



**Summary Minutes of the  
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)  
Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health  
Public Conference  
November 1 – 2, 2011**

<b>Committee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Maximiliano A. Fernandez</li><li>• Dr. John R. Fischer</li><li>• Dr. Andrew E. Goodwin</li><li>• Ms. Vicki E. Hebb</li><li>• Dr. Howard Hill</li><li>• Dr. Donald Hoenig</li><li>• Mr. Morris Johnson</li><li>• Mr. John C. Kalmey</li><li>• Dr. Charles Massengill</li><li>• Ms. Judith McGeary</li><li>• Mr. David L. Meeker</li><li>• Dr. Boyd H. Parr</li><li>• Ms. S. Genell Pridgen</li><li>• Dr. Willie Reed (Absent)</li><li>• Mr. Charles R. Rogers</li><li>• Dr. Philip A. Stayer</li><li>• Mr. Gilles Stockton</li><li>• Mr. Brian Thomas (Nov 1)</li><li>• Dr. Elizabeth Wagstrom</li><li>• Dr. Cindy Wolf</li></ul>
<b>Date and Time</b>	November 1 – 2, 2011
<b>Location</b>	U.S. Access Board Conference Room 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC 20004
<b>Purpose</b>	Consider, deliberate and propose recommendations on various animal health matters on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Proposed Rule on Traceability for Livestock Moving Interstate</li><li>2. Foot-and-Mouth Disease vaccination bank</li><li>3. Agricultural Research Service (Plum Island research)</li><li>4. Tuberculosis/ Brucellosis Regulatory framework.</li></ol>
<b>USDA</b>	Gregory Parham (Administrator APHIS) John Clifford (Deputy Administrator, Veterinary Services) Michael Doerrer (DFO) R. Jeanese Cabrera (Deputy DFO) Kim Ogle (Facilitator) Neil Hammerschmidt (Animal Disease Traceability Program) Fidelis Hegngi (NPIP Program) Darrel Styles (Emergency Response and Preparedness) Luis Rodriguez (Plum Island Research Leader) John F. Weimers [telephonically] (Animal Disease Traceability Program)

**Public Presenter(s)** Nancy Robinson, Livestock Marketing Association.

**Day 1 Meeting Summary (November 1, 2011)**

Michael Doerrer, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health (Committee) called the meeting to order. Ms. Kim Ogle, the facilitator, discussed the agenda and introduced Donald Hoenig and Gregory Parham. Gregory Parham, the APHIS Administrator, led with a discussion about the Secretary's highest priorities in general and specifically as they relate to animal health. He briefly mentioned the proposed rule on animal traceability, the vaccination bank challenges and the new framework on tuberculosis and brucellosis. He ended with a few words about appropriations for fiscal year 2012 which has been decreased and the changes underway to continue meeting core mission requirements.

Committee members were asked to introduce themselves and talk about their representative groups and personal reasons for wanting to be on the Committee. This also served as the official roll call for the Committee.

Chairperson Donald Hoenig began with a brief description of the prior conferences held on the matter of traceability and the six topics that will be discussed during the meeting on Day 1. The Committee began with discussion regarding **Poultry** as it relates to the rule and the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP). Fidelis Hegngi, Poultry Specialist, discussed the NPIP at length to assist the Committee in parsing out the differences between NPIP and the rule. The Committee Vice Chairperson drafted a background statement for the recommendation and presented to the Committee after lunch.

The next topic discussed was **Branding** and its use as official identification. A motion and recommendation was passed unanimously. [*Refer to the attached Committee's Advisory Report for all recommendations forwarded to the Secretary (posted to the SCAH and GSA Web sites).*]

The Committee revisited the **Poultry** topic. A motion was made for recommendation and passed without consensus. A dissenting position will be included in the advisory report sent to the Secretary.

The Committee went on to discuss **feeder cattle** exemption in Phase 1 of the rule followed by the assessment and evaluation process involving public notice and comment. A motion carried to remove the provisions in Phase 2 of the rule and address feeder cattle in a separate rule making process.

**Group identification** was discussed along with the **replacement tags** issue with **dairy producers**. Several motions carried on these topics.

Dr. Willie Reed submitted a resolution (in absentia) from the USAHA Joint Committee on the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) for the Committee's consideration. A motion for recommendation that urged continued support of the NAHLN with emphasis on how critical the network is to maintaining US animal health passed unanimously.

A final motion passed unanimously for USDA to specifically define what constitutes a dairy herd or dairy cattle sufficient for producers to know which need to be tagged according to the rule.

Finally, Dr. Hoenig introduced a letter addressed to the Secretary from the National Assembly of Animal Health Officials (NASAHO) coming out of its recent USAHA meeting. A recommendation was crafted from the general concept of the letter urging that the USDA move ahead with the rule as a first step towards a comprehensive system of traceability.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m. after several members of the public were invited to comment. The Committee heard from Ms. Nancy Robinson, Vice President for Government Industry Affairs, for the Live Stock Market and Ms. Kelly Levlin, from the American Farm Bureau.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:45 p.m.

### **Day 2 Meeting Summary (November 2, 2011)**

Dr. Hoenig began the meeting by introducing Dr. John Clifford, Deputy Administrator, Veterinary Services, who gave opening remarks. Dr. Darrel Styles, Program Manager, Emergency Response and Preparedness, followed with a presentation on Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) relative to current state of a vaccine bank and what challenges might arise in the event of an outbreak.

Dr. Luis Rodriguez, Research Leader at Plum Island Animal Disease Center, gave a presentation to the Committee updating the current research being done by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) on FMD, Classical Swine Fever (CSF), and African Swine Fever (ASF). Of particular interest was the latest development of antigens specific to various strains of FMD which could improve and decrease the cost of production of vaccines for emergency use.

Mr. Thomas Deliberto of Wildlife Services, Fort Collins, Colorado, presented an overview of disease surveillance of relative to captive livestock and wildlife, which is usually a state-owned resource with mixed regulatory control. Mr. Deliberto made distinctions between Wildlife Services and Veterinary Services organizations and how they work together, particularly in emergency situations. Mr. Deliberto also alluded to the concept of One Health and the challenge of merging various and sometimes competing viewpoints.

Dr. Hoenig reconvened the Committee and canvassed them for possible recommendations regarding the morning's presentations. The Committee considered that the USDA would have one significantly reduced budget 'pie' to slice upon and that its recommendations may

necessarily mean that taking from one part of the pie, reduces another. The first recommendation was to advise the USDA to focus on the development of vaccines and other countermeasures to prevent, diagnose and control diseases.

The Committee revisited the tuberculosis/brucellosis framework and submitted two questions to the Agency to address. A recommendation was developed that an appeal process should be included in the tuberculosis/brucellosis framework, that there is no opposition to a calculator as long as provision is made for appraising animals of higher than average market value.

The Committee next considered a recommendation that there be a provision and specifications for approved quarantined feedlots incorporated into the tuberculosis/brucellosis framework. The question of whether and when an animal is considered captive and jurisdictional authority. No recommendation was advanced on the subject and it will be put on a future agenda.

The Committee followed with a discussion on APHIS' test and removal management plan proposed under the tuberculosis/brucellosis framework. There were no specific recommendations made regarding test and remove. The topic will be revisited at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m.

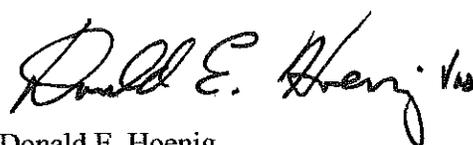
Respectfully submitted:



12/5/11

Michael Doerrer  
Designated Federal Officer

I certify these summary minutes of the November 1 - 2, 2011, Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health meeting are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



7 Dec. 2011

Donald E. Hoenig  
Chair

**Note and Disclaimer:** The minutes of this public meeting are a summary only. A full transcript and audio recording of this meeting have been uploaded to the SACAH Web site. The reader is cautioned to not rely on the minutes to represent the final, approved, consensus advice and recommendations offered to the Department. Such advice and recommendations may be found in the final advisories, letters, or reports prepared and transmitted to the USDA from the Committee Chair(s).