

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

August 11, 2020

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:33 AM on August 11, 2020, online via Zoom. All Commission members were present: Chris Gorecki, Chair; Derrick Lastinger, Vice-Chair; Greg Holley, Bodine Sinyard, Dr. Brian Forschler, Christy Kuriatnyk and Kim Bragg.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, Honeybee industry experts, GPCA and CPCO representatives, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. Motion was made by Mr. Holley to approve the minutes of the June meeting. Mrs. Kuriatnyk seconded the motion and motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology update. Dr. Suiter has a series of workshops coming up with some being in-person, some virtual, some will include both. Dr. Forschler encouraged everyone to check them out.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department and program updates. He spoke about a request that GDA received for a Spanish version of the Employee Registration Manual. GDA Legal team determined that GDA is not required to make the accommodation. Mr. Lastinger stated that on July 28, EPA released temporary guidance to states for certification plans during the COVID-19 health emergency. Mr. Lastinger introduced EPA's new Region 4 project officer, Alex Merritt. Mr. Merritt thanked the Commission for the invitation to join the meeting.
- F. Mr. Tim Taylor provided the certification and training update. He requested the approval for SPD to go ahead and process all the certification applications approved between March and June that have not been processed yet. The Commission agreed and these applications will be processed along with July and August certification examination applications. There are currently 22 testing centers open with 803 seats available per month. It is recommended to call the testing center before to confirm exam registration since operations can be change. Mr. Taylor stated that SPD received over 550 COVID-19 Examination Waiver applications for Temporary Employee Registrations. This includes 80 pending applications for missing information. He reminded those that have this temporary registration to take the exam by September 30 and send in the \$10 for a new license card. If these requirements are not met by September 30th, the temporary registration will expire on September 30th. GDA is working with a vendor to have QR codes printed on the licensing cards. This code will allow easy access for the licensee to gain access to their license profile including credit hours.
- G. Mr. Alex Conti provided the compliance update. GDA is continuing routine inspections to be conducted on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays. Complaints and for-cause inspections will be conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays. He announced the retirement of Kenny Spradley and introduced recently hired inspectors, Eric Robinson and Tammy Lenoir. Both are in the Atlanta metro area. Mr. Conti discussed the upcoming UGA workshops. The Home IPM Workshop and the School IPM Workshops will be held in-person on the UGA Campus in Griffin

with a maximum of 20 participants. The Termite Workshops will be held in three parts: a morning webinar, an afternoon webinar, and the facility portion in-person at UGA Griffin campus.

- H. The Commission discussed the draft language for honeybee removal rule. GDA was asked to draft a rule to create an operational category for honeybee removal operators that would exempt these operators from the current household pest control licensing requirement. The proposal promotes honeybee removal and relocation without killing the colony. The Commission recognized all industry experts involved with developing the draft language. Motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to approve the draft language for the honeybee removal rule, Mr. Holley seconded the motion and motion passed. GDA will move forward with filing the proposed rule and schedule a comment period and a public hearing. Dr. Linda Tillman, President of the Georgia Beekeepers Association (GBA) expressed her appreciation for being included in the discussion and assisting the SPCC with drafting the language. Dr. Tillman offered to assist GDA with outreach on the proposed rule to honeybee removal operators through GBA.
- I. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. He discussed proposed bills on pre-emption, rodenticides in California, and a movement to change the definition of 'Habitat' for the Endangered Species Act.
- J. Mrs. Laura Fralick provided the Legislative update. The general session wrapped up on June 26th. Governor Kemp has 40 days to review bills and sign or veto. She mentioned a few of the bills that have been signed including the Ag Bill, COVID-19 Relief for businesses, auto-renew contracts, and licensing for military spouses. She spoke about state agency budget cuts, today's runoff in some areas and the general election on November 3. Mr. Sinyard commented on the auto-renew contract bill by saying this bill would not affect pest control companies.
- K. Mr. Gorecki discussed spray foam insulation activities. The Commission met with the Spray Foam Alliance in June to discuss the details of the proposed building code amendment and plans to respond to the alliance to express appreciation for their time. The Commission will reach out to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) on how to move forward with the proposal.
- L. The Commission approved company license applications (see Attachment 2).
- M. Mr. Lastinger gave an update on ASPCRO. The annual meeting will not be held but the working committees and annual board meeting are being held virtually. They are working with NPMA on a rodenticide workshop webinar for US EPA pesticide registration staff.
- N. Mr. Gorecki wrapped up by expressing appreciation to all involved in the industry that help to keep business moving forward. Meeting adjourned at 11:49 AM.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Agenda
Attachment 2 New Company Licenses

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Gary W. Black, 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 11, 2020

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 – Alex Conti
 - Certification & Training – Tim Taylor
- c. Honeybee Removal Draft Rule
- d. Spray Foam Insulation and proposed building code amendment
- e. Request for Spanish version of Employee Registration Manual
- f. New Company Applications – Tim Taylor
- g. Legislative update – Lauren Fralick
- h. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- i. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- GTPC, Inc. – Leonardtown, MD
- Insecta Exterminating – Jacksonville, FL

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- B&C Savannah Wildlife Enterprises, Inc dba Critter Control of Savannah – Chatham County (verification of franchise purchase)
- Freedom Pest Control – Houston County (name change)
- Performance Pest Control – Bleckley County (insurance)
- Bell Brothers Termite Control, LLC – Sullivan County, TN (research fee)

The Commission approved the following name changes:

- Buggy Poo Exterminating (100234) to Flutterby Pest Services