

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
ANIMAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY SERVICES (AHFSS)
MEAT, POULTRY AND EGG SAFETY BRANCH (MPES)
SHELL EGG ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 23, 2025**

California Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street, Room 330
Sacramento, CA 95814

Item
No.

(1) ROLL CALL

Mr. Andrew Demler, Vice Chair, called the SEAC meeting to order at 9:13 a.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established at 9:14 a.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Gemperle, Chair
Andrew Demler, Vice Chair
David Will, Chino Valley Ranchers
Steve Mahrt, Petaluma Farms
Glenn Hickman, Hickman Family Farms
Kaliko Orian, Kaliko Farms
Michael Sencer, Hidden Villa Ranch
Cathy Roache, CACASA Representative
Frank Hilliker, Alternate
John Bedell, Alternate
Sam Kang, Public Member
Debbie Murdock, Pacific Egg and Poultry Association (PEPA), Non-Voting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lupe Gutierrez, NuCal Foods

CDFA:

Dr. Annette Jones	Paula Batarseh
Dr. Fernando Umayam	Andrew Halbert
Michael Abbott	Casey Luna
Josh McDonald	Dr. Elizabeth Cox
Brittany Cardoza	Dr. Ricardo Gaitan
Paul Roos	Joanne Ortiz
Rachel Andrade	Lynette Komar
Penny Arana	Sedona Quiroz-Lopez

(2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vote to approve meeting minutes from March 21, 2025.

Motion #1: Mr. Glenn Hickman made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Mike Sencer seconded the motion. All members agreed with no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.

(3) **PROPOSITION 12 BORDER STATION INSPECTIONS**

Presentation of Border Patrol Stations (BPS) enforcement statistics for holds placed on egg loads and BOLO (Be On the Look Out) stops for 2025. Discussion of the value of BPS enforcement and deterrent factors for noncompliant shipments. Comparison of Proposition 12 (Prop 12) and Shell Egg Food Safety (SEFS) BPS checks and their respective paperwork. As Prop 12 enforcement is still in its infancy and focuses primarily on pork, Prop 12 BPS checks for egg shipments only ask for the Bills of Lading. SEFS checks maintain a stricter checklist of requirements for egg shipments and record quantitative data and photographs for the Egg Safety Quality Management (ESQM) program.

Discussion of possibly replacing BPS checks with random stop-and-checks or reducing BPS requirements in the future, if compliance is high. Prop 12 BPS check items could be added to SEFS checks to split the BPS contract costs, but would present issues with separating Prop 12 egg data from pork and veal data, as well as logistical concerns if a shipment is compliant with one program but not the other; perhaps most importantly, the SEFS program would only save a minimal amount since BPS labor for Prop 12 egg checks is limited at this time. As Prop 12 program expands their enforcement actions and correspondingly requests more labor in their BPS contract, it would be more opportune to discuss the two programs' overlap at that time.

Plan for BPS to meet with ESQM program and Prop 12 program to discuss overlap; the proportion of the contract budget that would be assigned to each program for their respective checklist items; the possibility of combining the two checks; and the potential challenges of retraining BPS staff.

(4) **ESQM BUDGET APPROVAL**

Vote to approve BPS contract budget item for \$333,051.

Motion #2: Mr. David Will made a motion to accept the proposal. Mr. Hickman seconded the motion. All members agreed with no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.

(5) **PROPOSITION 12 ADVISORY BOARD DISCUSSION**

For the Board's awareness, asked Prop 12 staff if they have an advisory board for their program – there is not currently one. Was previously discussed before Prop 12 was passed to form a board with egg, pork and veal producers and animal activists but was not added to Prop 12 legislation. Would need to be an industry-led push for legislation, adding it to the original proposition.

Discussion of streamlining SEFS and Prop 12 on-site inspections to be conducted simultaneously; however, SEFS inspections are conducted on a risk-based schedule,

unlike Prop 12 inspections which are at least every 12 months. Inquiry into expanding 12-month renewal minimum for Prop 12 inspections and amending the requirement to inspect every structure on each property. Ultimately all amendments would need to be established by legislation; industry is encouraged to voice concerns when Prop 12 regulations are being reviewed.

(6) **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

(7) **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Agenda Items:

- Proposition 12 Border Station Form
- Proposition 12 Advisory Board

(8) **UPCOMING SEAC MEETING DATES**

The next Shell Egg Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on August 26th, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

(9) **ADJOURN**

Motion #3: Mr. Steve Mahrt motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Andrew Demler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Sedona Quiroz-Lopez