

**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 28, 2014**

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

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

Wayne Winslow, Chair, called the SEAC meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. and a quorum was established.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll was taken by Tony Herrera, Program Supervisor, Egg Safety and Quality Management (ESQM).

Committee Members Present:

Wayne Winslow, Chair
Michael Sencer, Vice Chair
Steve Mahrt, Petaluma Farms
Gary Foster, Southern California Egg Cooperative
Michael Gemperle, Gemperle Family Farms
David Will, Chino Valley Ranchers
Don Brown, Alternate
Richard Jenkins, Alternate
Gary Caseri, Public Member

Committee Members Absent:

Milton O'Haire, CACASA Representative

Interested Parties:

Debbie Murdock, Pacific Egg and Poultry Association
Glenn Hickman, Hickman Eggs
Tim Pelican, Stanislaus County
Neal Rye, Hidden Villa Ranch
Richard Christner, Sparboe Foods
Aimee Contreras, Moark
Dave Cisneros, Rosemary Farms

CDEA:

Dr. Annette Jones, Director
Dr. Doug Hepper, Branch Chief
Tony Herrera, Program Supervisor
Rosie Martin, Account Clerk II

(3) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2014**

Chair Winslow asked the committee to review the March meeting minutes.

Motion #1: A motion was made by Mr. Foster to accept the minutes with corrections. Mr. Gemperle seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

(4) **FORM 700**

Mr. Herrera informed the committee that Ms. Wagner contacted the Fair Political Practice Commission (FPPC) to see if SEAC is required to submit the Form 700, resulting in a yes. Ms. Wagner will now contact FPPC to clarify the extent of information needing to be disclosed by the committee members. The topic will be discussed further at the next SEAC meeting.

(5) **SPECIALTY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

Mr. Will provided a handout to the committee members for review, including previous comments and amendments. After some discussion, it was decided:

- “Cage free” was the only definition that was accepted with no revisions.
- “Free range” “outdoor access” needs to be further defined, possibly including a range or space requirement. Also, the last sentence in the definition needs to be removed.
- “Organic” definition needs to be clarified to meet both state and federal organic criteria.
- “Pasture raised” was discussed, and while the submitted definition states 70 percent or more root able vegetation, it was suggested possibly modifying it to state 50 percent.
- “Label claims” was reviewed. It states in 3 CCR 1354 that any label claims need to be submitted to the Department with supporting documentation validating the nutritional standards stated.

Mr. Will will provide the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Guidance Document at the next meeting. The subcommittee will revise the draft and provide to the SEAC at the next meeting.

(6) **BY-LAW SUBCOMMITTEE**

Ms. Murdock provided a draft to the committee for review. It was suggested that the statement “when feasible” be added to the out-of-state member statement. It was also suggested that the statement declare, “may reside in California.” The subcommittee will make the suggested revisions and provide an updated document at the next SEAC meeting.

(7) **SEFS UPDATE**

Mr. Herrera provided an update, beginning with informing the committee that SEFS inspections are on target with the prediction of inspecting all in state companies within the year. Furthermore, he spoke to a recent inspection conducted in Crescent City, California and the eggs at the facility

were not SEFS compliant due to the fact the company failed to test chick papers and had also missed one of the three administered vaccinations. Mr. Herrera posed the questions, “can a 1000 egg sample be submitted for Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) testing if chick paper testing and a vaccination were missed?” and “if the test resulted in a negative result, could the company be allowed to market their eggs?” After discussion, the committee recommended that in the cases where a vaccine is missed, all egg would have to be destroyed, as there is no way to have them become compliant. Mr. Herrera also informed the committee that Dr. Takeshita is currently conducting SEFS inspections in the Midwest, and will give an update at the next SEAC meeting.

(8) INDUSTRY QUESTIONS REDARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF 3 CCR 1350

Dr. Jones began by informing the committee that USDA would be conducting SEFS desk audits at locations that have full or part-time resident graders. It was suggested that a representative of USDA attend an upcoming SEAC meeting to discuss the logistics. She then updated the committee on the questions and answers handout that is being developed, and informed them it is now in the Legal Office. Once it is approved it would be distributed to the committee, as well as added to the CDFA website.

(9) PROGRAM UPDATES

Mr. Herrera began by informing the committee of upcoming county workshops in June. They will be held in Sacramento, as well as in southern California. Stanislaus County will attend and demonstrate the new inspection database that will be used in the upcoming fiscal year.

(10) OTHER BUSINESS

A question was asked by Mr. Hickman, “if a window was to be cut in a partition to go from one side of a house to the other, how big does the window have to be?” Dr. Jones answered it has to be big enough for a chicken to go through it. After discussion by the committee, it was determined it would be researched and discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. Will informed the committee that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) would be conducting random 500 egg samples for various SE testing. They are unsure of the exact timeline it would take to get the test results back. The United Egg Producers is working with the FDA to further define a timeline.

It was suggested exit interviews for recently audited companies be conducted to examine the current SEFS inspection process, and if changes need to be made. Additionally, it was suggested possibly hiring a person who is extremely knowledgeable in the industry to further educate and train the new staff that will be conducting the upcoming audits.

(11) ADJOURN

Chair Winslow asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion #3: Mr. Mahrt made a motion. Mr. Foster seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Rosemerry Martin