

**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
May 1, 2019**

California Department of Food and Agriculture
2800 Gateway Oaks Drive, Room 267
Sacramento, CA 95833

Item

No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

Mr. David Will, Chair, called the SEAC meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and a quorum was established.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Mr. Tony Herrera, Egg Quality Manager, Egg Safety and Quality Management (ESQM).

Committee Members Present:

David Will, Chair
Michael Sencer, Hidden Villa Ranch
Steve Mahrt, Petaluma Farms
Wayne Winslow, NuCal Foods
Kaliko Orian, Kaliko Farms
Andrew Demler, Demler Brothers
Glenn Hickman, Hickman Family Farms
Dr. Richard Breitmeyer, Public Member
Frank Hilliker, Alternate

Interested Parties:

Debbie Murdock
Lupe Gutierrez
Stan Foster

CDFA:

Dr. Annette Jones
Tony Herrera
Bill Rohner
Paula Batarseh
Jenna Celigija
Laura Barlow
Irene Sanchez

Penny Arana
Michel Abbott
Paul Roos

(3) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Will asked SEAC to review the meeting minutes for March 5, 2019.

Motion #1: Mr. Sencer made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Demler seconded the motion. Mr. Winslow, Mr. Mahrt, Mr. Hickman, Dr. Breitmeyer, Ms. Kaliko and Mr. Hilliker agreed with no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.

(4) **ESQM BUDGET AND SPENDING PLAN FISCAL YEAR (FY) 19/20**

Chair Will asked SEAC to review the ESQM Budget and Spending Plan for FY 19/20. The SEAC budget subcommittee discussed and approved the “draft” budget on March 5, 2019.

Motion #2: Mr. Winslow made a motion to accept the ESQM Budget and Spending Plan. Mr. Sencer seconded the motion. Mr. Demler, Mr. Mahrt, Mr. Hickman, Dr. Breitmeyer, Ms. Kaliko, and Mr. Hilliker agreed with no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.

(5) **BORDER STATIONS UPDATE**

Mr. Rohner provided an update on the March statistics for the Enhanced Border Station Enforcement Program. He presented information on non-compliant egg loads that came through the border stations in large shipments in March 2019, such as egg products for sale without being registered, misleading documents, false address destinations and shipping and handling labels being incomplete. There were 27 shipments that came across the Needles and Mountain Pass border stations within the month of March.

Mr. Roos provided an update on the Enhanced Border Station Enforcement Program number of holds at the border stations and violations. He stated that starting as of March 4 through April 21, 2019, the enhanced border station enforcement resulted in 28 hold notices placed on egg loads entering California. This operation was conducted at two (2) border stations, Mountain Pass with twelve (12) holds and Needles with sixteen (16) holds.

The violations were divided into the following four (4) categories:

- California Shell Egg Food Safety (SEFS) or NOT for California consumption statements
- Labels did not match bill of landing (BOL)
- Registration
- False statements, P.O. Box or out of state delivery address

(6) VIRULENT NEWCASTLE DISEASE (vND) UPDATE

Dr. Jones provided an update on vND. She stated that there is very clear progress in eradicating this disease. There are administrative warrants in the entire control area, which are San Bernardino, Riverside and Los Angeles Counties. Virulent Newcastle Disease staff is working closely with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) due to the refusals and animosity towards this effort from the homeowners with backyard flocks.

A new vND restocking policy has been implemented and approved. The policy allows backyard flock producers to move forward and prepare for new stock after 120 days of no detection of disease.

The vND incident is staffed to an acceptable level, has prioritized the workload in the area command center, completed the operational plans, and law enforcement is now in place. There is also accurate and up to date information being sent to the public currently through social media.

(7) ESQM/DIRECT MARKETING UPDATE

Ms. Celigija provided an update on the Certified Farmers Market (CFM), which is a pilot project with Direct Marketing to enhance compliance for CFM's. She stated that she provided training on the laws and regulations that pertain to eggs, provided samples of worksheets and notices of non-compliance. She also provided biosecurity and farmers market inspection training.

There is also going to be a laminate one-page checklist to provide to the CFM managers to utilize and ensure egg sellers at markets are operating within the law.

Ms. Celigija stated that there are two (2) scheduled trainings for CFM on May 15 and 16 and June 7, 2019 in northern California. The third training still to be determined will be in southern California.

SEAC asked to review the laminated checklist prior to sending the forms to the certified farmer markets.

(8) COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION UPDATE

Mr. Abbott provided an overview of the compliance and investigation process to SEAC. He stated there are three (3) phases in the process. The first phase is the notice action to determine if a Notice of Violation (NOV) will be issued. The second phase is issuing the NOV. The third phase is issuing the Notice of Proposed Action (NOPA), which informs the violator of the penalty fees that will be assessed and explains the appeal process.

Mr. Winslow stated that there are differences and possible lack of uniformity throughout the state. Therefore, regulations should be reviewed/revised to allow CDFEA leeway for those intending to comply and enhance customer service. Mr. Herrera recommended the

language in the regulations be reviewed and possibly changed to be uniform and accommodate the entire state.

Dr. Breitmeyer suggested forming a sub-committee to review the regulations on the compliance and investigation process. Mr. Will asked for volunteers to form a sub-committee, Mr. Foster, Ms. Gutierrez and Mr. Sencer agreed to participate.

(9) PROGRAM UPDATE

Mr. Herrera stated that ESQM has been assisting in the vND incident efforts since May 2018, at the request of the State Veterinarian, and has since increased the staffing efforts by routing three (3) or four (4) member teams to assess the biosecurity efforts and training incoming staff on biosecurity walk throughs. EQSM will continue to work with the State Veterinarian as to ESQM's further involvement in the vND incident.

Mr. Herrera gave a brief overview of several classes and workshops that EQSM are involved in, such as the Small Producer Workshops. The next Small Producer Workshop will be held on May 23, 2019, in San Diego County. He also discussed the Border Station Program.

(10) BRANCH UPDATE

Mrs. Batarseh gave a brief branch update to SEAC. She stated that there would be a MPES branch meeting on May 7-8, 2019. She also stated that the vND incident takes priority over other projects at this time and staff that are deployed, are going to continue to be deployed.

MPES is still working on special projects such as the SEFS integration program, biosecurity elements and the secured food supply requirements, making sure that the process is streamlined and has one (1) comprehensive process that addresses various requirements.

She stated that MPES is assisting the Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship program with their outreach, education efforts and surveys. Effective January 2018, all forms of medicinally important antimicrobial drugs must be given with a prescription to ensure judicious use when necessary, such as when there is disease control and not for growth promotion.

(11) DIVISION UPDATE

No AHFSS division updates.

(12) FAREWELL TO WAYNE WINSLOW

SEAC thanked Mr. Winslow for his years of service and knowledge and wished him the best in his retirement.

(13) **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were made.

(14) **FUTURE SEAC AGENDA ITEMS**

- Discuss Proposition 12 (invite Dr. Beam and Legal Counsel to the next meeting)
- Penalty Matrix Sub-Committee to report on penalty matrix
- Border station updates/checkpoints
- Farmers market checklist
- Discuss opening terms expiring

(15) **UPCOMING SEAC MEETING DATES**

The next SEAC meeting will be on June 5, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. It will be held in Sacramento, at the Gateway Oaks location.

(16) **ADJOURN**

Chair Will asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion #3: Mr. Winslow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mahrt seconded the motion. Mr. Sencer, Mr. Demler, Mr. Hickman, Dr. Breitmeyer, Ms. Kaliko, and Mr. Hilliker agreed with no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:48pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Irene Sanchez