



**Summary Minutes of the  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health  
Public Teleconference  
May 13, 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</li><li>• Mr. Charles R. Rogers</li><li>• Dr. Philip A. Stayer</li><li>• Mr. Gilles Stockton</li><li>• Mr. Brian Thomas (absent)</li><li>• Dr. Elizabeth Wagstrom</li><li>• Dr. Cindy Wolf</li></ul>
<b>Date and Time</b>	May 13, 2011, 12 noon to 5 p.m.
<b>Location</b>	Multisite teleconference. Accessed through public and Committee telephone numbers with separate passcodes. Nationwide participation.
<b>Purpose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update on Tuberculosis program changes (the new framework) and publication of the proposed animal disease traceability rule (Dr. Thomas Myers)</li><li>• Report from the Brucellosis and Tuberculosis Working Group on the new framework (Dr. Lee Ann Thomas)</li><li>• Summary and status of the South Korean foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreak (Dr. Theresa Boyle)</li><li>• Update on Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) with focus on FMD vaccination and EPR gap analysis (Dr. Darrel Styles)</li><li>• Overview of Veterinary Services (VS) budget issues from Planning and Finance Strategy (Ms. Carol Tuszynski)</li></ul>
<b>USDA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr. Thomas J. Myers (Associate Deputy Administrator, VS)</li><li>• Mr. Michael Doerrer (Designated Federal Official (DFO))</li><li>• Ms. R. Jeanese Cabrera (Deputy DFO)</li><li>• Ms. Kim Ogle (Facilitator)</li></ul>
<b>Public Presenter(s)</b>	None. Public participation was limited to listen-only telephone access. All were invited to submit comments and questions to the Committee before the teleconference.

The discussion followed the issues and general timing as presented in the meeting agenda (Attachment A).

### **Opening of Public Teleconference**

Mr. Michael Doerrler, the DFO for the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health (Committee), called the meeting to order and introduced the facilitator, Ms. Kim Ogle, who completed the roll call and reviewed the meeting agenda and schedule of speakers.

Ms. Ogle then introduced Dr. Donald Hoenig, the Committee Chair, and Ms. Judith McGeary, the Vice Chair, who began the meeting with a brief administrative discussion regarding how the Committee reaches consensus on topics and the Committee's bylaws for how meetings are held. The Committee had an opportunity to review both documents and there were no issues of note.

Dr. Hoenig introduced Dr. Thomas Myers, Associate Deputy Administrator who began with a welcome and expressed appreciation to the Committee and others on the call listening in on the public access line. Dr. Myers began with an update on the status of the SACAH Subcommittee on Aquatic Animal Health. The list of proposed members is being developed and APHIS is working with the two partner agencies to develop the list; there is no timeline for announcing the membership.

Dr. Lee Ann Thomas next talked about the Bovine Tuberculosis and Brucellosis programs and the ideas being proposed at this time from the Federal State Tribal Working Group and explained that she would elaborate on the new framework and rule later in the call. Dr. Myers followed with an update on the animal disease traceability rulemaking process currently underway.

Dr. Myers reported that the proposed rule is currently in process with the Office of Management and Budget and confirmed that it is among the highest of Departmental priorities. Dr. Myers ended with a discussion concerning the issue of branding and animal identification. A fair amount of discussion ensued, and Dr. Myers ended with noting how important it is to move forward with publishing the proposed rule, to take a hard look at the actual language, and to obtain written comments (during the comment period) on any open issues.

Dr. Myers reiterated that nothing in the proposed rule would alter or hinder branding as currently used and confirmed that no specific date commitment has been made for publication at this time. Several Committee members raised the possibility of making a recommendation on the issue of branding, but it was determined that the more effective way to be heard on this issue is through the comment period once the proposed rule is published.

Mr. Doerrler reiterated that the Committee may forward any commentary, on any subject, at any time.

Dr. Hoenig introduced Dr. Lee Ann Thomas, Director Ruminant Health Programs, to discuss the draft outline of the proposed framework regarding the Tuberculosis and Brucellosis programs. She confirmed that four meetings were currently scheduled in Lansing, Michigan; Atlanta, Georgia; Bozeman, Montana; and Amarillo, Texas. The Committee was invited to submit written comments if they were unable to attend any of these sessions.

Dr. Thomas discussed the interrelated elements of the new proposed Tuberculosis and Brucellosis rule. She responded to questions and concerns, and invited the Committee to submit comments about the framework as proposed.

Dr. Hoenig introduced Dr. Theresa Boyle, a Foreign Service Officer, International Services, who gave a status of the FMD outbreak that recently occurred in South Korea and emphasized that South Korea is not the only country having problems with FMD. She noted several other countries, including mainland China, Taiwan (i.e., Taipei), South Africa, Bulgaria, Libya, North Korea, Mongolia, Angola, Mozambique, Zambia, Russia, and Japan.

Potential reasons for outbreaks around the world were mostly due to lapses in farming bio-security. Dr. Boyle responded to questions regarding Asian exports generally, their capacity for containment and control of an outbreak, industry impact, and a long-term vaccination program.

Dr. Hoenig introduced Dr. Darrell Styles, Staff Veterinarian, VS Emergency Management and Diagnostics, who reviewed a recent meeting attended by animal health stakeholders from among the entire food chain production industry (including wholesale and retail sectors). The primary topic of this meeting was the use FMD vaccination as a viable containment tool in the event of an outbreak. Dr. Styles presented a gap analysis and discussed the challenges VS faces in the areas of emergency preparedness and response.

Dr. Hoenig introduced Ms. Carol Tuszynski, of VS Planning and Finance Strategy, who updated the Committee on the VS budget for 2011. Ms. Tuszynski responded to questions regarding the budget and referenced several line reductions.

Dr. Hoenig revisited the matter of branding and, after some discussion, it was determined that it would probably be more effective and productive if the Committee would comment on the actual language of the proposed rule after it has been published.

The conference call ended with a discussion on possible items for the next teleconference agenda.

The DFO adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Handwritten signature of Michael Doerrer in cursive, followed by the date 7/19/11.

Michael Doerrer  
Designated Federal Officer

I hereby certify these summary minutes of the May 13, 2011, Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health meeting are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Handwritten signature of Donald E. Hoenig in cursive.

Donald E. Hoenig  
Chair

by Judith McGeevy  
Vice-Chair

**Note and Disclaimer:** The minutes of this public meeting are a summary only. There is no recorded transcript for this meeting. However, an audio recording of this meeting has been uploaded to the Committee Web site. The reader is cautioned to not rely on the minutes to represent the final, approved, consensus advice and recommendations offered to the Agency. 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).