

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

October 10, 2023

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:04 a.m. via zoom on October 10, 2023. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Greg Holley, Dr. Brian Forschler, Christy Kuriatnyk, Kim Bragg, and Bodine Sinyard.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, and NPMA representatives, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- D. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- E. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology update. He congratulated the SPD for the recent publication of their quarterly reports in The Inside Buzz and the insight this provides.
- F. Mr. Lastinger provided the department and program updates. He applauded the efforts of the 11 SPD staff assisting at the Georgia Grown Baby Barn and Schoolhouse at the Georgia National Fair in Perry, GA alongside Commissioner Tyler Harper. He also informed the commission that the EPA Region 4 States would be meeting later this week.
- G. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the Compliance and Enforcement update. He announced Mr. Sidney Sapp was recently hired as our new inspector for the mid-Georgia area. He stated there is an injunction hearing with the Attorney General later this week for a case involving an unlicensed operator. He also highlighted information from the Inside Buzz regarding the most frequent violations.
- H. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. The deadline for the late renewal period has now passed. Ms. Ikner also gave a review of the current renewal numbers as follows: 1248 companies, 2234 certified operators, and 7185 registered employees are licensed as of the end of the renewal period.
- I. Ms. Ali Ikner also provided the Outreach update. She discussed SPD involvement with the GA National Fair Baby Barn, and Schoolhouse where 175 students and parents participated in Pestingo. She also discussed the upcoming 9th Annual Ray Day event which is currently fully booked with over 2,000 attendees. Additionally, she highlighted Mr. Lastinger and Mr. Taylor's presentations at the CPCO Conference and noted the upcoming GPCA South Georgia Conference to be held on Oct. 25th and 26th. Ms. Iker further noted the most recent edition of The Inside Buzz featured a new FAQ section produced by Ms. Kellee Kess. Lastly, Ms. Ikner shared that valuable information about the Yellow-Legged Hornet had been successfully distributed to 106 pest control operators in the concerned region.
- J. Mr. Lastinger gave an update on the yellow-legged hornet and current eradication efforts. GDA continues to monitor the area and no additional nests have been located.

- K. Mr. Lastinger informed the commission of the progress on the HBR experience project. Mr. Chaisson has been working to finalize a site and has recently recruited help to complete blueprints for the project. The commission discussed the benefits and potential challenges of the project with suggestions of how the needs of the program could best be supported. The commission agreed more information was needed. Mr. Gorecki will be consulting with various experts in preparation for the next meeting.
- L. Mr. Gorecki stated that the questions regarding the TermiTek monitoring device were still under review and that the commission is working with legal to provide clarification.
- M. Mr. Gorecki discussed legals' recommendations in regard to the Notice 17-01 Business Naming draft revision. Mr. Gorecki and Mr. Lastinger will be working to refine the document and will further discuss at the October meeting.
- N. Mr. Gorecki also provided an update on the PSSI appeal under Notice 17-01. Mr. Lastinger will be following up with Mr. Sereboo regarding this matter.
- O. Mr. Lastinger provided an update on Public Notice 23-02 for the November SPCC meeting, which will be held in person at the Georgia Department of Agriculture in Atlanta. A public notice will be distributed announcing the details of the meeting. The public notice of the 2024 meeting schedule is also being prepared and Mr. Lastinger advised the commission to reach out concerning any potential conflicts.
- P. Ms. Shalamar Parham provided the Legislative Update. She conveyed there is no longer a special session expected, and that prefilng would begin in November.
- Q. Ms. Faye Golden provided the NPMA update. She discussed the letter regarding rodenticides that had been received from the EPA. She also stated that NPMA would be submitting comments on proposed Farm Bill changes. She further remarked on the upcoming Pest World Event to be held in Hawaii later this month.
- R. Mr. Lastinger asked for the commission's assistance in finding information on contracts that contain language pertaining to the use of RUP's and how the reclassification of rodenticides may affect these agreements.
- S. Mr. Gorecki closed the meeting by expressing appreciation to all the guests in attendance. Meeting adjourned at 11:19am.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	October 10 th 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 10, 2023

Open –Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- b. UGA Urban Entomology Update & Research Reports - Dr. Brian Forschler
- c. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance/Enforcement – Tim Taylor
 - Certification & Training –Ali Ikner
 - Outreach – Nan Collier
- d. Yellow legged hornet Response Update
- e. HBR experience requirement
- f. TermiTek System
- g. Notice 17-01 Business Naming draft revision
- h. Public Notice 23-02 November 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:

- Carter's Pest Control – Valdosta, GA
- Moore's Pest Control LLC – Cairo, GA
- Angry Ant Pest Control – Lilburn, GA
- Elgin Pest Solutions – Harrison, TN (Operating Hamilton county)

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Northwest Exterminating Company LLC – Gainesville, GA – Pending Insurance
- Ala Carte Pest Services LLC – Acworth, GA – Pending Insurance