



Meeting Called to Order—10:00am | Adjourned—11:03am

New Company Applications

TIM TAYLOR

APPROVED - New Companies - 9
Pending Insurance - 3
Pending Name change - 1

UGA Urban Entomology Update

DR. BRIAN FORSCHLER

Dr. Brad Kard, Professor: Endowed Professorship of Structural and Urban Entomology at Oklahoma State University reached out to Dr. Forschler regarding Georgia's rules on permitting sub-slab reticular structures. The Commission had discussed this topic in the past but according to Bodine Sinyard and Rick Bell, who were on the Commission when this was discussed in the past, stated that at the time it was not a topic that effected consumers or pest management professionals. **Dr. Kard shared that there is a company that is asking if a hose system that emits termiticide by seeping through holes in the line can be used in termite treatments.** Dr. Forschler will get a more detailed formal question to present to the Commission.

GA Dept of AG/Structural Division Update

DERRICK LASTINGER

- The GDA will be sending out a Structural Pest Division newsletter called "*The Inside Buzz*" that will be sent to all licensed companies and certified operators. The first issue will be sent out the beginning of October. This publication will include Commission meeting minutes, quarterly report of certification, industry updates, compliance information and enforcement activity.
- Derrick reported that the Department responded to impact of COVID-19 on classroom training by allowing **Certified Operators with a training deadline between June 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020 to request a 90-day training deadline extension by emailing Tim Taylor, timothy.taylor@agr.georgia.gov.** Also, registered technicians are being allowed 10 CEU hours in each category as computer-based training (CBT) for this renewal period. The current policy only allows for 4 CBT CEUs per category.
- Tim Taylor has tracked the CEUs recorded for June, July and August 2020 compared to the previous years in the same 3 months. During this 3-month timeframe there were 10,584 CEU hours in 2020, 9,147 in 2019 and 8,957 in 2018. This shows that training has been made available and the industry is getting more training hours in the same time period as in the past 2 years. March 1, 2017 - August 2019 there were 81,921 CEU hours recorded. March 1, 2019 - August 2020 there have been 82,631 CEUs recorded. This shows that training may

be being obtained differently but that training has been made available. **This is a tribute to the STATE's SPONSORS and ASSOCIATIONS who have continued to offer training during this pandemic.**

- House Bill 914 was signed by the Governor a few weeks ago. This Bill allows for spouses of military personnel that move into the state of GA a reciprocal agreement for licensing in various industries and/or for expedited licensing in GA. Legal services looked at the Bill and concluded that this Bill would include pest control licensing. The Commission needs to adopt a process to have people qualify for a temporary license under this legislation. Discussion of how to develop this procedure will continue.

THE GA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL ACT WAS SIGNED IN 1955 AND HAS BEEN AROUND FOR 65 YEARS THIS YEAR.

GDA Compliance—ALEX CONTI

- The field inspectors had their first virtual meeting which included inspection priorities for routine visits. For Cause inspections (complaints) are still highest priority. These are done on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Company Inspections will be done starting with companies that have had the longest interval since the last inspection. These will be done on Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Inspectors are working in various areas and may overlap into areas that they are not generally assigned to enable reaching out to all companies that need inspections done by the end of the year.
- The UGA Termite Workshop has begun—September 3, a 3-hour webinar, September 9, a 3-hour webinar. **The in-person component of the Termite Workshop is on September 17 & 18. Information at extension.uga.edu/programs-services/structural-pest-management/workshops.html**
- The Structural Division newsletter will include a compliance report which shows the quarterly numbers for technical assistance, compliance assistant responses, self-reporting, routine inspection, most frequent violations, "for cause" inspection responses, corrective action notices, and cease-operations notices to unlicensed operators.

HoneyBee Removal Rulemaking Update

DERRICK LASTINGER

Legal services has scheduled the Public Hearing for October 9. There will be a notice going out shortly regarding rule making which will be distributed and posted on the website.

Certification & Training Update—TIM TAYLOR

- The Structural Pest Control Division newsletter will include numbers of Certified Operator licenses, new companies, exams given in the

(continued on next page)

quarter, and CEUs processed.

• Currently, there are 28 of 35 exam sites that are open. Seats are limited in some locations, however, there are over 800 seats/month available for the pest control industry. Typically, there are 300-350 exams in pest control done per month. People may need to drive further than in the past due to limited spaces. Tim encourages all to call before going to the scheduled exam due to things changing every day due to COVID-19.

• **COVID-19 temporary waivers are ending SEPT 30th.** There are 65 pending approval. These have not submitted either the required payment or Pre-Employment Training form. All employees that were granted a temporary license due this waiver must pass the exam PRIOR to September 30. The exam results must be mailed in rather than done online. All employees who pass the test prior to the deadline will be granted the CEU hours obtained prior to testing.

• The Department is finalizing cards for new license holders with a QR code. All Kelly Solutions training information will appear on a mobile device once the code is scanned with a smartphone. Faye Golden asked if attendance can be tracked for recertification training. Tim Taylor stated that this may be something addressed in the future.

NPMA Update—RICK BELL

Assembly Bill 1788 in CA passed and is on the Governors desk. If the Governor does not sign it, it will automatically become law. The only way this Bill would die is if the Governor vetoes it. It appears that CA will ban 2nd Generation Rodenticides. Kiawah Island, SC believes that the bobcat population may be killed by 2nd Generation Rodenticides. There are a number of pest control operators that have signed an agreement that these products will not be used when treating

on Kiawah Island. The bobcat population has gone from 35 to somewhere in the teens. Rick commented that it is not likely trained pest control professionals that are impacting these secondary kill scenarios, but likely consumers who use these products incorrectly.

• **Pest World 2020 will be virtual this year.**

There will be 3 days of meetings and speakers on October 13 - 15. View schedule at pestworld2020.org/program/schedule-at-a-glance/

Legislative Update—LAUREN FRALICK

We are 2 months from the General Election scheduled for November 3rd. There is still a potential for a special session in GA Legislation, however, nothing is definite.

Spray Foam Insulation/Building Code

Amendment—BODINE SINYARD

The letter from Commission Chairman, Chris Gorecki, was given to the Spray Foam Alliance that pointed out specifics that the pest control industry position on the building code requirements necessary to comply with the industry's ability to perform services to serve consumers. The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) will need to review both positions on the building code amendments and get both the Commission and Spray Foam Alliance together to discuss this issue. ◇◇◇

Posted Public Notice 19-05		
JAN LOCATION 07	May zoom 12	SEPT zoom 08
February 11	June zoom 09	October 06
MARCH CANCELED	July N/A	November 10
April zoom 14	AUG zoom 11	December 08
2020 Meetings in Accordance with the Statutory Provisions of the Georgia Structural Pest Control Act (OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ANNOTATED 43-45-1)		

To be the Preeminent Pest Control Association in Georgia



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REMINDER:

Training Information will be Emailed to you first, Posted on the website second, and finally, Printed in the PCO Pro publication.

• EMAILED • POSTED • PRINTED •