

Meeting Minutes – May 3, 2017

Illinois Structural Pest Control Advisory Council (SPCAC)

General Meeting Information

A meeting of the Illinois Structural Pest Control Advisory Council was held on May 3, 2017. The meeting was held at the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), 525 W. Jefferson, in Springfield, Illinois.

Participants and SPCAC Members Present

Council Members Present:

- Scott Beckerman, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Jamie Byrd, Egyptian Health Department (via telephone)
- Warren Goetsch, Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA)
- Chris Haggerty, American Pest Control
- Joe Kath, Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Dr. Susan Ratcliffe, North Central IPM Center
- Cynthia Stricker, Archer Daniels Midland (ADM)
- Gary Pietrucha, EnviroSafe Pest Management

Council Members Not Present:

- Ruth Kerzee, Midwest Pesticide Action Center (MPAC)
- Eric Ruesken, Arab Termite & Pest Control

IDPH Representatives Present:

- Dr. Curt Colwell, Division of Environmental Health

Guests Present:

- none

SPCAC Meeting Summary

- Dr. Curt Colwell, acting as Chairman designate, called the meeting to order after determining a quorum (6) was present.
- Approval was sought for the Minutes of the Council's meeting of October 7, 2016. Gary Pietrucha motioned to approve. Scott Beckerman seconded the motion. The

Minutes were unanimously approved, but with stipulation that the date of the meeting listed in error in the minutes be changed to the correct date of October 7, 2016.

- After a motion by Dr. Susan Ratcliffe and second by Cynthia Stricker, members also voted to approve a change to the Council's by-laws, to allow members to attend the meetings via conference call. Council member Jamie Byrd was subsequently connected to the meeting by telephone, becoming the first member to attend one of the council's meetings by conference call.
- On the topic of online training in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for school and day care staff, Dr. Ratcliffe explained that her university budget would allow granting funds to the Midwest Pesticide Action Center, headed by council member Ruth Kerzee, to produce the online training. She added that the training could incorporate work already done by IPM-oriented organizations such as the Northeastern IPM Center. There was discussion of how completion of the online training would be verified. Dr. Ratcliffe suggested that quizzes might be employed, requiring a minimum percentage of correct answers to allow trainees to progress through each module. This topic was continued later in the meeting.
- Jamie Byrd asked what had become of the pest control training that the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) had asked for with regard to food facility inspectors. Chris Haggerty explained that the Illinois Pest Control Association (IPCA) would be packaging the requested training for presentation at its Fall Conference in Springfield on September 26 and 27, 2017.
- An update on current legislation related to structural pest control was discussed next. Chris Haggerty commented that both House Bills 0369 and 3741 had passed the House and were progressing through the Senate. He said HB 0369 (requiring employers to give written notification to employees whenever bed bugs are discovered in the workplace) had been amended, but he did not know to what extent. Attendees including Gary Pietrucha and Dr. Curt Colwell, along with Haggerty, expressed reservations at the bills' passing in their original form. HB 0369 contained unworkable language, according to those members whose said it was unfortunate that sponsors of the bill had not consulted those more knowledgeable in pest control and pest control regulations before writing the bill.

Chris Haggerty went on to comment on the sponsoring of a bill to avoid the sunset of the Structural Pest Control Act which was scheduled for 12/31/2019. He said a sponsor had been found and the legislation was presumably proceeding. He wondered if there was still time to insert a change in the Act that would allow the IDPH to outsource the delivering and grading of its pest control examinations. Warren Goetsch advised that this was probably no longer possible. Dr. Colwell said he could submit a revision of the Act's language on examinations, if it was determined that the current legislation could still be modified.

- Colwell then asked Council members if they had suggestions regarding the proposed rule changes to the Structural Pest Control Code. Chris Haggerty said it could be beneficial to inform construction contractors of the proposed requirement for pest control companies to inform IDPH prior to performing termite pretreatments (on buildings under construction). Susan Ratcliffe suggested contacting contractor associations. After a motion by Chris Haggerty and second by Dr. Ratcliffe, a vote was taken seeking the Council's approval for the changes proposed by Dr. Colwell, and those changes were approved unanimously.
- Discussion continued on the proposed online IPM training, as well as face-to-face IPM seminars as had been conducted in previous years for public school and licensed day care staff (some of which are required to attend the training). Dr. Ratcliffe maintained that the online training modules might be ready for general use by mid-2018, and ready for testing by the end of 2017. Chris Haggerty added that noted pest management professionals, Kirk Connor and Angela Tucker, were ready to assist Ratcliffe in conducting IPM seminars. However, Dr. Colwell and others stated that the number of school and daycare staff required to attend the seminars had dwindled over time, especially since some facilities realized they could circumvent the seminar attendance requirement by declaring their facility was operating under the principles of IPM. It was also noted that only one IPM Seminar had been presented in 2016, with only about 25 persons in attendance. A second seminar had been cancelled due to a the venue cancelling and because less than 10 had registered for the event. Colwell said it was good that the IPM training provided to schools and day cares had been face-to-face and in some cases "hands-on," giving a good grounding in IPM to those who attended. But that now, fewer would attend the seminars because most facilities had fulfilled their attendance requirement earlier, and others had changed their regulatory status from not implementing IPM to saying they were implementing IPM and were no longer required to attend. It was then decided that it was impractical to conduct IPM Seminars in 2017, that the those whose attendance was still required would be allowed to wait until they could take their training online via the IPM modules previously alluded to.
- On a final note, Gary Pietrucha reopened the topic of would be required to designate as Illinois Restricted-Use Pesticides certain products formulated as strips containing vapona (DDVP). Warren Goetsch advised that petitioners would be required to document problems that had resulted from the products' use. Even then, Goetsch stated, it might be best to make the product a federally Restricted-Use Pesticide (RUP) rather than a state RUP. Goetsch added that if the product was worthy of RUP status, other states would presumably want to make it so as well.
- With no further comments, the Council was adjourned after the motion of Warren Goetsch and a second by Susan Ratcliffe.