

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 10th.
- 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 28th. 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 20th. She also discussed the upcoming Termite Workshops to be held on March 6th – 7th and on March 20th – 21st. 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 21st.
- 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 27th 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 9th – 11th.
- 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