

Manufacturing Chemists Association

Minutes of Meeting

VINYL CHLORIDE RESEARCH COORDINATORS

MCA Conference Room

Washington, D. C.

March 13, 1973

MEMBERS PRESENT:

T. R. Torkelson, CHAIRMAN	The Dow Chemical Company
Z. G. Bell, Jr.	PPG Industries, Inc.
W. D. Harris	UNIROYAL, Inc.
R. L. Maycock	Shell Chemical Company
W. E. McCormick	B. F. Goodrich Chemical Company
W. E. Rinehart	Ethyl Corporation
R. N. Wheeler, Jr.	Union Carbide Corporation

MCA STAFF PRESENT:

A. C. Clark	MCA
K. D. Johnson	MCA

1. Minutes of the Meeting of February 20, 1973

With the addition of a notation recording the acceptance by the Coordinators of the PPG offer to supply monomer of indicated purity for project use, the subject minutes were otherwise approved as distributed.

2. Discussion of "Food and Bedding Study"

In response to an inquiry by Dr. Torkelson, acting pursuant to the recommendations made by the

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Coordinators at their January 30, 1973 meeting, the Industrial BIO-TEST Laboratories had offered (letter of Dr. Kepplinger dated 3/5/73) to expose fifty rats, in a separate chamber, with food and bedding present in the cages during exposures, for an incremental cost of \$10,000.

It was the consensus of the Coordinators that, if feasible, the exposure group for this experiment should be increased to 100 animals if this could be done without delaying the start of the experiment. Procedures for funding this expanded program are discussed in a subsequent section of these minutes. The cost increment for the extra fifty rats has been estimated to be \$5,000.

The Coordinators moved to accept the Industrial BIO-TEST proposal for the 50-rat experiment in the event funding for the larger experiment cannot be secured on a timely basis.

Dr. Torkelson reported that he had as yet been unable to obtain information on whether Dr. Viola had left food and bedding in the cages of the animals used in his initial study during the vinyl chloride exposures. He will continue to seek help from the European group in developing these data.

3. Evaluation of Epidemiology Proposals

Proposals were received from Harvard University, Tabershaw-Cooper Associates, Inc., and the University of Michigan. In the judgment of the Coordinators, the proposal of Tabershaw-Cooper Associates was clearly superior to the other two in terms of cost, schedules, and technical approach. They voted to recommend it to the industry for support. Pertinent sections from that proposal are appended to these minutes.

4. Augmentation of Travel Funds for Bologna Conference

Upon the explanation by the Secretary that the \$2,500 authorization for repayment of funds advanced by their companies for travel by the Coordinators' delegation to the subject conference would not quite cover the claims

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submitted, it was voted to authorize MCA to disburse additional funds, not to exceed another \$100 (\$2,600 total) as necessary to meet these claims.

5. Requests to Industry for Additional Funds

On motion duly made and seconded, and carried by the unanimous vote of the group, they asked that representatives of the sponsors be called into session to consider the Coordinators' recommendations that the industry provide the supplemental funds for the expansion of the animal exposure program as discussed in section 2 of these minutes, and for the support of the epidemiology program described to the Tabershaw-Cooper Associates proposal.

(a) For the animal program - \$15,000, payable by the sponsors by appropriate adjustment of the third invoice for research costs. Ten thousand dollars of this would be used to reimburse the present contingency fund for the costs authorized by the Coordinators for the 50-rat food and bedding experiment. The remaining \$5,000 would be used to enlarge the exposure group to 100 rats.

(b) For the epidemiology study - \$92,345. This will include \$71,345 for the base contract, as quoted by Tabershaw-Cooper Associates in their proposal, plus \$21,000 as contingency funds that could be expended, as required, for travel, data acquisition, etc. should the study identify larger population groups for study than those specified in their proposal.

6. Financial Summary

The status of project funds, as of March 15, 1973, is summarized below:

Funds Authorized by Project Sponsors	\$165,000.00
Funds Committed	
Industrial BIO-TEST	\$149,000.00
Laboratories Contract	
Industrial BIO-TEST	10,000.00
Laboratories Contract Extension	
Travel Costs	2,507.35
Cylinders & Fittings (estimated)	400.00
	\$161,907.35
Funds Uncommitted	3,092.65

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Funds Disbursed
Travel Costs
Lee Cylinders

\$ 2,507.35
278.52
\$ 2,785.87

Unexpended Funds

\$162,214.13

7. Future Meeting Schedule

The Coordinators voted to try to arrange a joint meeting with the Technical Task Group on Vinyl Chloride Research on April 4, 1973, for the purpose of presenting to them the proposals incorporated in these minutes. The members of the Task Group are to be asked to come to the meeting prepared, as far as possible, to express their management views on (1) the funding of the expansion of the animal test program, (2) the funding of an epidemiology study, and (3) its willingness to make records available to the epidemiology study if and when it is authorized.

The Coordinators asked that Tabershaw-Cooper Associates be invited to have a representative attend a portion of the meeting for the purpose of answering questions about their proposed study.

If it should be necessary to schedule the meeting outside of Washington in order to find facilities adequate for the anticipated attendance (40 to 60 persons, to allow room for medical and legal advisers to the task group members), Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Chicago were suggested as convenient sites.

If convenient, the delegation to visit the Industrial BIO-TEST Laboratories' Decatur laboratories will attempt to coordinate that trip with the subject meeting.

The Secretary was asked to prepare a suitable cover letter to these minutes, summarizing the Coordinators' proposals and suggesting a basis for funding of the epidemiology study that will permit invitation of the study with as little as 70% participation (based on total vinyl chloride and vinyl chloride monomer capacities) by the industry.

Respectfully submitted,


Kenneth D. Johnson, Ph.D.
Secretary

Minutes Subject to Approval
March 19, 1973
Attachment
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