



ARIZONA

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Office of Pest Management

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, February 25, 2009, 10:00 A.M.

Minutes

Call to order

Ellis M. Jones

Advisory Committee present:

Carmella Ruggiero (Acting Chair), *Ken Frederick, Nate Tamialis, Doug Seeman, Jack Latham*

Staff present:

Ellis Jones, Vince Craig, Robert Tolton, Alan Pugh, Bill Hanko, Kellie Smith, Nancy Holmes

Chairperson Ruggiero asked committee members to introduce themselves and state what they feel their goals and objectives would be as members of the Advisory Committee.

- Mr. Frederick looks forward to a period of discovery and does not know what the committee can do. He hopes for cooperative relations.
- Mr. Tamialis expects to be a voice for the industry.
- Mr. Seeman foresees his role as technical support and resource for OPM and for applicators in the State, a liaison.
- Mr. Latham expressed the need to be the voice for companies who are outside Maricopa County as they have very different issues and have never had a voice. He hopes to advise the Director on activities in rural Arizona.
- Ms. Ruggiero stated that she plans to represent the more than 348 golf courses throughout the State. Carmella further stated that listening to industry concerns is extremely important and encourages feedback for members.

Acting Director Jones said the Advisory Committee is still awaiting the appointment of two members and hopes to fill the vacancies shortly. Director Jones further said that he has spoken with associates in other states relative to their Advisory Committee guidelines and is still gathering information. He said the Advisory Committee would meet quarterly or as needed.

Following are comments from those who completed a "Request To Speak" form:

T.J. Hammer stated that she wants to help Pest Control companies that have a need to sell their businesses. There are buyers even in these hard times looking to buy your business. Ms. Hammer further stated that change is good and feels we are off to a good start.

Glenn Fahringer said his company (earthcare) is a small commercial maintenance and landscape company. More restrictions make it difficult for small companies to work effectively. Mr. Fahringer is very pro on gallon restriction; in the field, most companies will sub out work that is over 8 gallons. The licensing of Qualifying Parties is very unmanageable for small companies, and he would like to see changes looked into.

Phyllis Farenga (Pest-Techs) feels there are too many obsolete rules. Ms. Farenga stated that she furnished Director Ellis with a packet of information from a number of small businesses called "It's Our Turn" group – a group concerned about the TARF fees and TARF changes as well as many other issues.

Rick Robinson (DLC Resources) stated that landscaping is the major portion of his businesses and that he would like to see the 8-gallon rule kept as is. Mr. Robinson is concerned that no other green industry is represented on the committee.

Acting Director Jones said no rule changes will go forward unless reviewed by the Governor's office. A bill to stop all new rulemaking through June 2010 has been submitted by the House of Representatives. Director Jones suggested that green industry members send an email to Representative Crandall's office if they were interested in serving on the Advisory Committee.

Mr. Tamialis told those present that the Committee represents the industry so to please utilize them.

Chairperson Ruggiero asked for further questions, suggestions or comments. Ms. Ruggiero said that this meeting was meant to introduce the Advisory Committee members and to receive input into current concerns and issues.

The committee elected Carmella Ruggiero to serve as chairperson.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.