

DRAFT Minutes
Vertebrate Pest Council Minutes

March 7, 2016

Bosschat Kitchen and Libations, 4647 MacArthur Boulevard, Newport Beach, CA

Attendees: This attendee list is not complete due to the large number of attendees including spouses and friends.

VP Council Members: Rex Baker, Roger Baldwin, Michelle Dennis, Ed Duarte, John Eisemann, Ashley Freeman, Greg Hacker (?), Marc Kenyon, David Kratville, Stella McMillin, Dennis Orthmeyer, Niamh Quinn, Robert Schmidt, Mike Taber, Robert Timm, Dick Van Vuren.

Guests: Caroline Shugart, Janice Timm and others.

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Roger Baldwin at 7:30 PM.

2) Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the August 20 and November 17, 2015 meetings were approved by unanimous vote. (D. Orthmeyer motioned vote, A. Freeman seconded)

3) Business Manager Report

R. Baldwin provided the following financial report. He reported that Charlie Crabb is still waiting on the final revenue report from the Newport VPC. But, he already knows that final costs will be high. The business report was approved by unanimous vote. (R. Timm motioned vote, R. Baker seconded)

Current balance	\$12,852.07
Time deposit	\$15,425.55

4) Old Business:

A. 2014 Proceedings – Final Update

R. Timm reported that the 2014 Proceedings had been distributed. He commented that it was unusually difficult to get manuscripts from speakers at the Hawaii VPC. If anyone needed a CD or print version of the Proceedings, just let Bob know. S. McMillin indicated she had yet to receive a print copy.

B. 2014 Proceedings - Sales

R. Timm has spoken with the University of Nebraska's Maps and More" store (Jacki Loomis, manager) about continuing to sell the Proceedings. The store would still like to offer the VPC Proceedings (hard copy and CD) for sale on their website.

C. 2018 VP Conference Location and Date

- The next conference will be held February 26 through March 1, 2018
- R. Baldwin reported that the deposit has been paid to the DoubleTree hotel in Rhonert Park.

5) New Business

A. 2016 Conference Committee Reports

1. Program – Program is done, one cancellation and one substitution. Things seem to be going well. Thanks were extended to J. Eisemann for organizing the presentations (McMillin)
 - a. Symposia Status
 - i. Coyote – Some speakers cancelled leaving a hole in the program. Session videographer will be reminded to be diligent about capturing the entire session. Session chairs were reminded to have the speakers repeat all the questions so that they were captured on the video. (Timm)
 - ii. Bird and Swine – These sessions look quite good and they are full. There was a bit of shuffling to accommodate Continuing Education (CE) credits. (Baldwin)
2. Keynote Speaker – The speaker Dr. Valerius Geist (retired, Univ. of Calgary, Canada) looks to be quite interesting and he should present a unique perspective on coyotes. Will not use a powerpoint presentation. (Timm)
3. Arrangements – Hotel appears to be working out well, but things are expensive. (Baldwin)
4. Registration – Registration appears to be set up. Thanks go out to PAPA, especially Judy Letterman, for helping and being available to register attendees for CE credits. (Crabb)
5. Sponsorships – There are two Gold-level (EcoClear Products and Liphatech, Inc.) and two Silver-level (Bird Barrier and OvoControl by Innolytics LLC; and National Wildlife Control Operators Association) sponsorships. (Freeman)
6. Commercial Displays – There are 10 vendors. This is higher than recent conferences (Freeman)
7. Posters and Student Presentations – There are nine posters. They will be presented by mixing them among the vendor tables. Nine student travel awards were awarded. (Freeman)
8. Field Trip – The field trip was well attended. Everything went quite well. A bit of rain in the morning which disrupted the first stop, but no complaints were heard among attendees. (Quinn)
9. Publicity – We were unable to advertise through CAPCA given our association with PAPA for this year's Conference. It was suggested that the VP Council look to a variety of options for registration and publicity for the next conference. (Taber)
10. Continuing Education – Presentation as the conference qualified for 25.5 approved CE hours. The effort to get CE Credits for Hawaii attendees was unsuccessful. Attendees should be reminded that they will have to sign in and declare which track they will be attending be awarded credits. (Duarte)

B. 2016 Proceedings

Timm has a checklist for all session Chairs. The Chairs should ask all speakers for manuscripts before the session. They should collect all the manuscripts that are available. If a speaker does not have a manuscript, the Chair should be firm in asking when they can expect one. R. Timm offered to edit and publish the Proceedings for the 2016 conference. He hopes to publish in 12 months. He is looking for volunteers if someone wants to take over at the 2018 conference. (Timm)

C. Update Chair Guidelines

R. Timm requested that Committee chairs provide updates to their respective guidelines to assist future Chairs.

D. 2017 Workshops

R. Baldwin noted that off-year workshops will begin in February or March 2017. Organizing the workshops will be a major discussion topic at the next VP Council meeting.

E. 2018 Conference Committee

R. Baldwin indicated that volunteer assignments for the 2018 Chair positions will be a major discussion topic at the next VP Council meeting.

F. UCCE Vertebrate Positions

B. Baldwin noted that approval is being sought for one University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Specialist and two UCCE Advisor positions. The Specialist position would focus on bird management and would be housed at UC Davis. One of the Advisor positions would be centered at the Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center and would focus on vertebrate pest management in agricultural commodities, while the other Advisor position would be located at the Hopland Research and Extension Center and would focus on human-wildlife conflict resolution in natural resource areas. It would be quite helpful if the VP Council could provide comments when the positions are advertised. The VP Council should further discuss providing financial support for these positions at the next VP Council meeting. (Baldwin)

G. Legislative Action Outlawing Anticoagulants in CA

D. Kratville provided details on Assembly Bill 2596, which was introduced by Assemblymember Bloom. This bill, known as the 'Natural Predator Protection Act', would essentially ban all use of anticoagulant rodenticides for commensal use in CA. While there were some problems with the wording in the Bill (improperly identifying some rodenticide active ingredients as anticoagulants), it would have sweeping impacts if passed as written. There was some general discussion among meeting attendees on the likelihood of it passing. Conversation tended to conclude that as written is unlikely to pass. S. McMillin noted that there should be some widespread effort to get the focus on the bill to include only second generation anticoagulants, not all anticoagulants.

6. Additional business

None raised

7. Next Meeting

R. Baldwin will organize the next meeting to be held in late June or early July, 2016. It will be held at the CFDA facility in Sacramento.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Draft minutes compiled by John D. Eisemann