

MINUTES OF THE VERTEBRATE PEST COUNCIL MEETING
La Quinta Inn & Suites - Ontario Airport
Ontario, CA
March 2, 2011

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Robert Timm at 2:00 PM Pacific Standard Time. In attendance: *Rex Baker, Roger Baldwin, Charlie Crabb, John Eisemann, Amna Hawatky, Victoria Hornbaker, Stella McMillin, Peter Newman, Mike Taber, Robert Timm.*

2. Introduction of New Members

Bob Timm introduced new Council members John Eisemann, Amna Hawatky, and Peter Newman.

3. Approval of Minutes of the October 12, 2010 Meeting (Monterey)

Motion to approve by Rex Baker, second by Charlie Crabb. Minutes approved.

4. Business Managers Report

Terry Salmon was not present and there was no report.

5. Old Business

a. Updates on Proceedings by Bob Timm: It was reported that there is some final editing and proofreading to be done, but that all papers are in. We will be using Whitehall Printing again for publishing, as they have come back with a competitive price and they've always provided good quality. Expect to go to printing in April.

b. Updates to Council Conference Guidelines by Bob Timm: Previous committee chairs Paul Gorenzel (Field Trip), Roger Baldwin (Posters / Student Awards), and Victoria Hornbaker (Local Arrangements) updated and submitted their chapters of the Conference Guidelines. Bob encouraged other past committee chairs, particularly the ones who were not repeating their service on the same task, to update their guidelines chapters soon, so that new chairs could take advantage of experience from the last Conference.

c. Website Update by Bob Timm: The Council was provided with a link and opportunity to review a website preview. Several members were able to review and comment on items such as Council member registration and username assignment (Charlie Crabb). There were also questions regarding the possibility of using the site for conference registration. John Eisemann suggested that the site may be able to be used for the electronic submittal of abstracts for the VPC. The switchover to the new site is anticipated perhaps in April, as our existing contract with the website server provided is only month-to-month, and can be terminated in a timely fashion. Suggestions from Council members continue to be welcomed and encouraged in the coming weeks. The question arose as to whether there exist any photos of the VPC Council from its early days; we decided that if anyone had such, it would likely be Rex Marsh, Howdy Howard, or J.P. Clark, and that we should make such inquiries.

d. PAPA-VPC workshop update by Bob Timm: The Chico, Stockton, and Visalia meetings had been completed and received positive comments and good suggestions, including requesting more talks covering urban pests. It was also discussed that the Council may want to establish presentation guidelines for commercial speakers to avoid speakers "advertising" their

products during presentations. Charlie Crabb also noted that vendors should be encouraged to bring information relevant to vertebrate pest control when attending these workshops. Bob Timm and [??] agreed to talk with PAPA regarding the development of guidelines for commercial speakers for future workshops.

Brief discussion developed regarding calendar dates for future VPC-PAPA workshops, as speakers involved in some aspects of vertebrate control (e.g., bird damage – swallows) can be quite busy by late February or March. For bird damage folks, the last two weeks of January would be less of a problem. If we're seeking maximum attendance, November is a better month, as people are often in need of more credit hours before the end of the calendar year. We should discuss date planning with PAPA far in advance of the 2013 workshops.

e. Update on new UC Positions by Bob Timm and Roger Baldwin. Discussions are continuing within UC on new Extension (Specialist or Advisor) positions UC will prioritize for hiring within the next 1-2 years. Position availability is very competitive, but the area advisor and wildlife specialist's positions in wildlife damage that were submitted to UC administration have come out very high in straw polls conducted among Extension and research faculty to date. Included in the position requests were a northern California area advisor with emphasis on bird damage, and a southern California urban vertebrate pest area advisor. We should know more details by the end of May.

f. Call for Abstracts for the 25th VPC- Roger Baldwin/Bob Timm. The question was asked as to how early we need to decide topics and authors for continuing education purposes. It was decided that the preliminary program should be completed in October, and the Call for Papers / Abstracts should have a deadline of July 15, 2011. The Pre-registration cutoff date could be about Feb. 15, 2012. Roger Baldwin is the program chair for the 25th Conference. Victoria Hornbaker will research topics regarding efficacy research review and data and components of DPR registration as a possible focus for a concurrent session symposium.

6. New Business

a. Nomination/Vote: Bob Timm recommended Charlie Crabb be added to the Council Executive Board, as is provided in our By-Laws, given the fact that currently Executive Board members are fewer in number because of individuals serving multiple roles. Motion made by Victoria Hornbaker and seconded by Rex Baker and approved by the Council.

b. 25th VPC Committees and Chairs were noted again with Peter Newman offering to chair the Field Trip. Suggestion for publicity should be forwarded to Dirk Van Vuren. Some suggestions included a VPCRAC web link, CAPCA, WCT Magazine, and PCOC. Victoria Hornbaker will research the possibility of a dinner at the Monterey Aquarium. Bob Timm noted the need for Committee Chairs to take on newer Council members to 'mentor' them into assuming full responsibility for aspects of future Conferences. John Eisemann volunteered to assist Bob Timm with Registration.

Committee chairs for the 25th Conference (Monterey, March 5-8, 2012) are currently as follows:

- Program (R. Baldwin)
- Arrangements (V. Hornbaker)
- Commercial Exhibits (J. O'Brien)
- Continuing Ed Credits (R. Baker)
- Field Trip (P. Newman)
- Publicity (D. Van Vuren)
- Posters / Student Awards (S. McMillin)
- Registration (B. Timm & J. Eisemann)

c. Location for 26th VPC (2014). Potential locations discussed included Hawaii (TWS Annual Conference will be on the Big Island in November '11), Palm Desert, Santa Barbara, and Reno/Sparks. The possibility of a joint VPC/Australasian Conference in Hawaii was suggested. Bob Timm has made inquiries to organizers of the Australasian VPC, which is held every 3 years (usually in Australia), but their planning tends to be slower than ours for future conferences. Council agreed that this would be a positive opportunity, if we could get the concurrence of the Australia & NZ organizers. Further discussion occurred around the problem that state and federal employees are prohibited, unless having special permission, to attend conferences in cities considered "resort" destinations; this will include Monterey. It was suggested that we may wish to make downward adjustments to our hotel room block for 2012; this will need further investigation, based on past data and expected future trends, and involvement of Terry Salmon. We should also further research the percentage of government employees attending the 24th Conference.

7. Additional Announcements/Topics of Interest

- a.** 14th WDMC April 18-21, 2011, Nebraska City, NE - Bob Timm and Victoria Hornbaker attending
- b.** 20th E. Black Bear Workshop, Hendersonville, NC, May 1-4, 2011
- c.** 8th European VPC, Berlin, Germany, September 26-30, 2011
- d.** Australasian Vertebrate Pest Conference – Sydney, Australia 20-23 June 2011 - John Eisemann and perhaps Roger Baldwin attending

8. Next Council Meeting in Davis, Thursday June 16, 2011 at 10:00 am. Location *tba*.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:45 PM.
Minutes prepared by Mike Taber.

Approved 8/9/11