

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
Lt. Governor

KATHLEEN A. THEOHARIDES
Secretary

JOHN LEBEAUX
Commissioner

PESTICIDE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner John Lebeaux, MDAR (Chair)	Present
Marc Nascarella, DPH, Designee for Commissioner Bharel, MD	Present
Michael Moore, DPH, Food Protection Program	Present
Misty Anne Marold, DFG, Designee for Commissioner Amidon	Present
Kathy Romero, DEP, Designee for Commissioner Suuberg	Present
Nichole Keleher, DCR, Designee for Commissioner Montgomery	Present
Richard Berman, Commercial Applicator	Present
Brian Magee, Toxicologist	Present
Laurell Farinon, Conservation Commission	Absent
Steven Ward, Farmer	Absent
Jack Looney, Public Member	Present
R. Christopher Brittan, Public Member	Present
Steven Bird, Toxicologist	Present

The Board did meet or exceed the minimum number (7) of members present to form a quorum and conduct business.

A. REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM July 1, 2020:

Motion: J. Looney

Second: R. Berman

Discussion: None

In Favor: J. Lebeaux, K. Romero, C. Brittan, B. Magee, J. Looney, N. Keleher, S. Bird, M. Moore, R. Berman, L. Farinon

Opposed: None

Abstained: M. Marold

B. PESTICIDE PROGRAM UPDATE

T. LaScola-Miner provided updates to the Board

Online Exam: The Department is working on putting the pesticide exam online and it is in the testing stage. T. LaScola explained the process that an individual will have to go through to take the exam.

Antimicrobial Application Licensing: T. LaScola explained that at the previous Pesticide Advisory Council meeting, the Council asked that the Department to research what other states require in regards to licensing. She explained that Maine appears to have the clearest way to handle it per their exemptions and definitions.

Online Continuing Education Units (CEU): The Department allowed for all CEU's to be obtained online for 2020. The Department will be reviewing that that policy for the 2021 and will also be reevaluating its policy for training providers that provide online trainings.

C. PESTICIDE CONTINUING EDUCATION UNIT AUDITS USING EIPAS

S. Kenyon explained that when applicators renew their license, the ePlace Portal system will ask the applicator about their CEU's. If the recertification date falls within 2020, the applicator will have to upload their CEU's. If the applicator does not have enough CEU's then they will not be able to renew their license. Among the benefits of this new system is the reduction of paper, applicators will be provided more information on how many credits they have and when their cycle ends.

D. LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENT CONCERNS, MR. SCOTT SCHWARTZ

S. Schwartz explained that he lives in a large apartment complex where once every month or two the management company hires a landscaping company to take care of the property. He does not feel that the current laws/regulations protect the public. Currently the laws require two small yellow flags at the entrance to the complex. He is concerned that people do not always drive in and out of the complex. While the management company emails a notification to the residents, he noted that it does not occur every time and some people do not have email. He proposed the following:

- Posting more flags. More specifically posting all the entrances/exits:
- Include date of application, timeframe to be off the area on the sign
- Post on all grassy issues, mailbox area.
- Require that no landscaping activity occur within 24 hours of an application.

R. Berman asked Chief Inspector Michael McClean if the Department receives a lot of calls regarding this issue. Chief McClean stated that there were approximately four calls, which is more than usual. Most of them had to do with condo complex or rental unit.

There was discussion amongst the Board members and M. McClean about the current requirements and what is the responsibility of the management companies versus the landscaping companies.

Chair Lebeaux indicated that the Department would take this issue into consideration and the Board can provide some guidance to the Department.

E. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business brought forward.

ADJOURN

Motion: J. Looney

Second: C. Brittan

In Favor: All

Opposed: None