

AAPCO BOD Meeting
March 26, 2019
Amy Sullivan, Executive Secretary

Present: Rose Kachadoorian, OR; Liza Fleeson-Trossbach, VA; Leo Reed, IN; Tony Cofer, AL; Derrick Lastinger, GA; Patrick Jones, NC; Megan Patterson, ME; Amy Sullivan, Executive Secretary

The call began at 11:00 am eastern time.

Kachadoorian began by discussing the September 2018 intent to sue letter that multiple federal agencies and certain AAPCO BODs received, and that her agency determined they would add in the AAPCO board representation to her position description to protect her in the event of an actual lawsuit. Kachadoorian wants to send a letter to each board member identifying their position on the board, and specify that they are representing their state in doing so. Most of the directors are covered similarly by their states at this time.

Sullivan discussed the upcoming Summer Board Meeting and budget discussions with the treasurer, related to the end of the first year of the grant. Kachadoorian clarified that the formal meeting has changed to 1.5 days from 2.5 days. Sullivan will request a modified bid from the hotel. She also clarified that the trip to Sisters to view over 2,000 aminocyclopyrachlor damaged trees, and additional night in Portland will be the responsibility of the directors who choose to attend.

Kachadoorian proposed that the financial committee be comprised of the President, President-Elect, and the next longest-serving Full Term board member, with the Past-President encouraged to attend. Patterson seconded and the proposal was unanimously approved.

There was discussion on some upcoming topics for the Summer Board Meeting.

Kachadoorian then moved into the Special Local Needs issue as raised by EPA's new language on their website. She expressed her support for the use of SLNs to narrow label directions if needed in a state to protect human health and the environment. Kachadoorian also expressed her strong concern that a right of the states under FIFRA is being misrepresented as a privilege in the language on EPA's website. The board also discussed the draft AAPCO letter to EPA related to the SLNs. Jones added that the SLNs have proven useful through time since many of the SLN components have been incorporated into the federal labels. That was agreed upon as an excellent point. Reed also felt that this is a departure from all policy through the last 30 years.

Kachadoorian mentioned that she was under the impression that EPA had submitted a modification of the AEZ to OMB for review, and that she has requested a copy of that submission or proposed language from EPA.

Kachadoorian then moved into the persistent issues with label language and structure. She has reached out to Keigwin, EPA/OPP Director, to say that it is time we address this cooperatively or it is not going to improve. She identified three areas needing

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improvement: label structure, consistency in site identification, and ineffective and confusing label language that continues to be used across labels. Kachadoorian would like to utilize the working committees to begin working on a portion of these issues, particular label language. It is possible that multi-entity group will be formed to work on the structural piece. EPA has agreed with this approach, specifically having the technical staff of the working committees involved, and will hopefully be able to provide five EPA staff to participate. This is a multi-year project producing a voluntary document to registrants that will include a template to follow.

Reed added that just today he received a response in SLITS that was in direct conflict with the Label Review Manual. It appears EPA registration staff are not following the LRM. Reed suggests involving NASDA as well, because this is an issue that continues to impact the applicators as well. Kachadoorian believes that some of these issues will require a coalition that includes industry as well, especially the structure of the labels. Fleeson-Trossbach has also been discussing the issue with the working committee chairs. Many of the issues found in the Dicamba working group are found across all labels as well. Kachadoorian is considering surveying the states to determine what label language is particularly challenging. EPA expressed interest in the survey results, and would like to participate in the review of draft questions.

Finally, Jones brought up how guidance on the Dicamba label bulletins is continuing to be unclear, and better understanding is needed regarding the necessity of printing the bulletins and educating the applicators on how to use the bulletins.

The call ended at 12:38pm eastern time.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Sullivan