

KAAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
DODGE CITY AIRPORT
12:30 DEC. 8, 2006

CALL TO ORDER:

members present: Bill Garrison, Sr.

Bill Garrison, Jr.

Tony Martinez

Craig Stratton

Jeff Chanay

Rick Vrbas

Tim Tyree

John Holzmeister

Robert Middleton

Doug Chanay

Angie Banz

Robert Grace arrived late

Kathy Diehl arrived late

Motion to approve minutes of last meeting – seconded

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Airport Relations: – Tony - no report – no action required for several years. Suggested the committee be disbanded or combined with another committee as there has been no need for this committee for some time.

Convention:

112 operators/spouses

61 allied

31 companies /34 paid booths

72 PAASS attendance records

Fundraiser was quite successful

Very positive responses from all members about the Hutchinson location, and we are booked for Hutchinson again for 2007, a week earlier than 2006, and end of the week schedule – Wed through Fri.

Fundraiser – main complaint was lack of total entertainment value versus the auction – need to check into getting a speaker to help the evening run longer and provide some entertainment.

Discussion about having both raffle and a few auction items – to help lengthen the evening. Maybe a few smaller items for silent auction in the exhibit hall, in addition to the raffle – with perhaps only two or three items, then a regular auction for a limited number of larger auction items.

Insurance – no changes from September report

Membership: no report

NAAA: – Tony. KAAA has very good ratio of NAAA members. Very successful convention this year in Orlando. Issues on table: Trying to establish a different method of receiving tax refund for fuel instead of having to go through the fuel supplier (regarding Jet A).

MPDS reporting – avoided by NAAA action for time being. New congress could cause some changes – to be seen. AVPAC fundraiser was successful. Tony strongly urged NAAA membership – the savings to operators from the fuel tax issue alone is enough to pay for an NAAA membership and the more numbers NAAA can show, the better. New officers: President Rod Thomas. Next year's convention is the Silver Legacy in Reno NV again, with the date being later – the second week of December.

Long range planning:

Main issue is the average age of members – currently around 55-60. Where are new members coming from? Allied industry sees this as their biggest area of concern – where are their future customers coming from?

Public Relations:

Doug has been in contact with KSN rep – he will be able to report at the February meeting – trying to get the program going earlier this year.

Rick Vrbas is heading up the allied support effort – has contacted Bryan Bucl for a list of the allied people who have been involved in the past.

Bill Garrison suggested obtaining footage of the fire bombing efforts this past summer, so that we can advertise that aerial application is not just about chemical application.

Doug and Tony are both involved in a school program, where local students are allowed to visit the aircraft/operation and learn about aerial application. Tim Tyree said that Air Tractor has a very good video that they've put together promoting ag aircraft/application. Doug will try to contact the new station to do a video of his next visit with kids to utilize in future ads.

TV Ads: \$750. from board members, of \$5,494. total collected by KAAA. Operator fees were paid direct to KSN, which was approximately \$1,000.

Safe Fly-Ins

Burlington in March?

Ingalls in May ?

Fire Suppression:

An official fire suppression committee has been formed. Dusty, Doug, Tony, Pat Donovan, Bill Garrison, Jr and Sr., Craig Stratton. Tony spoke for Dusty who wasn't able to attend. Need to get a list of names of interested parties, training, make a list of standard equipment necessary, radio frequencies and contact persons for different parts of state. Basic organization effort to make the taskforce more efficient. Bill questioned if this was going to be a KAAA sanctioned force – what if someone does firebombing who hasn't participated in the training that the committee promotes? Tony urges that KAAA is not formerly sanctioning this group – we're trying to help those volunteers who want to get more information and get a more organized effort, but this is NOT a KAAA sanctioned taskforce.

Doug stresses that operators first of all contact their local fire department and establish a good working relationship.

Need to update the list of all members interested in doing fire ops – then let the committee begin a training list. Gate openings, radio frequencies, obstacles, etc. Also advise Dusty of local efforts so that he's aware of who has been doing what, who is currently working with their local dept., etc. Committee needs to meet and start a course of action.

Scholarship:

New application/info sheet and intro letter compiled by the committee. A package of all the new information will be mailed to all current KAAA members next week – asking them to take the information to their local high school guidance counselor to promote the scholarship.

TREASURER: Kathy Diehl

P & L Jan – Nov. Convention income \$43,462.50 Convention Expense: \$20,972.75 Hotel fees for actual convention expense was \$8,400., not including sleeping rooms. \$22,489.76 total profit from convention.

Scholarship fund interest is now over \$500., so the scholarship is now paying for itself in interest alone. Total scholarship funds are now over \$15,000.

Board moves that the amount of the scholarship be increased to garner more interest.
MOTION to increase the scholarship be increased to \$1,000. Seconded. Carried.

Kathy recommends having the CD's revolve on a 6-month basis instead of annually, to make the funds more available to the association. She will make the changes next week when the CD's renew.

Net income \$9,954. after paying all bills, however, \$4,300+ in receivables to be collected. Meal sponsorships and a few raffle pledges.

Expenses are down, association is setting quite well financially at this point. Concern over the KDA law review that the association may encounter some legal fees if any legal action is required. Kathy also moved some funds from the general operating checking account to a CD, based on recent board action to keep only \$5,000. in the checking account. Investment income has also doubled this past year due to the CD investments that Kathy recommended. Review the money market account at the next board meeting – if interest on it is still low at that time, it may be best to roll those funds into a higher yield short-term CD to generate more interest income on a short-term basis.

It was also suggested that the association is not to be a money-making organization, perhaps we can pass the earnings on to the members in the form of programs, speakers, etc.

MOTION to approve treasurer's report as presented. Moved, seconded, carried.

Legislative: Chris Wilson

KDA is reopening pesticide law and have identified issues they feel need to be addressed/changed.

Approximately 30 issues being addressed:

CREP: Conversation Reserve Enhancement Program: GMD3 area affected by one issue involving water rights. Chris doesn't feel it's a major program, doesn't effect many acres and doesn't involve much funding. Board doesn't feel we should get involved in this.

Section 18 Product Registrations: Yes – KAAA should be in on this issue

Authority to limit time and place of pesticide apps. Grape grower issue – want to limit applications beyond label – put a time frame on 2,4D applications. Chris feels if we take an interest, it should be that there be no county by county decisions on this issue – it needs to be regulated on a state basis. Regional application of restriction mandated by the state might be an alternative – to keep from county regulation.

Robert feels that we should push sensitive crop grower mandate to advise their local operator of location of sensitive crops. Sensitive Crop Registry. If sensitive crop growers don't list their crop and location by a certain date, which needs to be well in advance of planting, then they have no recourse against aerial applicator if drift damage occurs to that crop.

Robert further feels that organic growers should have the same registry – Organic and Sensitive Crop Registry. Board of Ag would be the overseeing agency, and have the burden of maintaining the registry.

Next issue is to register all separately labeled products. Chris feels this is a way to get more money from manufacturers for labeling. Board feels this is something we don't need to be involved in.

Late application renewal – would give a grace period on renewal. KAAA would support this issue, if asked.

Expand criteria for suspending pesticide license without a hearing – per KDA this would be for defunct businesses to expeditiously suspend licenses for defunct businesses and not have to hold a hearing. Chris feels this wording would have to be very tight and mandate that it only applies to defunct businesses.

Require county pesticide departments on the same level of accountability as commercial pesticide applicators: Noxious weed departments would have to do same statements of service as commercial applicator. KAAA should support this issue.

Eliminate free certification exams. KAAA should not be involved.

Require consultant accountability for their recommendations. YES Fully support.

Authority to accept other certifying training programs for FIFR equivalents: CCA could use other programs to keep CEUs. KAAA should not involve in this issue.

Authorize and facilitate e-commerce. To provide for electronic submission of documents to KDA – electronic license renewal, etc. Computerized recording keeping by applicator, authorize electronic submission of documents to customers. KAAA should not involve in this issue.

Expand dealer to include distributors. Distributors who sell would be required to register as dealers. GET MORE INFO

Authority to request records of sales and/or use of specific pesticides in a given geographic area: No parameters on who they want this information from or why. GAIN MORE INFORMATION ON THIS ISSUE

Need to address GMO's. KDA feels they need to license seed that is in itself a pesticide. Doesn't involve KAAA.

Need to address commercial installation and maintenance of unmonitored automatic chemical application equipment and products. Doesn't involve KAAA.

Need to address background checks for certain categories of applicators: Haven't specified what categories. Robert feels we need to ask if there have been problems, what are they looking for?

Authority to maintain confidential business information without it being subject to open records information act. GET MORE INFORMATION.

Clarify pesticide business license contracting and subcontracting requirements. YES

Authority to stop harvest movement..... NO

Discontinue pesticide damage claim form requirement. KAAA feels written documentation should still be a requirement. We want to insure that any submitted claim is valid and can be substantiated.

Formalizing KDA administration of sensitive crops registry YES

KSU needs funding for applicator program NOT OUR ISSUE

Authority to suspend or modify certification licensing during declared emergencies. QUESTION – who could declare the emergency? NEED CLARIFICATION.

EPA identified issues:

Expand civil penalty authority to cover private applicators KAAA NOT EFFECTED

Inflation adjustment to civil penalties KAAA feels its punitive enough under current law

All certificate exams would be written, closed booked and proctored. Would include private applicators. OKAY, but KAAA has no stance – wouldn't oppose.

Minimum age for private applicators and eliminate the “under direct supervision” wording. SUPPORT

Violation to sell REPS to uncertified applicators. SUPPORT

Compare new EPA container/containment regs to KDA. SUPPORT

KAAA issue of doing work for farmer per farmer request, then having landowner come back to operator claiming damage for the application and operator found liable. Applicable to civil penalty.
KAAA needs to find a way to protect ourselves from this issue, or having to track down or document who the landowner is and get their approval for the application.

Chris feels that the applicator should not be issued civil penalty and be held liable for performing a job in good faith on the word of the customer. It is a contractual liability issue.
Definite need of wording change to eliminate the “drift” wording to be any off target movement of the chemical.

NEW BUSINESS:

Letter from Dave Faust suggesting that we do a newsletter four times a year, with a set schedule for timing of the issues. Review of bylaws shows that we're to do this anyway – need to get this going this year.
Board unanimously in favor of this action – get it going. Dolle and Natalie from CAAA have offered assistance in helping KAAA get the newsletter set up.

Jeff Chanay has volunteered to transfer the VHS movies of KAAA history to DVD.

Website: Robert suggests that the web person designs the pages, then we need three or four different people updating the site. Kathy does membership related items, Angie does news, meetings, etc., firefighting committee can update their portion, Chris is to update the legislative page, etc.

Also, need to advertise to members that they need to go to the website for all the updated information, including the newsletter – advertise the site by regular mail.

Is there a need for members only page on the site? It is basically just the membership directory on the web.

Robert will contact Steve from SproutSoft about website and e-mail changes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Combined Convention update. Colorado's board has decided to not take any action now – feel this will be an issue in three to five years, but not now. Tim said Oklahoma is of the same mindset, however, we can still begin to work out the details so that when the times comes, the details would be ironed out and the convention could happen quickly.

Rick Vrbas still feels that Allied would like to see the combined meeting come to fruition soon.

Next board meeting will be in February prior to the UAP Pueblo meeting – plan for the morning of UAP's meeting instead of the night before. 8:00 am Plaza Inn Library room.

Motion to adjourn – seconded. Carried.