

Minutes of AAPCO BOARD Conference Call

Date: May 7, 2013

Time: 12 p.m. – 1:54 p.m. EDT

Present on the call: Jeff Comstock, VT, President, Gina Alessandri, MI, Past-President; Tim Drake, SC, President-Elect; Charles Moses, NV, Director; Dennis Howard, MD, Director; Amy Bamber, MT, Director; Steve Dwinell, FL, Director; Dave Fredrickson, Treasurer; and Grier Stayton, AAPCO Executive Secretary. An agenda was provided ([Attachment 1](#)).

Treasurer's Report – Fredrickson reported he has purchased and installed QuickBooks software and will be working with Fresvik to transfer his data.

2013 Meeting Representation/Attendance of AAPCO Board Members – Comstock lead a discussion on upcoming meetings and how AAPCO will be represented:

- SFIREG EQI Working Committee – May 20-21, Arlington, VA. Dwinell will join by conference phone. Comstock will attend. A meeting will follow with Nathan Bowen, NASDA, on Wednesday, May 22nd, to discuss the development and roles of an AAPCO Legislative Affairs Workgroup. Also on May 21st, in the afternoon, Comstock will meet with CLA's State Relations Committee to discuss the structure and function of an AAPCO Industry Relations Workgroup. Dennis Howard will also attend this meeting. Comstock is also planning a one-on-one meeting with Steve Bradbury during this time period.
- SFIREG Committee – June 10-11, Arlington, VA. Comstock, Dwinell, Bamber, Roy Meyer, and Cary Giguere will meet with the EPA leadership on Monday evening, June 10th. On June 11th, Tuesday afternoon, Comstock and Dwinell will attend the EPA National Program Managers meeting. On June 12th, Wednesday, Comstock will work with NASDA to set up meetings with legislative staff on the Hill. Comstock, Bamber, and Dwinell will work to define the structure and functions of the Legislative Affairs Workgroup.

Dwinell asked the intent of forming a Legislative Affairs workgroup. Comstock replied the workgroup would be introduced to Legislative staff dealing with FIFRA and the eventual goal is to establish AAPCO as a resource on pesticide subject matters. Dwinell stated he would need approval from his management to attend meetings with legislative staff. Comstock took note and stated he would build this consideration into membership on the workgroup. Dwinell clarified that he can respond to legislative questions – but not initiate the conversations. It was agreed that Comstock and Bamber will attend the meeting with Legislative staff on June 12th and Dwinell and Howard will attend the RISE Board of Directors meeting on June 12th.

Comstock reported that Dea Zimmerman has filled the PREP class scheduled for managers – and no further discussion was needed.

- ASPCRO Meeting, August 18-21, 2013, Atlanta, GA. Comstock, Drake, Dwinell, and Howard will attend. Drake and Comstock are working with Derrick Lastinger and John Scott on an AAPCO presentation.
- Alessandri asked if Nathan Bowen has made any contact with AAPCO to make a presentation at their meeting this year. The next full meeting is September. Comstock noted his Secretary of Agriculture is Vice President of NASDA and should have no problem getting invited.

Draft Mission Statements for Proposed Work Groups- Draft outlines of mission statements were discussed ([Attachment 2](#)). Comstock referenced the Pollinator Protection Work Group draft by Dwinell as a model for use in developing the other work group mission statements. Dwinell provided an overview of the Pollinator Protection Work Group. The Work Group will deal with more than just pesticide issues and will have open communications with SLAs and various industry groups. As Chair, Dwinell will be responsible for scheduling conference calls and reporting on Work Group activities to the AAPCO BOD. Dwinell felt a major thread will be working with CLA and RISE. Comstock asked if Brian Rowe, MI, would be included on the Work Group and Dwinell replied yes.

Comstock will be the lead on the Legislative Affairs Work Group and Dennis Howard agreed to Chair the Industry Relations Work Group. Howard and Moses agreed to draft a mission statement and goals for the Industry Relations WG and share the draft at the June RISE Board of Directors meeting. Comstock will provide Howard with a list of industry contacts in advance of the June meeting. The immediate need for an Information Management Work Group was discussed and it was decided to put this Work Group on hold. Moses agreed to serve on the Industry Relations WG and also on the Information Management WG if and when it is formed. Howard agreed to contact Jack Peterson, AZ, to discuss the Industry Relations WG.

Comstock agreed to send the AAPCO BOD a draft of the Legislative Affairs Mission Statement next week. Bamber agreed to assist in its development.

PIRT Planning- Drake reported that Amar Singh has retired and an interim replacement at EPA is providing support. A planning conference call is expected soon. There are plans to host two PIRTS in the fall of 2013: one in GA and one in Washington State. Bamber noted a PIRT for Tribes is also planned for MT. Drake agreed to email the new PIRT coordinators name and PIRT topics to the BOD.

Topics for EPA Leadership Meeting - Comstock shared a draft of topics to be discussed:

- 1) Comstock would like to raise the issues of the treated article and 25(b) exemptions;
- 2) Bamber felt specific examples of poor communications between EPA Divisions should be raised;
- 3) Gray suggested, in an earlier email, AAPCO leadership should keep clarifying the different roles of AAPCO and SFIREG during their meetings with Bradbury;

- 4) PSEP Funding Status & Work Group Report;
- 5) New EPA Ag Councilor – Sarah Bittleman;
- 6) Regional Project Officer Training; and,
- 7) Coordination of SLA-NPM Guidance & Priorities.

Bamber has been on the phone with Sarah Bittleman, Ag Counselor to the EPA Administrator, and suggested meeting with her after the EPA NPM meeting or on June 12th. Comstock will schedule with Bittleman.

Comstock noted the NPM Guidance comments were due Thursday, May 9th. Bamber recommended AAPCO send a comment supporting the NPM guidance language relating to SLA and Tribal interaction. Bamber elaborated on some issues within her Regional office and their lack of support for state – tribal collaboration. Bamber agreed to draft a paragraph and Dwinell agreed to provide introductory comments in support of SLA/Tribal collaboration reference in the NPM guidance. Bamber felt EPA Headquarter’s policy will force change in the Regions.

Regulator – in – Residence - Comstock noted the three SLA volunteers for the program are Liza Fleeson, VA, Dave Scott, IN, and Charlie Clark, FL. Clark will begin in June and visit one week, every other month through April 2014. His focus will be 24(c) registrations and guidance. Fleeson will attend beginning in July, every other month. She has not specified her topic of interest yet. Scott will begin in December and continue every other month through October 2014. Scott has not specified a topic yet.

Comstock will facilitate regular updates from these three during scheduled BOD conference calls. Dwinell commented Fleeson, Clark, and Scott should conference call each other monthly – and ask Jim Gray, ND, to participate. Comstock agreed to work on the details.

Webinar Discussion - Stayton reported he had just discussed webinar licensing with ASPCRO officers, Derrick Lastinger and John Scott. ASPCRO has purchased an Adobe Connect license for 1 year which provides for a maximum of 5 simultaneous meetings of 100 or less participants. The license is \$2,100 per year. Stayton also reported that the May EQI meeting will have a webinar component and he will function as the host using EPA’s Adobe Connect. A meeting room has been established for this webinar. ASPCRO is open to collaborating with AAPCO on webinars and have asked AAPCO to make a proposal for their BOD to consider. Comstock suggested Stayton invite POM and full SFIREG members and the AAPCO BOD to join the EQI webinar. A discussion on the value and financial aspects can then be held after receiving their comments. Alessandri noted the options under a SFIREG grant reduction include the more frequent use of webinars.

Board of Director Terms – By-Law Revisions – Comstock provided a schematic of BOD positions and appointments from 2013-2016, incorporating 2 at-large Directors (Attachment 3). Comstock also laid

out a timeline for adopting revisions to the By-Laws to add the at-large Directors – with potential discussion and adoption at the March 2014 AAPCO meeting. Bamber asked for clarification – what was the advantage or intended purpose of the change. She suggested a “pilot” of adding the at-large Directors. Drake commented the By-Laws would need to be changed – parliamentary procedure would not allow a temporary membership. Alessandri added that the “at-large” Board member would not function any differently than a regular Board member. Dwinell noted the advantage of “at-large” Directors – they may serve without a long-term commitment and thus there is more flexibility in the selection process, etc. Bamber expressed some reservations. Alessandri suggested inviting a member of the AAPCO Nominating Committee on the next conference call to explain their selection process. Comstock agreed to make the invitation.

It was agreed the next BOD conference call would be scheduled for the first week of June. Stayton was asked to poll members for their availability that week.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Grier Stayton", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Grier Stayton
Executive Secretary, AAPCO