savannah area. The Yellow-legged Ledger has been great at getting the information out. The Communications office also sent out information to target pest control companies in surrounding counties to assist in disseminating important information. The pest management industry continues to be a valuable asset and heavily involved in eradication efforts.
- L. Chairman Gorecki discussed the upcoming plans for Rulemaking. The legal department has been backlogged with an influx of work from hemp legislation. Rulemaking discussions will begin by targeting text cleanup and simple updates before moving on to the more involved topics. Mr. Lastinger discussed the status of the C&T rule changes, including bringing rules up to current Federal Requirements. We are in the process of preparing the discussions and organizing topics. Discussion was also held about contract guidance for HBR, with suggestions that the associations may be interested in sharing the draft example contract from the Beekeepers Association. The creation of a requirements sheet was also suggested, with discussion on any potential committees that may be interested in working on this as a project.

- M. Chairman Gorecki spoke about doing an in-person meeting in the Fall in Tifton. Mr. Lastinger will be making inquiries on potential meeting spaces and will follow up at the next meeting.
- N. Mr. Trip Martin provided the Legislative update. He noted that we are currently in the middle of an election season. Mr. Martin also spoke about an industry concern that was a major topic of discussion last week at the NCSL Legislative Summit. There is a new practice, dubbed “third party litigation funding”, of hedge funds working with trial lawyers which results in very few chances for settlement and an increase in the costs of settlements and judgements. This practice allows class action suits to be sold to hedge funds, with a negotiated portion of the settlement being paid back to the hedge fund. He noted that ten states across the country have passed laws requiring disclosure to the court that hedge funds are a standing party in the lawsuit, and therefore is anticipating seeing federal regulations coming soon on this matter.
- O. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. He stated it seems likely at this point we will see a continuing resolution issued for the Farm Bill this session. NPMA will be at the ASPCRO 2024 Annual Conference in Lexington next week. Mr. Bell also discussed a bill in the California legislature to ban the use of first-generation rodenticides.
- P. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:26am.

#### ATTACHMENTS

---

Attachment 1	August 13 <sup>th</sup> GSPCC Agenda
Attachment 2	Company License Applications

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, 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 13, 2024

**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 – Kenzie Bradshaw
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. HBR training – Ali Ikner
- e. Yellow-legged Hornet Update
- f. Rulemaking
- g. Fall Meeting
- h. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- i. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- j. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**

## ATTACHMENT 2

---

### Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Massey Services, Inc. – Martinez, GA; Columbia County – Name Change
- Massey Services, Inc. – Warrenton, SC – Name Change
- A Plus Pest Management – McDonald, TN – Reinstating company
- Nantahala Pest Control – Otto, NC

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Purcor Pest Solutions – Centerville, GA; Houston County – Pending Insurance
- Purcor Pest Solutions – Brunswick, GA; Glynn County – Pending Insurance
- Gwinnett Pest Solutions – Hoschton, GA; Jackson County – Pending name & email address
- AllAbout Pest Solutions – Ballground, GA; Cherokee County – Pending Insurance
- Aptive Environmental, LLC – Chattanooga, TN – Pending email and research fee
- Leighty Home Pros. LLC – Grovetown, GA; Columbia County – Pending email and verification of DCO no longer with current company
- Mira Home, LLC. – Norcross, GA; Gwinnett County – Pending Payment
- Hybrid Pest Management – Woodstock, GA; Cherokee County – Pending Insurance



# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

September 10, 2024

---

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:04 a.m. via Microsoft Teams on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Greg Holley, Bodine Sinyard, Christy Kuriatnyk, and Dr. Brian Forschler. Kim Bragg was not in attendance.
- 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. Holley to approve the minutes of the August meeting. Dr. Forschler seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. He discussed how the move is still affecting the department. He asked that those that attended ASPRO provide any details on how Jacob Winkles' economic impact study was received. Dr. Forschler also discussed potential topics for a future in-person SPCC meeting.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department and program updates. He discussed the success of the ASPCRO conference in Lexington, KY, noting that Jacob Winkles' Economic Impact Study presentation was very well received. The presentation provoked many questions and audience engagement; to which Chairman Chris Gorecki added that both South Carolina and Tennessee are looking into using the model to conduct their own studies. Mr. Lastinger also discussed the GDA's recent strategic planning meeting with Commissioner Harper which focused on recruitment and retention of staff. He also spoke about the department's ongoing Yellow-Legged Hornet response, with several members of SPD staff assisting the Plant Protection Division's eradication efforts. Mr. Lastinger further emphasized how busy the Fall is for the Department of Agriculture, especially with the GDA office building moving to new locations. Offices may be split between different buildings and the labs are being moved to a Georgia Tech facility. Due to the move, there may be some disruptions in operations, with delays in license issuance expected.
- F. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the Compliance and Enforcement update. He noted that we are seeing a high number of pre-exam training form errors, resulting in a compliance issue. The Rules and Regulations require 10 hours of classroom training and 70 hours of on-the-job experience, and this form must be completed by the individual providing the training. We are also seeing issues with DCO's checking categories they are not trained in. For the next commission meeting we want to make some suggestions to edit this form to assist with clarifying the requirements.
- G. Ms. Ali Ikner gave the Certification and Training update. She detailed how the move is expected to impact the licensing division. At this time they will be unable to issue licenses this week and are working towards being able to resume the following week. New employees can still be registered online; however new cards will not be able to be printed until next week at the earliest. We are also anticipating that the network will be down some during this time, however the division can still be reached via email at [pest@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:pest@agr.georgia.gov). Due to Capitol Hill routing, the SPD's phone number and mailing address will remain the

same. Ms. Ikner also discussed the possibility of accepting the Certified Operator Exam Applications online, to which the Commission was amenable. She further noted that the Company Application forms and the Company Name Change form have been updated on the SPD website to be fillable. Additionally, the HBR Pre-Exam Training video is now available at Extension offices. Anyone wishing to take the training may reach out to their local Extension office to set up a proctored time.

- H. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach Report. The first Termite Workshop was a great success, and we are looking forward to the second one scheduled for later this week. SPD will also be hosting a compliance outreach booth at the GPCA Fall Conference in Dalton, as well as a panel discussion on licensing, routine company inspections, and common non-compliance issues. We will also be providing a Termite Equipment Application & Spill Containment class and a WDO presentation at the CPCO Fall conference Oct 1 & 2<sup>nd</sup>. SPD will also be assisting in the Baby Barn and the Georgia Grown Schoolhouse at the Georgia National Fair this October. Shortly after the Georgia National Fair is the Ray Day Celebration in Serenbe, where SPD will be hosting an outreach booth to help tell the GDA story. Mrs. Collier also noted that there is an upcoming Pesticide Clean Day event planned. More information on the upcoming Clean Day event can be found on the GDA website.
- I. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- J. Mr. Trip Martin provided the Legislative update. He noted that there are many study committees meeting presently. Of particular note is a study committee who is focused on licensing, which they will be paying close attention to for any potential impacts to the industry. Mr. Martin emphasized that they would like to get a short presentation before one of these committees. He also noted that coming up in December from the 8<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup> is the training on the political process for the new legislature. This is a good opportunity to have an audience with these newcomers.
- K. Mrs. Bonnie Rabe provided the NPMA update. Action on the Farm Bill is likely to be delayed with the upcoming election. NPMA is hoping to see more movement on this next year. The bill on Pre-Emption is still being considered on the Senate side, and they continue to work with key senators through ongoing meetings. The proposed interim decision from the EPA on rodenticides continues to be a topic of focus, however thanks to the field trips they have had to provide education on this topic to policymakers NPMA is anticipating EPA publishing several documents based on the active ingredients possibly as early as late December. NPMA is also reviewing several of the newly released ESA strategies to determine how realistic these are for the industry.
- L. Mr. Gorecki announced that the rules updates would be further deliberated at a later meeting due to the interruption caused by the GDA's move.
- M. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:20am.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

---

Attachment 1	September 10 <sup>th</sup> GSPCC Agenda
Attachment 2	Company License Applications

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, 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

September 10, 2024

**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. HBR training – Ali Ikner
- e. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- f. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- g. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**

## ATTACHMENT 2

---

### Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Arrow Exterminators – Decatur, GA; Dekalb County – Additional Branch
- Rentokil North America, Inc dba Xceptional Wildlife Removal – Wakeska, GA; Cherokee County – Name change/acquisition
- Northwest Exterminating Co LLC dba D & G Exterminating Co. Inc – Hampton, GA; Henry County – Acquisition
- Tri State Honey Bee Removal – Buford, GA; Hall County

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Mo-Tech Pest Control Co. – Valdosta, GA; Lowndes County – Pending Payment & Insurance (reinstatement of previously issued licensed company)
- Boyd Pest Control LLC – Lavonia, GA; Hart County – Pending DCO Verification
- Custom Pest Solutions – Charleston, SC – Pending Street Address & Insurance
- Total Pest Control – Calhoun, GA; Gordon County – Pending Insurance
- Bradshaw Operations LLC dba MosquitoNix Augusta, Greensboro, Athens – Martinez, GA; Columbia County – Pending Insurance

The Commission did not approve the following applications:

- Savannah River Residential LLC

# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

October 8, 2024

---

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:01 a.m. via Microsoft Teams on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Greg Holley, Kim Bragg, Bodine Sinyard, Christy Kuriatnyk, and Dr. Brian Forschler.
- 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. Mr. Holley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Mr. Lastinger provided the department and program updates. The SPD and the lab have successfully completed moving into their new spaces. Recently, an article was published in the Market Bulletin which aimed at raising public awareness on how termite treatments can be affected after a major weather event such as Hurricane Debby. Due to the impacts of Hurricane Helene, the state operations center is now in full activation status and is also responding to the BioLab incident in Rockdale County. SPD sent out an email notification with details on how to report damages to the Hurricane Helene GDA webpage. The GDA Emergency Management Division has ongoing efforts to coordinate animal shelter evacuees due to the threat of Hurricane Milton. Mr. Lastinger also discussed the Georgia Grown building at the Georgia National Fair, which provides outreach for the Georgia Department of Agriculture and the many industries that it helps to support.
- E. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach Report. SPD hosted a compliance outreach booth at the recent GPCA Conference in Dalton, GA. Ali Ikner, Sadiyyah Hollins, and Nan Collier hosted discussions on licensing, routine company inspections, and common non-compliance issues which sparked many good questions and conversations with the attendees. The second Termite workshop was held shortly afterwards at the UGA Griffin Campus on Sept 12 & 13<sup>th</sup> with over 30 participants. Also, at the UGA Griffin Campus, was the CPCO Fall Conference on Oct 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. SPD hosted a compliance outreach booth, Tim Taylor provided a WDO class on compliance, and Eric Robinson provided a class on termite equipment techniques and spill containment. The Georgia National Fair is also well underway. This year there were 3 School IPM courses presented in the Georgia Grown Schoolhouse taught by Eric Robinson and Yancey Barton. The SPD annually helps to support the GDA's mission by assisting in the Georgia Grown Baby Barn. Our team helps to plan and organize aspects of the Schoolhouse and Baby Barn as well as providing boots on the ground to help clean and care for the animals. Just days following the conclusion of the Georgia National Fair, the SPD team will be hosting a compliance outreach booth at the GPCA Fall Conference in Macon on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Presentations on WDO and Vehicle Inspections will be given by SPD staff members. Wrapping up the month of October will be the Annual Ray Day Celebration at Serenbe on October 20<sup>th</sup> where SPD staff will host an outreach booth telling the GDA story while also discussing the importance of hiring licensed pest control companies for their pest management needs, pesticide safety, and importance of proper pest identification.

- F. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the Compliance and Enforcement update. He noted that the department is now focusing on routine compliance inspections for companies that have not been inspected in the past 18 to 24 months. As a general reminder companies may also request compliance inspections at any time. He also noted that the department is working to be sensitive to those in hurricane affected areas.
- G. Ms. Ali Ikner gave the Certification and Training update. The licensing division is now settled into their new space and has worked through the backlog of license printing created by the pause in operations necessary for the move. We have been advised however that mail delays are expected due to hurricane damages causing disruptions. Ms. Ikner also announced that the renewal portal for courses is set to open online in November. She also reiterated that we are no longer able to accept applications in person at our new location. Mr. Lastinger further asked that the associations help to get this information out to the industry.
- H. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- I. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. There is an official dedication for the new building being held soon, and everyone will have the opportunity to visit in January when the SPCC meeting is hosted at the Chapel nearby. The research update will be coming in the new year with a focus on emerging issues. Dr. Forschler asked if anyone has a pressing entomological issue that research could help answer we welcome those suggestions. Rick Bell asked about how Joro spiders may be affecting other insect populations in the state, to which Dr. Forschler stated that the current research is not indicating that they are having a significant impact on other spider populations.
- J. Mr. Gorecki discussed the suggested changes to Notice 18-05: Employee Registration Fact Sheet and Notice 18-01: Pre-Examination Training Form. He specified that these changes did not involve modifications to the existing requirements, but rather were adjustments to the form and instructions to help provide clarity and improve compliance when filling out this form. A motion was made by Mr. Holley to approve the updates to notices 18-01 and 18-05, Dr. Forschler seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- K. Mr. Gorecki also spoke about specific licensing requirements pertaining to treatments for mosquitos and Joro spiders. To reiterate a clarification that was made at the August meeting, treating for Joro spiders requires an HPC license. Those holding a category 41 mosquito license only are not licensed to treat for Joro spiders. Category 41 licenses are pest specific and only license the treatment of mosquitos. As this point was clarified in the August 2024 meeting minutes, any service records for those holding a category 41 license that listed Joro Spiders as a target pest would be reviewed with the understanding that this issue was not clarified until that time.
- L. Mr. Trip Martin provided the Legislative update. He stated that they are currently following the joint committee on licensing which has an upcoming meeting in Statesboro on October 18<sup>th</sup>. He also noted that they have been following up on comments from the Hurricane and the chemical explosion as they come about.
- M. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. He emphasized how expansive the list of license categories that the joint committee is covering and thanked Mr. Martin for his continued vigilance. Bonnie Rabe, Faye Golden, and Mr. Bell had attended the NASDA meeting along with Commissioner Harper a few weeks ago. He enjoyed the opportunity to meet with everyone and felt it was very productive, however Mr. Bell noted that based on the discussions had at that meeting that a continuing resolution will be issued for the Farm Bill.

Mr. Lastinger provided some insights to his experience visiting with Georgia legislative staff with NPMA discussing Georgia’s pesticide laws and regulation. Pest World, NPMA’s national meeting, is being held in Denver in couple of weeks. Mr. Bell expects PFAS to be a topic of discussion and anticipates more involvement with the EPA to come in the near future. Mr. Bell then spoke about efforts by the NPMA’s Critical Issues Workgroup to encourage the EPA to work with rodenticide manufactures to limit sales to licensed professionals to help reduce consumer misuse. Mr. Gorecki encouraged all in the industry to get involved with the NPMA, stressing how many of these national topics have the potential to significantly impact the industry.

- N. Mrs. Glenda Lehmberg introduced Amanda Johnson who joined the GPCA team this week, she will be working closely with the SPD on training.
- O. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:03am.

**ATTACHMENTS**

---

Attachment 1	October 8 <sup>th</sup> GSPCC Agenda
Attachment 2	Company License Applications

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, 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

October 8, 2024

**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. Notice 18-01 Pre-Exam Training Form and 18-05 Employee Registration Revisions
- e. GDA Emergency Management Updates
- f. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- g. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- h. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**



## ATTACHMENT 2

---

### Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Reeves Pest Management LLC – Stone Mountain, GA; Dekalb County
- Northwest Exterminating Company LLC DBA Enviroguard Pest Solutions – Ringgold, GA; Catoosa County – Name Change
- Nextgen Pest Solutions – Blairsville, GA; Union County – Sub-Office
- Bioicare Pest Control LLC – Duluth, GA; Gwinnett County

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Peskey Solutions LLC – Midway, GA; Liberty County – Pending Insurance
- Twin Services Pest Control – Cleveland, GA; White County – Pending phone number and insurance
- Multifamily Pest Control LLC – Acworth, GA; Cherokee County – Pending Insurance

The Commission did not approve the following applications:

- Signal Mountain Pest Control – Signal Mountain, TN – Needs valid DCO, insurance, signature, and email address

# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

November 12, 2024

---

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:04 a.m. via Microsoft Teams on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Greg Holley, Kim Bragg, Bodine Sinyard, and Christy Kuriatnyk. Dr. Brian Forschler and Derrick Lastinger were not available to attend.
- 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 Mrs. Bragg to approve the minutes of the October meeting. Mr. Sinyard seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Mr. Gorecki began the meeting with a brief discussion on common issues present in the Certified Operator Exam application, noting that many applications seem to have issues.
- E. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the Compliance and Enforcement update. Recently the GDA Legal team has been working with the Attorney General's office to issue an injunction against an unlicensed operator. Mr. Taylor expressed gratitude to the SPD team for their investigative efforts that have led to many strong cases. Mr. Taylor also discussed recent issues pertaining to WIIR forms, including evidence of crawl spaces being improperly inspected, not visited at all with apparent termite tubes and cellulose, and forms being completed incorrectly. Additionally, the SPD has seen an increase recently in companies refusing to cooperate on scheduling for routine inspections, as a result the department is exploring avenues to address this issue.
- F. Ms. Ali Ikner gave the Certification and Training update. She shared the end-of-year licensing reports, and compared these to records from 20 years ago to highlight the industry's growth. Since 2004 there has been a 22% increase in the number of Certified Operators, an 83% increase in the number of Registered Employees, and over 8% growth in licensed Structural Pest Control Companies. An Authorized Submitter Training will be held later this week. Ms. Ikner emphasized that currently about 25% of CEUs entered are done so by Authorized Submitters. Please reach out to the SPD office if you would like to attend Authorized Submitter Training. Ms. Ikner also discussed an increase in the number of course applications for pre-recorded online training, however there seem to also be reoccurring issues with those submitting these applications not properly adhering to the rules and not reviewing the feedback to correct their applications. This results in months of back and forth on each individual application, putting an undue burden on the department and limited staff resources. Ms. Ikner proposed drafting language regarding a limit on the number of application resubmissions for consideration at the next SPCC meeting. The commission and attendees discussed the issue and agreed to hear a proposal at the next meeting. Ms. Ikner also provided an update on course renewals which are expected to go out this Friday. To close out the Certification and Training update, Ms. Ikner provided details on a request from the CPCO to revise their Train the Trainer course agenda to allow

attendees to complete the presentation portion of the course virtually to better accommodate out of state students, noting that the course itself would still be completed in person. A motion was made by Mr. Holley to approve the amendment to the CPCO Train the Trainer course agenda. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

- G. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided the Outreach Report. The CPCO Fall Conference was held on Oct. 1-2 at UGA Griffin Campus. Eric Robinson and Tim Taylor provided presentations the SPD hosted a compliance booth. The SPD team also participated in the Georgia National Fair this year, presenting three School IPM classes in the Georgia Grown Schoolhouse and volunteering to assist with the care of the animals in the Baby Barn. SPD also hosted a compliance outreach booth, manned by Sidney Sapp, at the GPCA Fall South GA Conference, featuring presentations from Travis Whitley, Ali Ikner, Tim Taylor, and LeAnna Merritt. SPD also operated a Consumer Outreach Booth for GDA at the Annual Ray Day Celebration in Serenbe. This was a sold-out event with over two thousand participants. Sadiyyah Hollins, Jennifer Pate, Ali Ikner, and Nan Collier shared GDA's story through a quiz game dubbed "The Wheel of the Good Fortune about Georgia Agriculture". LeAnna Merritt and Jennakae Jenkins also represented SPD at the Georgia Association of School Facilities Administrators (GASFA) conference held in Savannah, GA from Oct 27-29, providing information regarding our School IPM Course to be held in Griffin with Dr. Dan Suiter next year. The fall edition of the Inside buzz was sent out on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> featuring an article on how Hurricane weather may affect termite treatments and detailing some common license category questions. Mrs. Merritt also discussed the upcoming Statewide Inspector Meeting (SWIM) to be held later this month.
- H. Ms. Bradshaw provided the department and program updates. She detailed the recent Pre-SFIREG meeting held in Lexington, KY, noting that concerns regarding C&T Plan revision guidance would be brought to full SFIREG in December as an issue topic. She also discussed an invitation by the EPA for potential post-disaster assistance needs to be conveyed to FEMA. Ms. Bradshaw requested that if anyone is aware of specific post hurricane needs, such as pesticide disposal in damaged areas, to contact our office.
- I. Ms. Bradshaw provided a brief overview of the proposed registration for Veratriner. This product is not yet on the market, but it is uncommon to see a new proposed active ingredient for structural application. Veratriner is proposed for use on exterior vertical surfaces and other man-made structures for non-food commodities. Further information can be found on the EPA's docket.
- J. Mr. Trip Martin provided the Legislative update. The Georgia House is meeting currently to elect a Speaker, and the Georgia Senate has several new members. Brandon Beach is being considered for a DOT job in the Trump administration which could result in a special election. A joint study committee bill regarding licensing requirements continues to be monitored for potential impacts to the pest management industry.
- K. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. Former Congressman Lee Zeldin is expected to become the new administrator of the EPA. Mr. Bell also discussed the topic of PFAS which is

gaining more attention in the media. He noted that several frequently used products in the pest control industry may be affected by PFAS related legislation.

L. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)

M. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:05am.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

---

Attachment 1	November 12 <sup>th</sup> GSPCC Agenda
Attachment 2	Company License Applications

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, 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

November 12, 2024

**Open** –Chairman Gorecki

#### **Minutes**

#### **Old Business**

#### **New Business**

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates
  - Compliance/Enforcement – Tim Taylor
  - Certification & Training –Ali Ikner
  - Outreach – Nan Collier
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. Proposed Registration for Veratrine – Kenzie Bradshaw
- e. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- f. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- g. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**

## ATTACHMENT 2

---

### Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Rentokil North America dba American Pest Control, Inc. – Multiple locations (8) - Name change only
- Buffington Pest Solutions, LLC – Hall County
- Unified Pest Solutions – Forsyth County
- Daniel, Hamilton & Associates, Inc – Troup County – HBR Company

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- JJA Partners Holdco INC. DBA Proforce Pest Control – Chatham County – Name change only – Pending Insurance
- Sorrell Pest Control – Lowndes County – Pending Insurance
- Troutman Pest Services – Wayne County – Pending verification from GDA
- First Guard Pest Solutions – Gwinnett County – Pending Insurance
- Covenant Pest Services – Cobb County – Pending Insurance
- Andrews Termite and Pest Control Inc – Clarke County – Sub-office license – Pending Insurance
- Pestmaster Services – Chatham County - Sub-office license - Pending Insurance
- Pestmaster Services of Athens – Oconee County – Pending Insurance & Payment
- Brazer Environmental LLC – Upson County – Pending Insurance
- Mountain View Pest Control – Pickens, SC – Pending Insurance & Email Address

The Commission did not approve the following applications:

- Independent Pest Control – Brown County; Minnesota

# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

December 12, 2024

---

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:03 a.m. via Microsoft Teams on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Greg Holley, Kim Bragg, Bodine Sinyard, and Christy Kuriatnyk.
- 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 November meeting. Ms. Bragg seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. The agenda has been set for the upcoming January meeting at the UGA Chapel in Athens. Entomology students will be providing presentations on their research. Contract talks for the Entomology department head are currently underway, and the transition is expected to occur early in 2025.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. The GDA is preparing for the upcoming legislative session. Due to the move, this session may have additional impacts on the Structural Pest Division, as the new location is more central to the legislature. The summer internship program was announced and applications opened on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The division looks forward to another successful year with this program. Next year will also mark the 70<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the Georgia Pest Control Act.
- F. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the Compliance and Enforcement update. A Statewide Inspector Training Meeting was recently held at the Structural Pest Training Center in Griffin. This training focused on evidence gathering and featured a special presentation by the GDA legal team. Mr. Taylor noted that the department has been seeing an increase in compliance issues with the issuance of the Official Waiver form. In particular, with blank Official Waivers being signed and altered at a later date. The Commission discussed ideas to help provide education to the industry to help alleviate this issue and asked that the associations assist in distributing the existing Official Waiver guidance document available on the SPD website.
- G. Ms. Bradshaw gave the Certification and Training update. The proposal for the CBT course resubmission limits to add to the Recertification Course Policy will be pushed to the January meeting, this language is still being drafted. She also discussed the course renewal portal, which went online last week. The division is aware of a few issues with the renewal portal and is working to have these resolved. Those wishing to renew their courses should ensure that each course has the course outline uploaded in the portal before proceeding with the renewal process. Outlines may be uploaded directly in the portal.
- H. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach Report. The Fall edition of *The Inside Buzz* newsletter was published on November 4<sup>th</sup>. She also announced the division has a new mailing address to assist with alleviating carrier issues. The new mailing address for the division is Structural Pest Division 244 Washington SW, Room G-007, Atlanta, GA 30334.

There is also a new email address for submitting Structural Pest Applications. Applications may be submitted to [pestapplications@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:pestapplications@agr.georgia.gov). All other inquiries and requests for information should continue to be sent to [pest@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:pest@agr.georgia.gov). Mrs. Collier also spoke about the SPD's participation and class in the upcoming GPCA Winter Conference to be held in Athens in January. She also noted that Senior Inspector Travis Whitley has transferred to the GDA Plant Protection Division to assist with efforts to eradicate the Yellow Legged Hornet. The division will therefore be seeking to hire a new inspector in the south Georgia region and the job is expected to be posted online soon.

- I. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- J. Mr. Lastinger provided the Certification and Training Rule Changes update. This is a large project with substantial contributions from Ms. Ikner, Mrs. Merritt, and the GDA Legal Services team. The process for reviewing the proposed rule changes, including draft status, comment period, and path to final approval were discussed. Rule changes will be broken into more manageable chunks for each SPCC meeting, with a break anticipated at the January meeting to allow additional time for UGA student presentations. Amendments to rule 620-2-.01(j) to adapt the age minimum for the certification to meet EPA's standard, and amendments to rules 620-3.01(6) and 620-3-.03 to update references to new federal regulations were approved for the draft. Rule changes will remain in a preliminary draft form until the complete draft proposal is finalized and opened for the public comment period. Mr. Sinyard motioned to approve these three proposed changes for the preliminary draft document, Dr. Forschler seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- K. Mr. Lastinger discussed Public Notice 2025 Meeting Schedule. Several suggestions were made for locations for in-person meetings throughout 2025. As locations are confirmed these will be released via public notice throughout the year. Public notices including the 2025 meeting schedule will be published to the SPCC section of the GDA website.
- L. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. Some delays and shifts within the EPA are expected due to the election as new leadership is being appointed. An additional rodenticide proposed interim decision (PID) may be released as well. Mr. Bell discussed the challenges of having three separate government bodies, the EPA, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine Fisheries Service, cooperating with so many diverse classifications and interests. Mrs. Bonnie Rabe spoke about the state's discussions at SFIREG, noting that in relation to pesticide issues nearly all highlighted the same concerns. NPMA continues to work to ensure that the pest management industry's concerns are prioritized and understood by the EPA. The potential effects that the Endangered Species Act (ESA) will have on the pest control industry is likely to be an ongoing hot topic for the foreseeable future. Mr. Lastinger added that C&T Plan Revision guidance was reported as needed by every state in attendance at SFIREG. Other major topics of discussion included updates to the label language for Respiratory PPE and the Pesticide Registration Manual, as well as mosquito misting blowers, for which an issue paper is being developed through SFIREG from a different region. There is also a working committee that is focused on drafting label language for the EPA to consider adopting.
- M. Certification Examination Application Review – Certification applications were reviewed, with two non-routine applications requiring additional discussions and decisions from the SPCC. These applications were presented by Mr. Taylor. After discussing the details



regarding Terry Woods application, Mr. Holley made a motion to approve the application pending full payment of Consent Order 21-11. Dr. Forschler seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The application made by Lisa Trusdell was then discussed, noting a previous Administrative Order (A.O.). Based on this previous A.O. and the terms not met, a motion to deny the application was proposed by Mrs. Bragg. Mr. Holley seconded the motion and the motion to deny passed.

N. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:43am.

**ATTACHMENTS**

---

Attachment 1	December 12 <sup>th</sup> GSPCC Agenda
Attachment 2	Company License Applications

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, 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

December 12, 2024

**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 –Kenzie Bradshaw
  - Outreach – Nan Collier
- c. New Company Applications – Tim Taylor
- d. Certification & Training Rule Changes
- e. Public Notice 2025 Meeting Schedule
- f. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- g. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- h. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**

## **ATTACHMENT 2**

---

### **Company License Applications**

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Northwest Exterminating Co LLC dba Gilstrap Extermination; Dawson County – Acquisition/Name Change
- Briggs Pest & Home Solutions; Dawson County – Name Change Only
- Rentokil North America, INC dba Inspect-All Pest Services - Gwinnett County – Acquisition/Name Change

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- A-1 Economic Exterminators of Camden, Inc. – Camden County – Pending Insurance
- The Local Beekeeper, LLC – Liberty County – Pending Insurance
- Action Plus Termite & Pest Control – Cobb County – Pending Insurance

# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

January 14, 2025

---

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:03 a.m. at the UGA Chapel in Athens on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Greg Holley, Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen, and Bodine Sinyard.
- 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 December meeting. Mr. Holley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Mr. Gorecki introduced Dr. Nguyen as the Structural Pest Control Commission's newest member. Dr. Nguyen took the oath of office and was welcomed by the commission.
- E. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update and introduced students Allison Brown and AJ Stevenson that would be giving research reports during today's meeting. He also thanked the Structural Pest Control Commission for the research fee that supports these students' important work. AJ Stevenson discussed his studies on carpenter bees, highlighting the data that suggests how their nests are used by other species and contributes to biodiversity. Allison Brown spoke about her research on termite swarm data collected over the past 30 years. Her research has approached this data from many different angles, analyzing species, gender proportions, flight times, and weather patterns to look for conclusions. Dr. Forschler emphasized the importance of this research to the industry and how our understanding of these insects is evolving. He provided further details and copies of the report on the Urban Pest Control program and the Household and Structural Entomology Research program, including an update on Jacob Winkles' work, the Economic Impact Study. This study has prompted several other states to implement the techniques described in Winkles' publication to draw conclusions about the impact of pest control on their own state's economies. Dr. Forschler also discussed the training video filmed on Sapelo Island in conjunction with NPD Products and the GDA that detailed a specialized drywood termite treatment, and its role as part of a long-term study.
- F. Dr. Dan Suiter provided an update on the UGA Structural & Urban Pest Management Training Center. He discussed Karen Corsetti's research on the Asian Needle ant, emphasizing this new and significant medical pest. He discussed how the sting of this ant can cause anaphylactic shock, and they become more active in July. He encouraged everyone to attend her presentation at the GPCA Winter conference where Ms. Corsetti will go into further detail on her results regarding this pest and bait acceptance. Dr. Suiter also announced that the schedule for upcoming termite training programs that will be held at the UGA Structural & Urban Pest Management Training Center for 2025 has been released. He also reminded everyone that veterans and current military may attend the webinars free of charge.
- G. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He thanked Dr. Forschler for speaking about the drywood termite project on Sapelo Island, highlighting the value of the training GDA staff received from participating. Mr. Lastinger reported that the Structural Pest

Division is celebrating the 70-year anniversary of the Georgia Structural Pest Control Act. Be sure to follow the Georgia Department of Agriculture on social media to learn more about what our staff does every day to help protect Georgians. Mr. Lastinger also spoke about the recent registration of several new pesticides by the EPA, including a new structural pesticide called Veratrine which was approved last week. He also noted that the 2025 Legislative Session has begun. Please be sure to reach out to the GDA if you have any questions or policy concerns. He concluded by introducing Mrs. Bailey Whiten and Mr. Nick Sumner from the GDA's Agricultural Inputs Division, who were also present at the meeting.

- H. Mrs. Bailey Whiten provided an update on the Georgia Pesticide Clean Day. The Clean Day event took place in November at the UGA Griffin Campus, where over 20,000 pounds of chemicals were successfully collected. Another Clean Day event is being planned for 2025, with the date and location yet to be announced.
- I. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the Compliance and Enforcement update. He reiterated priorities for 2025 with for-cause inspections being the number one priority, followed closely by unlicensed operator cases and then routine company inspections. Looking back over 2024, the Structural Pest Division completed 1080 inspections, investigated 25 unlicensed operator cases, and 120 for-cause inspections. The SPD's commitment to building strong cases also resulted in 4 completed injunctions from the Attorney General, and 2 signed court judgements. Mr. Taylor noted that there have been many unusual cases over the past year and thanked the compliance team for their skill and flexibility in handling these unorthodox cases.
- J. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt gave the update on field operations. The Division currently has 10 inspector positions, with one position open that is now in the late stages of hiring. Mrs. Merritt also discussed the compliance booth the division is hosting at the nearby GPCA Winter Conference, encouraging everyone to stop by and get to know your region's inspector.
- K. Mrs. Sadiyyah Hollins provided an overview of staff training completed in 2024. SPD Staff attended national, regional and statewide trainings throughout the year, participated in the workshop trainings at the UGA Structural & Urban Training Center, Train the Trainer with GPCA and CPCO, and took advantage of many other training opportunities throughout the year. The SPD is also helping host a national structural inspector workshop this coming February hosted by NASDA.
- L. Ms. Ali Ikner gave the Certification and Training update. The Structural Pest Division has been working to make significant updates to the website and forms, many of which are now fillable and more user friendly. Several applications are also able to be accepted online through the pest application email. The SPD continues to work with the IT Division to accept online payments in the future to expand digital accessibility. Ms. Ikner also reported the 2024 licensing figures with more than 2,000 Certified Operators, over 9,000 registered employees, and 1,200 company licenses currently active in the state. She also reminded everyone that the training deadline for registered employees is at the end of February. Please be aware that CEUs being updated in the system may be delayed due to the current influx of submissions. To help prevent any issues, instructors should ensure they are using

the 2025 course numbers. Ms. Ikner also discussed the newly published SPD Renewal webpage, which features checklist items to help licensees prep for the upcoming renewal season. This page will be updated with more information, guides, and tips regarding renewals as we get closer to renewal season. Ms. Ikner also emphasized that everyone should be sure to sign up for the Inside Buzz to ensure you receive the special renewal edition. Mr. Lastinger added that due to the GDA's temporary relocation while Capitol Hill undergoes major construction, there have been some issues with the mail. The Structural Pest Division encourages everyone to submit applications online when available and submit mailed applications early when possible.

- M. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach Report. She recapped many of the 2024 outreach events that SPD participated in, including the Butterfly Festival at the Chattahoochee Hills Nature Center, Ray Day in Serenbe, and many School IPM visits. Additionally, through a cooperative effort with Dr. Suiter and UGA, SPD was able to provide two courses for school administrators and staff on IPM practices in schools. Through an extension of the School IPM Grant, SPD was able to have IPM coloring books developed and printed as well. She noted that at public events the SPD focuses on highlighting the importance of hiring a licensed company, citing the hard work and qualifications of Georgia PMPs and the excellent service they provide. This is affirmed by the low number of complaints statewide. Mrs. Collier also discussed the SPD's work on compliance outreach to help provide resources for PMPs. The Inside Buzz is published quarterly by the SPD, is free to receive, and provides compliance resources and updates. GDA is also speaking at the GPCA Winter Conference this week and has a booth with inspectors ready to answer questions. SPD inspectors will also be involved in helping teach several CEU courses at the UGA Structural & Urban Pest Management Training Center, as well as the School IPM Workshop later this year. Please be sure to recommend the School IPM workshop to those in your community that may be applying pest control in or around schools and learning facilities.
- N. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- O. Mr. Lastinger discussed proposed amendments to the IRC Building Code. A State Codes Advisory Committee Meeting (SCAC) will be held on Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, to assign a workgroup team to look at these proposed amendments before providing a recommendation to the SCAC. The proposed amendments involve subterranean termite treatment modifications to the building code. The SPCC has more questions on this topic and will be pursuing involvement in the process.
- P. Mr. Lastinger spoke about Rulemaking. This year the SPCC will be making updates to the Rules and Regulations. Rulemaking discussions will be broken into manageable pieces for consideration at each month's SPCC meeting to prepare the final submission and release for public comment.
- Q. Mr. Lastinger provided information about the 2025 SPCC meeting schedule. The March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting has moved to March 18<sup>th</sup>. The May meeting will be an in-person meeting in Augusta. The September meeting will be held in the North Georgia/Bartow County region and the

November meeting is currently scheduled to be held in Atlanta. Meeting locations and any future changes will be posted as public notices on the SPCC section of the SPD webpage.

- R. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. He discussed anticipated changes as new administration comes in on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Lee Zeldin has been appointed as the new Administrator of the EPA. There is speculation that some individuals may leave Farm Bill committees to try and gain higher positions on other committees, noting that there are many vacancies making it difficult to predict how things will change. NPMA will be working with their lobbyists to monitor the situation. Mr. Bell also spoke about NPMA's participation with the Rollins Training Center for the upcoming PIRT.
- S. Mrs. Faye Golden spoke about NPMA's upcoming spotlight series on rodenticides, to take place on Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, with more details being announced at the GPCA Winter Conference on Thursday of this week.
- T. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:29pm.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

---

Attachment 1	January 14 <sup>th</sup> GSPCC Agenda
Attachment 2	Company License Applications
Attachment 3	UGA Urban Entomology Report

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

## 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

January 14, 2025

**Open** –Chairman Gorecki

#### **Introductions**

##### **Minutes**

##### **Old Business**

##### **New Business**

- a. Record of Official Oath
- b. UGA Urban Entomology Update & Research Reports - Dr. Brian Forschler
- c. UGA Structural & Urban Training Center – Dr. Dan Suiter
- d. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
  - Georgia Clean Day – Bailey Whiten
  - Compliance/Enforcement – Tim Taylor
  - Certification & Training –Ali Ikner
  - Outreach – Nan Collier
- e. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- f. IRC Building Code Amendments
- g. Rulemaking
- h. Spring Meeting
- i. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- j. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- k. Certification Examination Application Review

##### **Adjournment**



## **ATTACHMENT 2**

---

### **Company License Applications**

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Buzzkill, LLC dba Mosquito Joe of Augusta – Richmond County – New Location

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Northwest Exterminating – Dekalb County – Pending Email
- RJ Pest Control – Charlton County – Pending Insurance
- Rolader Services – Morgan County – Pending Insurance
- Fairway Pest Solutions – Putnam County – Pending Insurance
- Tucker Pest Control LLC – Dekalb County – Name Change Only – Pending Insurance

The Commission did not approve the following applications:

- Brooks Pest Solutions – Gwinnett County – No DCO

### ATTACHMENT 3

---

**URBAN PEST CONTROL PROGRAM  
HOUSEHOLD AND STRUCTURAL ENTOMOLOGY RESEARCH PROGRAM  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA, ATHENS, GEORGIA**

DATE OF REPORT TO COMMISSION: January 14, 2025

**PROGRESS REPORT:**

The program continues working on projects relevant to urban pest management. The survey of the Professional Pest Management Industry's (PPMI) revenue and resulting economic contribution to the Georgia economy has expanded to involve collaborative work with other states to use publicly available NAICS data thereby providing comparable economic estimates on a national scale. Highlighting the economic clout of the professional pest management industry for stakeholders continues to be a priority. Long-term data, a collection accumulated over 30 years, on subterranean termite species distribution and incidence of infestation demonstrates that an invasive species, the eastern subterranean termite, is the most economically important pest species in Georgia while pointing out that the dark southeastern subterranean termite is the next most pestiferous of the 5 species found in our state. These data should eventually lead to pragmatic IPM programs for termite management. Work on carpenter bees has highlighted a role those insects have in creating habitat for other insects - including an additional bee species, 2 wasp species, a fly, roaches and spiders – in urban settings. The study also highlighted the relatively low amount of wood excavated by these insects illuminating their ability, or lack thereof, in producing structural damage. This point is exemplified by one 2X4 with 15 holes and 48 galleries that provided 18% of the volume of that board removed by carpenter bees while that same board harbored 18 adult and 45 immature bees. In contrast, another board had 10 holes, 25 galleries providing 12% reduction in volume had 1 adult and no immature carpenter bees but harbored the brood of 2 other wasps, 1 bee species, 1 moth and roaches. The program also conducted, as part of a long-term research project, a training session/demonstration project with GDA SPCD inspectors using battery-assist spray equipment to treat, with a glycol-borate formulation, all exposed lumber in an attic infested with the Western drywood termite. This study is part of a long-term study examining efficacy of a borate wood surface application as a preventative and remedial treatment for drywood termites.

**EXPENDITURES:**

Student expenditures were approximately \$15,000 in addition to \$12,000 for supplies and equipment. The State Structural Pest Control Commission research fee was used for all the undergraduate student salaries as well as equipment and supplies.

**PLANNED RESEARCH:**

We plan to address the following research topics over the next year: (1) the role of subterranean termite speciation for each of the 5 species and their involvement in structural infestations (2) continued examination of product efficacy and new application technologies (3) continue to highlight the financial contribution the pest management professional industry has on a national level.

Comparison, by board, showing number of holes, galleries, volume and percent volume excavated as well as number of nests (SHN; single hole nest & MHN; multiple hole nests) constructed by Carpenter Bees.

BOARD#	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
# of Holes	15	6	7	7	10	3	7
# of Galleries	48	13	20	19	25	10	23
Volume Excavated (cm <sup>3</sup> )	1494.04	596.03	593.45	1015.57	971.17	406.25	1079.63
% Excavated	18%	6%	7%	12%	12%	5%	13%
# of SHN's	12	6	5	0	8	3	5
# of MHN's	1	0	1	2	1	0	1

Images from the drywood training session showing the volume of pellets swept from the attic floor prior to treatment and application of the treatment to exposed lumber.



# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

February 11, 2025

---

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:02 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Kim Bragg, Greg Holley, Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen, and Bodine Sinyard.
- 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 January meeting. Mr. Holley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Mr. Trip Martin provided the Legislative update. Terry England, former House Appropriations Chairman, is recovering from a severe accident and is expected to be in recovery for an extended time. Tim Bearden, member of the GA State Senate, is sponsoring SB127 which is in regard to contracts with small businesses and automatic renewal provisions, as well as SB144 which pertains to pesticide and fertilizer manufacturing liability. GeorgiaLink will be working with GDA to determine the impact of these bills. Mr. Trip Martin also engaged the commission in a discussion about how controlled burns may affect pest populations. Mr. Martin also noted that GA State Representative Mack Jackson would return to the District 128 seat without challenge after the judge's ruling issued on February 10<sup>th</sup>.
- E. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update, stating that all was going well with the department, and he had no further updates at this time.
- F. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. Mr. Lastinger discussed the SPD's work on responding to the HPAI outbreak and reported that restrictions have now been released. He also discussed the Pesticide Inspector Residential Training Program (PIRT) held in Decatur, GA last week. This national training was the first of its kind held in many years and was hosted through NASDA with funding through the EPA. Commissioner Tyler Harper was in attendance and the training was a great success. Mr. Lastinger extended special thanks to Mrs. LeAnna Merritt for all her work helping to coordinate this project, and to Faye Golden and Bonnie Rabe for their contributions for industry perspectives.
- G. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the Compliance and Enforcement update. The Attorney General's office has filed another motion in the Upson County Superior Court against an unlicensed operator. Mr. Taylor also announced that we have a new inspector starting this month.
- H. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt gave the update on field operations. She discussed the success of the PIRT, highlighting the opportunities to share the great work done in Georgia and to collaborate with inspectors in other states. Several SPD inspectors provided presentations and attended the training as well. Mrs. Merritt also relayed that termite swarm season is approaching and explained the increase in consumer complaints that is typical of this season.
- I. Ms. Ali Ikner gave the Certification and Training update. She provided a reminder that the registered employee training deadline is February 28<sup>th</sup>. Please be aware that CEUs being updated in the system may be delayed due to the current influx of submissions, however as

long as the course is taken prior to the deadline those hours will be credited. The most recent edition of The Inside Buzz focuses on prep for renewal and is available on the SPD website. There is also a renewal webpage available on the SPD website that will continue to be updated as renewal season progresses to provide up to date information. She encourages everyone to make use of these resources.

- J. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach Report. She discussed the success of the workshops held at the UGA Griffin Campus and the upcoming Commercial IPM workshop to be held on February 20<sup>th</sup>. She also discussed the upcoming Termite Workshops to be held on March 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> and on March 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. School IPM Workshops are also planned with the dates for these to be announced. Mrs. Collier also noted that LeAnna Merritt will be presenting at the CPCO Savannah Spring Seminar on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- K. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- L. Mr. Lastinger discussed proposed amendments to the IRC Building Code. He reviewed the suggested revisions to R305.1 and R305.2 that were proposed by Brian Stults. A State Codes Advisory Subcommittee Meeting will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup> where the subcommittee will hear from Mr. Stults before making a recommendation to the SCAC. The suggested amendments include changes regarding subterranean termite treatment. The SPCC has additional questions and will be following this topic.
- M. Ms. Ikner provided details on the proposed revisions to SPCC Policy 13-01 Recertification Course Requirements. Discussion focused on setting resubmission limits for CBT courses and notification of limits. The section on limitations was also discussed in regard to an issue with CEU limits at events. The language for these policy revisions will be revised and considered at the next meeting.
- N. Mr. Lastinger provided information about the 2025 SPCC meeting schedule. As a reminder the next in-person meeting will be held in May.
- O. Mrs. Bonnie Rabe provided the NPMA update. The Legislature is in full swing here in Georgia and across the U.S. She noted that several topics that affect the pest control industry are hot topics nationwide, including state level restrictions, PFAS, rodenticides, neonicotinoids, and 2nd generation rodenticide bans. Many states are in the process of establishing definitions for PFAS. She expressed a need to talk with more congressional representatives and noted that NPMA's Legislative Day in Washington D.C. will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>.
- P. Mrs. Faye Golden spoke about the success of NPMA's spotlight series on rodenticides. This event was well attended with participants coming from several other states to be involved. She also noted that they are anticipating Brooke Rollins receiving the Secretary of Agriculture Nomination later this month. Mrs. Golden also discussed proposed bill SB144 submitted by the Attorney General's office involving codifying pesticide label language. NPMA did not receive an opportunity to comment on SB144 prior to submission.
- Q. Mr. Lastinger also discussed an info sheet that was sent from Don Foster regarding a termite remote monitoring station from Novaterm. The SPCC is being asked if this product would be available for use in Georgia. The commission discussed and determined that more information would be needed to answer the question, and it was suggested that Novaterm be invited in to clarify.

R. Mr. Lastinger expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:17am.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

---

Attachment 1      Company License Applications

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, 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

February 11, 2025

**Open** –Vice Chairman Lastinger

#### **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. IRC Building Code Amendments (proposed)
- e. SPCC Policy 13-01 Recertification – proposed revisions
- f. Public Notice 2025 Meeting Schedule
- g. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- h. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- i. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**

## **ATTACHMENT 2**

---

### **Company License Applications**

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Massey Services Inc. – North Carolina
- Orkin LLC – Fulton County
- Korusa Solutions LLC – Gwinnett County – Name Change only
- Brooks Pest Solutions – Gwinnett County

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Matador Pest Control LLC DBA Mosquito Sheild of Chattahoochee Valley – Muscogee County – Pending Name
- Vintage Pest Solutions – Bulloch County – Pending Insurance
- Marietta Pest-Free – Cobb County – Suboffice license – Pending Insurance



# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

March 18, 2025

---

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:05 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Kim Bragg, Greg Holley, 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 Mrs. Bragg to approve the minutes of the February meeting. Dr. Forschler seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update, he commended the GDA for their news releases on the Yellow-legged Hornet and the active engagement of the pest management community. The last termite workshop for the Griffin 2025 workshop series is taking place this week. Dr. Forschler also discussed the Quantitative Ecologist interview that was conducted this morning, noting that UGA is moving forward with filling some vacant positions. With the arrival of spring comes the emergence of many seasonal insects. A bulletin featuring recent undergraduate research on carpenter bees is being developed which may affect how pest management approaches the control of these insects. He also encouraged being proactive about early season mosquito ground treatments and exterior ant baiting treatments. Dr. Forschler also stated that the new Entomology Department Head, Dr. Sonia Altizer, will start sometime this summer, overlapping with current department head Dr. Kristine Braman.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He noted that last month, SPD provided an overview for Commissioner Tyler J. Harper, and the leadership team which included hands-on experience in the field and a demonstration at the UGA Griffin Training Center. Photos from this event were also posted to GDA's social media pages. New USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins recently visited the Capitol and met with Commissioner Tyler J. Harper. The department has also received more information on the FY26 budget, which will begin on July 1st and is expected to be tight. The Georgia Center for Rural Prosperity and the Georgia Center of Innovation are expected to transition under the GDA. Mr. Lastinger also noted that the GDA leaf logo is being phased out in favor of the logo of the seal of the GDA.
- F. Mr. Tim Taylor gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. A statewide inspector training meeting was recently conducted, which emphasized inspection documentation. The GDA also welcomed new inspector Bailie Graham to the team. Mr. Taylor also spoke to bring awareness to the importance of correctly, and fully completing pesticide use records. PURs must have both the full name and license number of applicators. He also noted that currently the most common violation is the method of application being incorrectly completed. The method of application is the technique used to apply the pesticide, not the device used. For a better understanding of methods of application, pest management professionals may refer to [Notice 11-01 Pesticide Methods of Application](#) on the SPCC's guidance policies webpage.

- G. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. As a reminder, the Registered Employee training deadline was on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Ikner noted that CEU submissions have slowed down, and that CEUs from the GPCA Winter Conference and the highly attended webinar with Dr. Suiter have now all been entered. Staff have now mostly cleared the backlog of submissions so individuals who do not see records that were submitted in February should reach out to the SPD. Ms. Ikner also urged anyone who is retesting or testing for certification or employee registration to remember to submit your updated exam scores to the SPD. These scores do not automatically transfer from the testing system. The renewal portal is expected to go live in about 2 months. Licensees are encouraged to visit the [renewal webpage](#) for a checklist of things they can do before the renewal portal is available to ensure they are prepared.
- H. Ms. Bradshaw provided the Outreach report. She discussed the email that went out to the pest management industry focusing on identifying Yellow-legged Hornet embryo nests, noting that there have also been several updates to the [Yellow-legged Hornet webpage](#) including new graphics and photos. SPD has many outreach events planned for this spring, the second termite workshop is being held at the UGA Griffin Structural Pest Training Center this week on March 20th-21st, and LeAnna Merritt is speaking at the Savannah Spring Seminar on March 21st. She also highlighted the School IPM Workshop for School Pest Management Coordinators, the deadline to apply for this workshop is March 24th, with the workshop itself scheduled for April 3rd. SPD is also scheduling school visits for the School IPM Program, which provides a pest lesson to educate kids about the importance of being safe around pests and pesticides. Schools or teachers who are interested in scheduling a pest lesson with the SPD should reach out to the division.
- I. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- J. Mr. Lastinger discussed the proposed revisions to SPCC Policy 13-01 Recertification. These revisions are to address an issue with CBT instructors resubmitting previously unapproved course applications without edits. A waiting period will be enacted for course applications that are resubmitted without making revisions to meet the standards for GDA course requirements. The revisions also move to strike the limit on credits per category for conferences and workshops. A motion was made by Mrs. Bragg to approve the changes to SPCC Policy 13-01. Dr. Forscher seconded the motion, and the motion passed. This policy will be updated on the [SPCC Guidance Policies page](#).
- K. Mr. Lastinger discussed a change in how licensing fees are paid and processed. He emphasized there are no plans currently to increase licensing fees. As per guidance from the GDA Legal Services division, please note that anyone acquiring a license prior to July 1st will still be required to pay the renewal fee. Renewal fees cannot be waived, prorated, or otherwise altered. Further outreach will be provided to help provide clarification. The division will also be offering the option to hold company and certified operator applications until July for processing for those who wish to avoid paying both fees in 2025.
- L. Mr. Gorecki led the discussion on rulemaking. As a reminder no rule changes are being formally proposed at this time. These discussions are to aid in the initial drafting of the revisions to be proposed. Once the draft is complete there will be a public comment period before rule changes are finalized. Updates to Rules 620-3-.01(8), 620-3-.01(3), 620-3-.02(1)(e)3, 620-2-.01(j), 620-2-.01, and 620-3-.02 (g) involved clerical updates, adding clarifying language, and/or converting current policy into rule and did not result in extended

discussion or comments. The recommendation to update Rule 620-3-.02(1) to remove language that required an outdated pest control practice was favorably received. The suggested update to rule 620-3-.03 would modify the training hour requirements for Certified Operators who add additional categories to their existing license, with the aim of preventing operators from needing to quickly accumulate hours in a reduced amount of time when a new category is added. The discussion was positive, and it was recommended that the division collaborate with the web development team to explore ways to effectively communicate these changes to affected individuals, should this rule change become final. The recommended changes to Rule 620-3-.02 (1) (m) involved adding language to clarify the need to comply with label requirements. Mr. Gorecki also suggested adding additional language to further clarify that service containers by their definition do not include the application device. The SPD will continue to update the draft with suggestions as these discussions continue.

- M. Mr. Lastinger spoke about the upcoming IRC Building Code subcommittee meeting which will be discussing the revisions to R305.1 and R305.2 that were proposed by Brian Stults. This meeting will be held at 10:00am on March 27th, SPCC members Chris Gorecki and Greg Holley will be in attendance.
- N. Mr. Gorecki discussed rescheduling the May SPCC meeting being held in Augusta to May 20th. Details on the location will be announced once confirmed.
- O. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. He spoke about the success of the NPMA legislative day which took place March 9-11, with over 30 pest management professionals from Georgia attending. Meetings were held with staff from Senators Ossoff and Loudermilk, Representatives Buddy Carter and others, with informational packets sent to additional legislators. He also discussed a petition led by 11 state Attorney Generals which aims to prevent state and local entities from imposing additional conditions on pesticide labels beyond what is determined by the EPA and federal government. This ties into ongoing discussions about preemption and tort reform. Mr. Bell also discussed the Farm Bill, which is expected to be considered later this year, though its timeline may be affected by administrative changes. Mr. Bell also spoke about ongoing changes at the EPA, noting that reports indicate that over 1,000 employees have voluntarily resigned, with a reduction of 7,000 more employees being considered by EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin. Mr. Bell also noted that House Agriculture Committee Chairman G.T. Thompson attended an NPMA meeting, and that additional discussions were held with the Senate Agriculture Chair from Arkansas.
- P. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:42am.

#### ATTACHMENTS

---

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

## 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

March 18, 2025

**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. SPCC Policy 13-01 Recertification – proposed revisions
- e. Licensing Fees
- f. Rulemaking
- g. IRC Building Code Meeting
- h. May Meeting
- i. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- j. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- k. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**

## **ATTACHMENT 2**

---

### **Company License Applications**

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Roots Home Solutions – Houston County
- Critter Cowboys Wildlife, LLC – Gwinnett County – Name change/acquisition
- Arrow Exterminators – Douglas County – New Location
- TMA Coastal, Inc. dba Mosquito and Pest Authority of Savannah – Chatham County – New Location
- Hexom Farm – Lumpkin County – HBR Company
- Tarradam Inc. dba Pestmaster of Marietta – Alpharetta – Butts County – Acquisition
- Mosquito Shield – Muscogee County

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Bugged' Up Pest Services – Gwinnett County – Pending Insurance
- Elevated Pest Control – Cherokee County – Pending clarification of the DCO certification, pending new company name
- Ingles Pest Control, LLC – Grady County – Pending Insurance
- McGeachy Wildlife Removal and Pest Control – Coweta County – Pending Insurance
- Jacobs Pest Services – Spalding County – Pending insurance
- Partner Pest Control – Pickens County – Pending Insurance

# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

April 8, 2025

---

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:02 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Kim Bragg, Bodine Sinyard, Greg Holley, 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. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. He announced that Dr. Sonia Altizer, the new head of the entomology department, will be onboarded at the beginning of May. The UGA Entomology department is looking forward to more interactions with Dr. Altizer as she transitions from her current teaching position.
- D. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. April is National Pest Management Month, and the SPD is celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The Communications office has published a press release and an article in the Market Bulletin to highlight the important work the SPD does and the many ways they work to ensure public safety and support the pest management industry. SFIREG working committees are meeting currently. One of the committees has been working on a white paper that will be issued through SFIREG on backpack mosquito misters. This working committee is also seeking to engage the industry in providing feedback on potential new label language to better provide guidance for applicators as well as seeking to reduce issues regarding drift. They hope to engage the ASPCRO Public Health Committee for further comment. Mr. Lastinger also spoke about the upcoming Pesticide Clean Day event, to be held on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the St. Ives Country Club in Fulton County GA.
- E. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. SPD will be opening an inspector position in the middle Georgia region soon to fill a recent vacancy. The compliance team is also investigating a cheating incident. They are also working with the Attorney General's office on an alternative channel to issue an injunction due to difficulties with the recipient relocating. Mrs. Merritt also discussed SPD leadership's plan to meet in person and check in with all of the SPD inspectors next week.
- F. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. As a reminder last month per guidance from the GDA Legal Services division, GDA can no longer issue licenses for the subsequent license period. This means that anyone acquiring a license prior to July 1st will still be required to pay the renewal fee. Clarifying language has been added to the company license applications, so Ms. Ikner encouraged anyone filling out a new application to ensure they are using the most up to date version of the form. Ms. Ikner also explained that while the division works to also add clarifying language to the Certified Operator applications, SPD will be reaching out to applicants individually in the interim. Changes to SPCC Policy 13-01 Recertifications took effect on March 18<sup>th</sup>. These policy changes removed the limit on credits per category at workshops and conferences. The updated policy and information regarding

this change has been added to the SPD website. Mr. Lastinger emphasized that this change cannot be applied retroactively. Ms. Ikner concluded her report by providing a few reminders about upcoming renewals, encouraging license holders to check their CEUs and the CEUs of their registered employees. If registered employees have not met the CEU requirements for renewals, companies should be prepared to schedule these employees to retake the employee registration exam. Companies should also confirm their company insurance is up to date. The renewal webpage will be updated with guides as they become available, and the renewal portal is expected to go live in mid-May.

- G. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. SPD has completed the spring workshop series hosted through UGA Griffin. She also discussed the School IPM Workshop for School Pest Management Coordinators, which was held on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The workshop hosted 15 participants and featured presentations focused on pesticide safety in schools. SPD is also scheduling school visits for the School IPM Program, which provides a pest lesson to educate kids about the importance of being safe around pests and pesticides. Three school visits have been planned for the month of April, with another three schools planned for May, including participating in the Plantlanta program. Schools or teachers who are interested in scheduling a pest lesson with the SPD should reach out to the division. SPD is also preparing for a booth at the Chattahoochee Nature Center's annual Butterfly Festival to be held on June 7<sup>th</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup>.
- H. A motion was made by Mrs. Bragg to approve the minutes of the March meeting. Mr. Holley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- I. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- J. Mr. Lastinger discussed the revisions to SPCC Policy 13-01 Recertification. These revisions were approved at the March SPCC meeting. The updated policy has been added to the SPCC Guidance Policies page of the website and is in effect as of March 18<sup>th</sup>. This policy is not retroactive.
- K. Mr. Trip Martin provided the legislative update. The 2025 legislative session concluded Friday evening. Several issues were tabled, including HB529 Georgia Online Automatic Renewal Transparency Act, which is expected to be brought back up in 2026. SB144 Fertilizers or Pesticides, sponsored by Senator Watson passed. This bill clarified the liability of pesticide manufactures regarding informing consumers of health risks beyond those required by the US EPA. SB68 & SB69, referred to as the tort reform package, passed in an effort to better position Georgia from a business standpoint. Mr. Martin discussed that guidance for businesses is being developed for SB68 & SB69 and he will be sharing that information with the associations when it becomes available. Georgia Senator Brandon Beach has been appointed as the Treasurer of the United States. To fill his seat there will be a special election in June. Mr. Martin also noted that there could be a turnover of up to 10 state senators in 2026.
- L. Mr. Lastinger led the discussion on rulemaking. As a reminder no rule changes are being formally proposed at this time. These discussions are to aid in the initial drafting of the revisions to be proposed. Once the draft is complete there will be a public comment period before rule changes are finalized. 620-2-.01(ai) General Definitions continued the discussion from the last SPCC meeting regarding clarifying the definition of a service container and the changes were positively regarded. The proposed updates to 620-9-.02 (2) General Requirements and 620-7-.02 (3) Household Pest Control General Requirements, seek to

provide consistency between WDO contract rules and HBR and HPC contract rules for consumer protection. Definitions 620-9-.01(7), 620-9-.01(8), and 620-9-.01(9) involved correcting typos, and were positively received. Rule 620-3-.02(1)(e) Responsibilities seeks to add the policies in Notice 21-03: Honeybee Removal Fact Sheet to the rules. 620-7-.02 Household Pest Control General Requirements also seeks to formalize policy into rule, referencing 17-03: State Inspections Fact Sheet, providing consistency with WDO recordkeeping requirements.

- M. Mr. Lastinger spoke about the Monthly Job Report Compliance Fact Sheet. Following a brief discussion by the commission a motion was made by Mrs. Bragg to approve the MJR Compliance Fact Sheet pending a few minor edits for clarification. Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- N. Mr. Gorecki spoke about the March 27th IRC Building Code subcommittee meeting which discussed the revisions to R305.1 and R305.2 that were proposed by Brian Stults. Mr. Lastinger and Mr. Gorecki attended the meeting, engaging in discussions and providing information on current regulations to the subcommittee. Mr. Gorecki gave a brief overview of the details of R305.2 to the SPCC and noted that this proposed code amendment had been pulled. He also stated that R305.1 was tabled at the subcommittee meeting. The SPCC highlighted their appreciation to the IRC Building Code committee for bringing this matter to their attention and including them in these kinds of discussions.
- O. Mr. Lastinger announced that the details regarding the May SPCC meeting have been posted on the Public Notices page. The May SPCC meeting will be held at the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area on May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- P. Ms. Faye Golden provided the NPMA update. April is National Pest Management Month, NPMA is celebrating with their theme of Innovation in Action: Advancing Pest Management for a Healthier Tomorrow. Ms. Golden noted that NPMA will be attending PestWorld East, a conference that showcases innovation and challenges in pest management in the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia. She also spoke about the opportunity to engage with regulators at a dinner on May 21<sup>st</sup> in Colorado Springs during the ongoing conference. Ms. Golden also spoke about NPMA's 2025 Women's Forum being held in Austin, TX from May 12-14<sup>th</sup>. The NPMA Public Policy Team continues to monitor legislation being introduced across the country. To this, Mrs. Bonnie Rabe added that there is a lot of focus on rodenticide restriction bills and proposals ongoing across the country. She highlighted that these types of legislative decisions have the potential to impact EPA decision making on a national level.
- Q. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:35am.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

---

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary



## 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

April 8, 2025

**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 – LeAnna Merritt
  - Certification & Training – Ali Ikner
  - Outreach – Nan Collier
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. SPCC Policy 13-01 Recertification
- e. License Renewal 2025-2027
- f. Rulemaking
- g. IRC Building Code Meeting
- h. May Meeting
- i. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- j. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- k. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**

## ATTACHMENT 2

---

### Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- EPS – Fayette County – Name change only
- In and Out Pest Services – Gwinnett County – Name change only
- Mark Farm LLC – Cobb County – HBR Company
- Parks Pest and Termite – Gilmer County
- Launchpad Pest Inspection – Gwinnett County – Name Change Only
- PestNation Services – Forsyth County - Name Change;
- Orkin Pest Control – Fayette County – New Location
- Verdx Pest Control – Cherokee County

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Smart Solutions Pest Control – Cobb County – New Location; Pending Insurance
- Kingfish Pest Control, LLC – Florida – Pending Insurance
- Aptive Environmental, LLC – South Carolina – New Location; Pending Fee & DCO confirmation

The Commission did not approve the following applications:

- D1 Pest Control – Cobb County – Missing insurance, DCO, payment, and pending investigation
- Sentinel Pest Solutions – Cherokee County – Name Change Only
- The Bug Doctor LLC – Catoosa County - DCO and Email Address

# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

May 20, 2025

---

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:09 a.m. at the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area in Augusta, GA. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Kim Bragg, 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 April meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. Dr. Sonia Altizer is now officially the new head of the entomology department. He encouraged everyone present to reach out and form a connection. He emphasized the challenges over the years of gaining recognition for the important work that the industry does.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. SPD recently met with EPA Region 4. Funding was discussed and while no official decision has been reached States are being advised to expect budget cuts. Funding for pesticide and chemical disposal, particularly in areas affected by Hurricane Helene may become available, but nothing has been confirmed thus far. Mr. Lastinger also discussed a recent meeting with Dr. Sonia Altizer and Commissioner Tyler J. Harper. This meeting helped to emphasize the unique partnership the GDA has with UGA and the important research work being done in Georgia. Mr. Lastinger also noted that the GDA is currently operating in a short-term deficit while we seek ways to cut spending and prepare for fiscal year 2026 with an anticipated reduced budget. He also announced that the GDA Summer Internship program officially began on May 19<sup>th</sup>, with 14 total interns for the department. The Structural Pest Division will be hosting 2 interns, Tyler Washburn and Colton Sanders. Mr. Sanders is a recent ABAC graduate who will be interning with our inspectors in the field. Mr. Washburn is finishing his master's degree at Emory in Epidemiology and will be primarily assisting SPD on the administrative side. Mr. Lastinger also noted that the eradication of the Yellow-legged Hornet remains a priority, with numerous GDA staff working on the eradication of this pest.
- F. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the Compliance Report. The SPD is currently interviewing for an open inspector position in middle GA. Inspection priorities include unlicensed operators and for-cause inspections. Mr. Taylor also discussed an ongoing case regarding employees cheating during the registered employee examination. He noted that examinees are recorded while taking the examination and that a review of the recordings confirmed the report from the exam center proctor.
- G. Mr. Lastinger discussed Notice 07-01 Examination Cheating Policy. This policy, per a recommendation from the GDA Legal division, is being considered to be formalized into rule.

- H. Ms. Ali Ikner spoke about challenges with limited resources in proctoring exams. The proctors at the testing centers may not have consistent resources available to supervise testing while also assisting with applications. Policies regarding providing assistance to examinees on incomplete or incorrectly completed applications at the time of the exam will be enforced more strictly and consistently in the future. Examinees are encouraged to arrive on time, be prepared, with proper identification, and ensure that their account was created with the correct driver's license number, name, and required information. Examinees with incomplete or incorrectly completed applications will be turned away and asked to reschedule at a later date.
- I. Ms. Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. Due to issues with our web vendor there was a delay in the launch of the 2025-2027 license renewal portal. Renewal notices are now scheduled to be sent out this evening. Companies will need to make sure they have their current liability insurance on file and must renew the DCO license either at the same time or prior to renewing the company license. She also noted that the Special Licensing Edition of The Inside Buzz featuring guides and information on the renewal process will be sent out in the morning on May 21<sup>st</sup>. As a reminder the renewal webpage is also available for anyone seeking assistance with the renewal process and will continue to be updated as needed.
- J. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided the Outreach report. On April 9<sup>th</sup>, SPD participated in the UGA webinar series presenting to 194 participants. The School IPM Program, which teaches elementary age students the importance of pest identification and pesticide safety, is in full swing. From April to the end of May SPD visited 7 schools and provided the pest lesson to over 600 students. SPD will also be hosting a booth and presenting the pest lesson at the upcoming Butterfly Festival, held annually at the Chattahoochee Nature Center. Mrs. Merritt also discussed the recent Clean Day held on May 13<sup>th</sup> in Johns Creek where over 10,000 pounds of chemicals were collected for safe disposal. She also discussed the recently published Notice 25-03 Monthly Job Report Fact Sheet, which is available on the SPCC Guidance Policies page.
- K. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- L. Mr. Lastinger led the discussion on rulemaking. *As a reminder no rule changes are being formally proposed at this time. These discussions are to aid in the initial drafting of the revisions to be proposed. Once the draft is complete, the proposed rules will be posted and there will be a public comment period before rule changes are finalized.* The commission discussed the creation of a certified applicator license to comply with new EPA FIFRA definitions. If created, this license would allow registered employees to take the general portion of the Certified Operator exam to qualify to apply RUPs, thus allowing companies an optional avenue to pursue should they feel affected by a federal reclassification of a pesticide as an RUP. Certified Operators would continue to be able to apply RUPs. This would also help to provide a steppingstone (though optional) to registered employees seeking to become certified operators. This license would still be subject to experience requirements and CEU requirements. Attendees discussed aspects of this proposed license and feedback was generally positive.

- M. Mr. Lastinger spoke about the building code requirement for a termite certification. Upon review this requirement did not interfere with Georgia's pesticide preemption law, however there is potential for this requirement to conflict with existing state policy. Therefore, the department will continue to monitor and report any changes at future meetings.
- N. Mr. Gorecki led the discussion regarding the Novaterm device which was presented by Mr. Don Foster who was in attendance. The Novaterm device is advertised as a remote sensing termite bait station that utilizes AI to draw conclusions about the condition of the station and provides feedback to a PMP. Mr. Foster stated that the intent would be to market this to PMPs in Georgia, rather than as a direct-to-consumer product. Mr. Foster also emphasized that there are two versions of the product, one that uses a cellulose with no active ingredients in the station, and another version that would use an approved termiticide bait. He explained that the bait stations have sensors that measure the density of the cellulose in each device that operates on a radio frequency. According to Mr. Foster, an AI software interprets the density readings to determine if there is termite activity based on the rate of decline of density (or if it is more likely debris in station such as a rain event) and sends a cellular signal to the PMP to alert them when the stations need to be checked or serviced. Stations are also recommended to be serviced in person every 12 months. The SPCC requested that Mr. Foster provide examples of the reporting data, further data to support the AI detection method is functional, information regarding the interchangeability (or lack thereof) of 3<sup>rd</sup> party bait matrixes, the list of other states who have approved the product, and detailed information on how companies provide services in the event of detection and in the absence of detection. The SPCC also emphasized that the word "attractant" is an issue in the promotional materials and product information. It was also noted that a product not requiring registration is not the same as a product being approved, as well as the distinction of a product being approved as detection devices versus being approved as a bait station. Mr. Foster will be gathering the information requested by the SPCC for further discussion and consideration of the Novaterm device for use in Georgia. At this time it has not been approved for use in Georgia.
- O. Mr. Rick Bell provided the legislative and NPMA update. The Governors Tort Reform Bill passed and is big news here in Georgia. This bill is expected to have positive impacts for the industry. Mr. Bell also commended the GDA and the SPD for their work in improving the visibility of the department and industry with legislators. Noting that Commissioner Tyler J. Harper's work has been particularly helpful in directing more attention to the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Bell also discussed the success of the 2025 Women's Forum held in Austin, TX from May 12-14. He further discussed the Safe Shelter Standards Act which is a project expected to lead up to the Farm Bill. The Safe Shelter Standards Act seeks to set aside federal funding to be allocated to pest control services in HUD housing projects, thus allowing pest control to be considered a reimbursable expense. This Act currently has 24 cosigners and supporters of the legislation, with congressmen in position to support. The NPMA Public Policy Team continues to monitor legislation being introduced across the country.
- P. Mr. Bell announced that he will be retiring at the end of May. Mr. Gorecki and other members of the SPCC spoke about Mr. Rick Bell's numerous valuable contributions to the pest control industry. His exemplary service record and years of dedicated service will be

remembered through the positive impacts of his work that will continue on after his retirement.

Q. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:56am.

---

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

---

#### **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

May 20, 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 – LeAnna Merritt
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. License Renewal 2025-2027
- e. Rulemaking
- f. Building Codes
- g. Notice 07-01 Examination Cheating Policy
- h. Novaterm – Don Foster
- i. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- j. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- k. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**

## **ATTACHMENT 2**

---

### **Company License Applications**

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Buffalo Lick Bee Company, LLC – Walton County
- Vigilant Pest Solutions – Cherokee County – Name Change Only

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Aptive Environmental, Inc – Jacksonville, FL – Pending Insurance
- Rentokil North America, Inc. dba Active Pest Control – Camden County – Pending Insurance & DCO <100 miles away confirmation – no technicians, trucks, no pesticide stored. Just an address for Google marketing.
- Highland Pest Solutions – Forsyth County – Pending Insurance
- Atlanta Wildlife Solutions LLC (HBR Company) – Forsyth County – Pending Insurance & Name
- Chill Pest Solutions LLC – Aiken, SC – Pending Insurance
- Clark's Pest Solutions LLC – Ooltewah, TN – Pending Name

The Commission did not approve the following applications:

- AB & BE – Crisfield, MD – Complete application, fill out correct application, resubmit
- Veteran Owned Services, LLC dba Mosquito Squad of Augusta – Richmond Forsyth County – Incomplete Application
- Karha Solutions LLC dba Pestmaster of Cumming – Forsyth County – Incomplete Application



# MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

June 10, 2025

---

- 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, Bodine Sinyard, Greg Holley, 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. Holley to approve the minutes of the May meeting. Dr. Forschler seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. He noted that he has invited Dr. Sonia Altizer, the new head of the UGA entomology department, to the SPCC meetings for an opportunity to introduce herself and to emphasize the need for more recognition for the pest management industry.
- E. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. On May 20<sup>th</sup> renewal notices were sent out via email. Anyone who did not receive their renewal notice is encouraged to check their spam folders and to verify that the email address the SPD has for you is correct. Companies who have not yet renewed as of last week have also been mailed paper notices. Certified Operators that have not yet renewed will also be receiving paper notices later this week. Ms. Ikner encouraged anyone who has not yet renewed to visit the SPD renewal webpage where information and several resources to assist with renewals are listed. A special Licensing Issue of The Inside Buzz was also sent out to subscribers. This special edition is also available on the SPD webpage where past editions of The Inside Buzz are available. As a reminder, this is the last SPCC meeting before the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. After June 30<sup>th</sup> additional fees to renew will apply. Please do not wait until the last minute to renew.
- F. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- G. Mr. Taylor gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. The SPD is finishing interviews for an open inspector position and expects to fill this position soon. He noted that in a recent unlicensed operator case the court is now moving forward with a permanent injunction. Mr. Taylor also discussed that the company involved in the exam cheating case has requested a meeting to ensure they are compliant with all rules and regulations going forward.
- H. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. SPD participated in the UGA Webinar Series on June 4<sup>th</sup> along with Dr. Allison Johnson. School IPM Outreach continued with SPD hosting a booth at the Chattahoochee Nature Center's annual Butterfly Festival on June 7<sup>th</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup>, and Pest Lessons are currently planned for Camp Bartow next week. SPD inspectors also attended a webinar on the New World Screwworm sponsored by Texas A&M to be better prepared to answer questions about this pest.
- I. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt spoke about SPD's two summer interns, Tyler Washburn and Colton Sanders. They have been working on many special projects at our Atlanta office and in the field. You may see them out with our inspectors helping to provide compliance assistance as well.

- J. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. SPD received a call from the press regarding the Asian needle ant. These types of calls have been directed to Dr. Suiter. The Asian needle ant has been gaining some momentum in the press, with meeting attendees citing a radio interview, a Q&A through UGA, and several other news releases. Mr. Lastinger also discussed the GDA's efforts to provide information on the New World screwworm and on the Longhorned tick. The Longhorned tick has been confirmed in Habersham, Hall, Pickens, and White counties. He also noted that the GDA summer interns took a trip to the Structural Pest Control Training Center in Griffin, where in addition to getting a tour of the facility and an overview of SPD topics such as IPM and termite control, they enjoyed a presentation by the Plant Protection Division on the Yellow-Legged hornet and the GDA's ongoing eradication efforts. Mr. Lastinger also spoke about several topics of discussion at the recent SFIREG, including concerns regarding SFIREG funding. He noted that some of the previously cancelled pesticide grants have now been reinstated. After providing some background on how cooperative agreement grants have helped states to carry out pesticide programs, he discussed information coming from regional EPA representatives concerning the current administration's proposed budget cuts to the EPA that would affect state cooperative agreement grants. Currently the GDA is operating in a budget deficit that is expected to end on June 30<sup>th</sup>. SPD has been reducing spending and preparing for additional anticipated state budget cuts in FY 2026. In an effort to reduce spending, SPCC meetings will be held virtually through the end of the calendar year.
- K. Mr. Gorecki discussed the topic of a new license type that was put forth at the last SPCC meeting. This potential new license type would allow an optional pathway for technicians to be certified to use RUPs. There will be a survey with information about the potential license type sent out next month to The Inside Buzz subscribers that will be conducted through the end of July. The results of this survey will be discussed at the August SPCC meeting.
- L. Mr. Lastinger stated there have been no further updates regarding building codes.
- M. Mr. Lastinger communicated that no further information or data has been received on the Novaterm system at this time.
- N. Mr. Trip Martin provided the legislative update. Georgia is expected to see 8 to 10 senate seats open soon. He noted that with many seats opening there may be a domino effect in some areas for how things shift. 2026 looks to be a different kind of session. Mr. Martin also spoke about the tort reform bill, Senate Bill 68, which was recently signed by Governor Kemp. This bill is expected to create a better environment for GA businesses.
- O. Mr. Lastinger spoke about Notice 22-01 in reference to the three day right of cancellation rule as described in the Fair Business Practices Act (FBPA). This act references federal code which allows that the statement on the contract regarding three day right to cancel may be "substantially similar" to that originally provided in FTC 16.C.F.R. 429. Currently as per Notice 22-01 the state policy is stricter than the federal code. In order to align with the federal code, a change to Notice 22-01 to clarify that the three day right of cancellation notice does not need to be the exact listed language, but rather can be substantially similar was proposed. A motion to accept the draft language was made by Mr. Chris Gorecki. Dr. Forscherler seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Notice 22-01 will be updated and the revision will also be communicated in the next edition of The Inside Buzz.
- P. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. He stated that there has been fewer developments with several hot topic issues such as rodenticides and PFAS as EPA adjusts its focus. Mr. Bell

lamented the retirement of Rick Keigwin, former Senior Executive at EPA, noting that he was a good friend who took his role seriously and was always willing to listen. As the year progresses, it seems the consideration of the Farm Bill is unlikely for the Fall session. Mr. Bell also emphasized the importance of the industry being aware of how the agricultural side is responding to the required changes from the ESA.

Q. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:11am.

**ATTACHMENTS**

---

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

---

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

---

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

## 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

June 10, 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 Notice and survey
- f. Building Codes
- g. Notice 07-01 Examination Cheating Policy
- h. Novaterm
- i. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- j. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- k. Certification Examination Application Review

#### **Adjournment**

## **ATTACHMENT 2**

---

### **Company License Applications**

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Northwest Exterminating Company LLC – Name Change Only
- Northwest Exterminating Company LLC – Name Change Only
- Jeff Clark's Pest Solutions LLC – Tennessee
- Veteran Owned Services, LLC DBA Mosquito Squad of Augusta - Richmond County – Approved for HPC only
- Mosquito Shield – Gwinnett County
- Urbanex of Knoxville, LLC – Hamilton County – Suboffice License
- Atlanta Wildlife Solutions LLC – Forsyth County – HBR License
- Pollard Produce LLC DBA Bee Pimprn – Name Change Only

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Hometown Pest Control LLC – Haralson County – Pending Insurance & Name
- Fireline Pest Control – Paulding County – Pending Insurance & Email Address
- Karha Solutions LLC DBA Pest Master of Cumming (New Location) – Forsyth County - Pending DCO
- Adams Exterminators (New Location) – Thomas County – Pending Payment

The Commission did not approve the following applications:

- DNR Pest Control LLC – Henry County – Incomplete Application