

**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
June 26, 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
David Will, Chino Valley Ranchers
Milton O'Haire, CACASA Representative
Gary Caseri, Public Member

Committee Members Absent:

Don Brown, Alternate
Richard Jenkins, Alternate
Michael Gemperle, Gemperle Enterprises

Interested Parties:

Debbie Murdock, Pacific Egg and Poultry Association
Glenn Hickman, Hickman Eggs
Neal Rye, Hidden Villa Ranch
Richard Christner, Sparboe Foods
Dave Cisneros, Rosemary Farms
Kaliko Orion, Jokeka Farms/Rosemary Farms
Ross Dean, Center Fresh
Bob Salazar, Hickman Eggs

CDFA:

Dr. Annette Jones, Director
Dr. Doug Hepper, Branch Chief
Tony Herrera, Program Supervisor
Dr. Ken Takeshita

Rosie Martin, Account Clerk II
John Ramos, Central District Supervisor
Juan Gonzalez, Staff Management Auditor
Jenna Celigija, Northern/Coastal District Supervisor

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

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

Motion #1: A motion was made by Mr. Sencer to accept the minutes. Mr. Mahrt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

(4) **SPECIALTY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

Mr. Will confirmed and informed the committee that an out-of-state handler does not have to register with CDFA as organic. He asked the committee to review and comment on the other specialty terms at the next SEAC meeting.

(5) **BYLAW SUB-COMMITTEE**

Ms. Murdock provided a handout of the updated bylaws for review. She outlined the suggested changes made at the last meeting. Mr. O’Haire clarified the document should state California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association.

Motion #2: A motion was made by Mr. Mahrt to accept the bylaws with Mr. O’Haire’s change. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(6) **SHELL EGG FOOD SAFETY (SEFS) UPDATE**

Dr. Takeshita provided handouts to the committee outlining all of the SEFS inspections conducted thus far, and the results of those inspections. After discussion by the committee, the following was suggested:

- Create a form to confirm space regulations, and make it part of the annual renewal packet.
- Create guidelines for both companies and auditors to follow when being inspected.
- Training for upcoming companies on what to expect and what documents will be needed in order to conduct the audit.
- Clarification on CDFA’s website on how to submit records of alternative vaccination process for CDFA approval.
- Conduct an administrative hearing for high deficiency companies. Add a section about administrative hearings to the SEFS manual.
- Possibly pull company’s registration if a high deficiency penalty is approved.
- Possibly issue a public warning letter of high deficiency companies.

- Provide a link on CDFA's website explaining the CA SFES statement on cartons.

(7) **AMENDMENT TO REGULATION 1325.4 – REGRADING AND REPACKED EGGS**

Mr. Herrera informed the committee that CDFA has legal authority to regulate repacking at the retail level. The Grocer's Association is seeking to amend Regulation 1325.4 to allow retail stores to do repacking. CDFA has concerns about the level of traceability if they are being repacked by grocery store employees. If it is amended, strict guidelines would be put in place for retail stores to follow. Mr. Herrera posed a question to CDFA's Legal Office to clarify if ESQM has legal authority to require retail stores to become registered with the Department if they repack and/or regrade eggs. He will share the answer with the committee at the next SEAC meeting.

(8) **BULK DISPLAY EGGS**

Mr. Sencer provided pictures of bulk egg displays he came across. There were many statements of special requirements on the display. The question was raised as to how to confirm all of the statements. Mr. Herrera stated special requirements or enhancements would need to be confirmed by the program.

(9) **PROGRAM UPDATES**

Mr. Herrera informed the committee of a few things he has been working on:

- Attended a meeting on Form 700. A final decision regarding SEAC would be made next year.
- Informed the committee that the current CASS contracts will expire on June 30, 2014. He may switch the CASS employees to CDFA seasonal if Department of General Services does not approve the contract.
- A public records request was made for Santa Clara County for all noncompliances for the past 3 years.
- Assembly Bill 1990, which allowed community food producers to sell unrefrigerated eggs to be sold to restaurants. An opposition letter will be written by CDFA. Opposition issues will focus on the refrigeration issue along with comingling, code dates, and traceability, and registration issues.
- Southern District Supervisor Bill Rohner is conducting a workshop for counties on how to handle hold off sale tags, and what is needed if they will be released or disposed of.

(10) **OTHER BUSINESS**

The next meeting will be held in Sacramento on July 23, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. The following meeting will be held in Ontario at the Double Tree Hotel on August 27, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

(11) **ADJOURN**

Chair Winslow asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion #3: Mr. Sencer made a motion. Mr. Foster seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Rosemerry Martin