

**ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PESTICIDES  
VETERANS' MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM  
5825 FLORIDA BLVD.  
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA  
October 9, 2019 - 9:30 AM**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Dr. Grady Coburn, at 9:30 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: Dr. Grady Coburn, George Bragg, Dr. Sharon Meyer, Scotty Meador, Martin Floyd, Keith Majure, and Roby Shields.

Members absent: Dr. Gary Ross, Jenny Buller, Johnny Landry, and Billy Guthrie.

Others present: Benjy Rayburn-LDAF, Kevin Wofford-LDAF, Harry Schexnayder-LDAF, Amanda LaGroue-LDAF Counsel, Kelly Moore-LDAF, Shelly Graham-LDAF, Alicia Wheeler-Hearing Officer, and Kim Pope Brown-LSU AgCenter.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Coburn opened the floor for public comments. There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Motion:** Mr. Floyd made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2019 meeting, as distributed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bragg and passed unanimously.

**AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

**Motion:** Dr. Coburn made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss possible Consultant rules changes under "New Business". The motion was seconded by Mr. Bragg and passed unanimously.

**ADJUDICATORY HEARING**

Ms. Alicia Wheeler, Hearing Officer, conducted the Adjudicatory Hearing. Ms. LaGroue presented the following cases:

**Mitchell Thornton, Case No. 2213**

Mr. Thornton was not present. The Department charged Mr. Thornton with one (1) violation of LRS 3:3252(A)(18), specifically LAC 7:XXIII, 1101(I) and one (1) violation of LRS

3:3252(A)(16). Following the penalty matrix, the charges included a penalty of \$1,500.00, with \$750.00 suspended, due within 30 days. The stipulation was signed by all parties.

Ms. Wheeler admitted LDAF's exhibits into the record.

**Motion:** Mr. Bragg made a motion to accept the stipulation of the parties as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Floyd and passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Mr. Shields made a motion to accept the fine as stipulated. The motion was seconded by Dr. Coburn and passed unanimously.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### ***Program Update - Kevin Wofford***

The Department has investigated 147 complaints so far this year, and found that only 43 were confirmed as legitimate pesticide drifts. The Department has also issued 36 warning letters to first time violators.

*Dicamba Update* - Only 3 complaints so far this year.

*Pesticide Collection Program* – An event is currently being planned for the week of December 9, 2019, to be held in Franklin Parish. The Department intends to learn from this year's event in order to grow the program and be able to offer multiple events in the coming years. This initial collection will focus on Ag Producers, and may be opened up to commercial use in the future. The event details will be advertised on the LDAF website and other publications in the near future.

Mr. Wofford and Mr. Mulberry will be attending an EPA Meeting in Dallas October 15-17, 2019. The emphasis on this review will be the new C&T rule changes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Consultant Rules Changes - Kevin Wofford***

Mr. Wofford led a discussion regarding the need for rule changes concerning consultants who have allowed their card or certifications to lapse. Dr. Coburn stated that the Department previously asked for input from the Louisiana Ag Consultants Association. The Executive Board and Governmental Affairs Committee submitted a letter of suggestions to the Department on rule changes for certifications and licensing of expired consultants. The Department will meet to discuss the suggestions and report back to the Commission.

## **FUTURE MEETING**

The next meeting of the Advisory Commission on Pesticides was scheduled for Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. in the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**ADJOURN**

**Motion:** Mr. Floyd made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Bragg and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.