

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Pesticide Fee Regulatory Advisory Panel

Draft Minutes

Thursday, January 4, 2024

The all-virtual meeting of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) Pesticide Fee Regulatory Advisory Panel convened at approximately 11:00 A.M. on Thursday, January 4, 2024. Electronic access was made available to the public via the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website.

Regulatory Advisory Panel Members Participating:

Neil Houff - Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Shelley Barlow - Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Charles Church – Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Martha Moore - Virginia Farm Bureau Federation
Brad Copenhaver - Virginia Agribusiness Council
Ron Gaskill – Virginia Pest Management Association
Kristen Spatz - Responsible Industry for Sound Environment (RISE)

Staff Present:

Joseph Guthrie – Commissioner, VDACS
Charles Green – Deputy Commissioner, VDACS
Larry Nichols – Director, Division of Consumer Protection, VDACS
Joel Maddux – Deputy Director, Division of Consumer Protection, VDACS
Liza Trossbach – Program Manager, Office of Pesticide Services, VDACS

Pesticide Fees

Larry Nichols called the meeting to order and provided a brief background on recommendations to adjust pesticide fees assessed by VDACS.

The Regulatory Advisory Panel discussed various options related to changing the existing fee structure, with a goal of reducing fees while ensuring that the year-end cash balance did not decrease below \$2.5 - \$3.5 million and that VDACS Office of Pesticide Services (OPS) had the necessary resources to meet future expenditures. VDACS staff answered questions from the Regulatory Advisory Panel members regarding pesticide fees and expenditures incurred by OPS.

Motion: Mrs. Barlow moved that the Regulatory Advisory Panel recommend to the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services the following: (i) \$25 for commercial applicator initial certification fee; (ii) \$25 for registered technician applicator initial certification fee; and (iii) \$75 for initial and renewal pesticide business license fees. Mr. Church seconded the motion. The Regulatory Advisory Panel voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:50 A.M.