

**California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)  
Animal Health and Food Safety Services (AHFSS)  
Meat, Poultry and Egg Safety Branch (MPES)  
Rendering Industry Advisory Board (RIAB)  
Rendering Industry Budget Subcommittee (RIBS)  
Meeting Minutes  
April 15, 2015**

**Location: 1220 N Street, Room 133  
Sacramento, CA 95814**

Item  
No.

(1) **Call To Order**

Chair Mike Koewler called the RIAB meeting to order on Wednesday, April 15, 2015, at approximately 10:05 a.m. and a quorum was established.

(2) **Roll Call**

**Committee Members Present:**

Michael Koewler  
Daniel Stonesifer  
James Andreoli Jr.  
Gerardo Garza  
D.O. "Spike" Helmick Jr.  
Chris Ottone

**CDFA:**

Dr. Annette Jones  
Dr. Doug Hepper  
Paul Roos  
Paul San Gregorio  
Louie Lucero  
Rachel Andrade  
Irene Sanchez

**Interested Parties:**

Ross Hamilton  
Shawn Griffin  
Sandy Stonesifer  
Tina Caperella  
Tad Bell

(3) **Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 4, 2014**

Mr. Koewler asked RIAB to review the December 4, 2014, meeting minutes and asked for a motion to accept the minutes.

**Motion #1:** Mr. Ottone made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Helmick seconded the motion with the following members supporting the motion: Mr. Koewler, Mr. Stonesifer, Mr. Garza, and Mr. Andreoli, with no abstentions. Motion passed unanimously.

(4) **Enforcement Updates**

Mr. Roos provided an update on the informal hearings for three (3) licensed renderers. SoCal Biofuel was allowed to continue operating. Mr. Roos stated that the hearing officer did not state a reason for their decision. Dr. Jones stated CDFA thought it was a strong case and Dr. Hepper said they have spent a lot of money on counsel. Pacific ByProducts violations were sustained and as of May 1, 2015, will no longer operate. LSW Enterprises, LLC hearing ended April 14, 2015, and they are waiting two (2) weeks for a decision from the hearing officer.

Mr. Roos stated there were twelve (12) investigations, one (1) investigation resulted in a denial, and eleven (11) have administrative fees. After the first of the year, they will not be issued registrations.

Mr. San Gregorio spoke on manifest training and provided an update on an unlicensed transporter on Pier 39.

Mr. Helmick passed around a sample flyer and will have a flyer created with information that will provide helpful information on the Rendering Program.

**Motion #2:** Mr. Stonesifer made a motion to have a flyer created, laminated, and/or glossed. Mr. Andreoli seconded the motion with the following members supporting the motion: Mr. Koewler, Mr. Ottone, Mr. Garza, and Mr. Helmick, with no abstentions. Motion passed unanimously.

(5) **Review of Manifest Procedures**

Mr. Stonesifer said there are a lot of variables that are not understood in the manifest procedures. All manifest documentation needs to be stringent. Mr. Roos stated there should not be a variance on the information collected other than allowing for weight variance on the grease collected. All information on the manifest form should be complete and accurate.

(6) **Discussion of Dual Use of Equipment for Inedible Kitchen Grease (IKG) and Interceptor Trap Grease**

Dr. Hepper said the issue of dual use of equipment was brought up at the Pacific Coast Rendering Association (PCRA) meeting. This issue revolves around Penal Code 374.5(c), which states, "a grease waste hauler shall not transport grease removed from a grease trap or grease interceptor in the same vehicle used for transporting other waste, including yellow grease, cooking grease, recyclable cooking oil, septic waste or fluids collected at car washes." Mr. Bell stated he would like to discuss this in a policy discussion rather than trying to interpret this law. Dr. Hepper said the local district attorney decides whether or not to bring prosecution for these violators. The board agrees septic and car wash waste should not be included in the tanker. Mr. Garza stated the tanker should be washed out between IKG and interceptor grease transporting. Mr. Koewler suggested that PCRA reach out to the district attorney's office and get their opinion on this penal code including ways we can satisfy the industry's concerns.

(7) **Discussion of Inedible Materials Picked Up by Trash Companies**

Dr. Hepper discussed California Code of Regulations Section 1180.48 entitled *Disposal of Parts of Products of Animals Not Intended for Use as Human Food*, which states that any parts or products of animals disposed of by state or federal inspected establishments, retail stores, custom slaughters, custom processors and which are not intend for human issue shall be disposed of through licensed Renderers, Pet Food Processors, Collection Centers or other methods approved by CDFA.

There was a trash company that was planning on collecting both vegetative and meat waste in response to Assembly Bill (AB) 1826 and delivering to Clean World Partner. They have been made aware that if they are processing meat and poultry animal material, they are rendering and would be required to be licensed as a renderer by CDFA.

As a result of the passage of AB 1826, CDFA was required to submit a Legislative Budget Change Proposal (BCP) requesting one (1) Special Investigator and one (1) Office Technician to process new applications and help with investigative reports. The BCP cleared CDFA, Legislative Analyst Office, and Department of Finance without comment. Dr. Jones said someone at the Governor's Office pulled the bill because there was some concern we are hiring investigators that might derail some of the movement toward composting of waste materials.

(8) **Discussion of UC Davis Rendering Project**

Dr. Hepper provided a document with the latest updates on the direction of the UC Davis' assessment of Microbial Safety of Rendered Products project. There were four (4) sections to this preliminary outline.

(9) **Rendering Enforcement Program Organization**

Dr. Hepper provided a spreadsheet of the positions for the Rendering Program. He stated that he spends 90 percent of his time on rendering because of informal hearings, penalties, etc. A Supervising Special Investigator was requested through a BCP, but was not approved. Also, there was Assembly Bill 655 to allow for increased fees, which would raise fees from \$300.00 to \$350.00 per vehicle. This would raise approximately \$30,000. This bill would only raise vehicle fees.

(10) **Other Business**

Mr. Koewler asked that slides presented at the meeting be sent out to board members. Don DeSmet has retired and will have to send a resignation letter to the board. Someone will have to apply for the position on the board, opening up his position as a vacancy.

(11) **Scheduling of Next RIAB Meeting**

The suggested date for the next meeting is the week of June 22-26, 2015.

(12) **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Irene Sanchez