

Approved June 9, 2010

Minutes Vertebrate Pest Council

February 22, 2010

Holiday Inn-Capital Plaza, Sacramento, CA – (at 24th VP Conference)

Members Present: Rex Baker, Roger Baldwin, Peter Bonkrude, Craig Coolahan, Lew Davis, Kathy Fagerstone, Brian Finlayson, Paul Gorenzel, Victoria Hornbaker, Howdy Howard, Rex Marsh, Stella McMillin, John O'Brien, Dennis Orthmeyer, Terry Salmon, Jon Shelgren, Mike Taber, Bob Timm, Dirk Van Vuren, Desley Whisson

Guests Present: Betty Howard, Betty Lee (accompanying Lew Davis)

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm by Council chair Kathy Fagerstone. Kathy welcomed Stella McMillin as the newest member of Council.

Minutes of the January 14, 2010 were approved as corrected.

Kathy called for reports from committee chairs regarding the 24th Conference:

Field Trip – Paul Gorenzel reported that approximately 85 persons were on today's trip. The trip went well and kept on schedule; speakers did a good job, and a plane damaged by a bird strike conveniently was present at the stop at the Sacramento Airport. A lot of positive feedback was received from participants. Good weather prevailed, unusual for our field trip! It was noted that specific, early publicity about the field trip likely increased participation as compared to two years ago.

Registration – Bob Timm reported that 245 persons pre-registered, which included about 25 individuals who made only a 1-day or 2-day registration as opposed to the entire Conference. Bob noted that Amber Shrum, in his absence and with Terry Salmon's help, had done the work of the pre-registration process over the past several months.

Arrangements – Victoria Hornbaker and Terry Salmon reported that according to the terms of the original contract with the Holiday Inn, we were able to reduce our hotel sleeping room block 15% several months ago, when we began to expect lower participation. We still fell short about 100 room-nights from making our block. According to the contract, they could have charged us for these unused rooms. However, the hotel administration knew that Victoria and the Council had worked hard to attempt to increase room reservations and participation. Providing them our list of pre-registrants allowed us to capture all who had rooms at the Federal rate, which the hotel had not previously recognized as being part of our Conference block; this made a significant difference. In the end, the hotel waived our costs for falling short on the room block, but we still had to pay an originally-agreed amount for meeting room space (about \$6,000).

Victoria briefly outlined the plans for meeting room space and use. The Wednesday morning Speakers'/Council breakfast will be in the John Q Ballroom on the 16th floor. The hotel will

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provide a complimentary dinner for Council on Wednesday evening at 7:30 in the Riverview Room, also on the 16th floor.

Continuing Ed – Rex Baker reported that this has become a large job, as DPR now requires considerable justification for assigning credits – specifically, a short paragraph for each paper to be presented, describing how it applies to IPM concepts. Rex turned in around 30 pages of justification to get the credits for the field trip and papers. Oregon required everything be submitted on their specific forms. In the future, the amount of work required may dictate that we not apply for credits from states beyond California.

Posters – Roger Baldwin reported that we expect to have 9 posters, and there were a total of 14 student awards of \$500 each to be given to students who are either giving papers or presenting posters.

Exhibitors – John O’Brien reported that we have 11 commercial exhibitors, plus a display by Wildlife Services. There will also be a table containing promotional information about Monterey, promoting the next Conference.

Program – Terry Salmon noted that despite a reduction in total Conference participants, the program remains strong, with a Plenary Session on Tuesday morning and two concurrent sessions extending from Tuesday afternoon through Thursday morning. One of the concurrent sessions on Wednesday is a special symposium “Rodenticide Field Use”, which was coordinated by John Eisemann and Katie Swift with assistance from Kathy Fagerstone; it includes a panel discussion at the end of the afternoon session.

Bob Timm requested that Session Chairs collect manuscripts and disks from speakers presenting during their respective sessions, and then give the stack of collected materials to Bob before the end of the Conference. Kathy Fagerstone requested any announcements that people might wish to have made at the opening of the Conference on Tuesday morning.

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm, and Council and guests proceeded to the Rio City Café in Old Sacramento for the Council Dinner.

Minutes drafted by Bob Timm
Approved by Council 6/9/10