



**Summary Minutes of the
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health
Public Teleconference
September 23, 2011**

Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Maximiliano A. Fernandez• Dr. John R. Fischer• Dr. Andrew E. Goodwin• Ms. Vicki E. Hebb (absent)• Dr. Howard Hill• Dr. Donald Hoenig• Mr. Morris Johnson• Mr. John C. Kalmey• Dr. Charles Massengill• Ms. Judith McGeary• Mr. David L. Meeker• Dr. Boyd H. Parr• Ms. S. Genell Pridgen• Dr. Willie Reed• Mr. Charles R. Rogers• Dr. Philip A. Stayer• Mr. Gilles Stockton• Mr. Brian Thomas• Dr. Elizabeth Wagstrom• Dr. Cindy Wolf
Date and Time	September 23, 2011, 12 noon to 5 p.m.
Location	Multisite teleconference. Accessed through public and Committee telephone numbers with separate passcodes. Nationwide participation including Twitter.
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on Aquatic Animal Health Subcommittee• Tuberculosis (TB): Disease status and the new TB/Brucellosis regulatory framework• Proposed rule on traceability for livestock moving interstate
USDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. John Clifford (Deputy Administrator, Veterinary Services (VS))• Mr. Michael Doerrer (Designated Federal Officer (DFO))• Ms. R. Jeanese Cabrera (Deputy DFO)• Dr. Lee Ann Thomas (Director, Ruminant Health Programs, VS)
Public Presenter(s)	None. Public participation was limited to listen-only telephone access. All were invited to submit comments and questions to the Committee before the teleconference. There was nominal Twitter activity.

Dr. Donald Hoenig, the Committee Chair, led the conference, beginning with brief discussion about the call and order of the agenda (Attachment A). Dr. Hoenig yielded the call to Vice Chair Judith McGeary at approximately 1:30 p.m. and later rejoined.

Opening of Public Teleconference

Mr. Michael Doerrer, the DFO for the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health (SACAH), called the meeting to order. RJ Cabrera, Deputy DFO, completed the roll call. Mr. Doerrer introduced Dr. Donald Hoenig and Ms. Judith McGeary.

Dr. Hoenig introduced Dr. John Clifford, Deputy Administrator, who announced that the Committee's Aquatic Animal Health subcommittee is now in place and would begin with review of the National Aquatic Health Plan. Dr. Clifford described the efforts over the years to develop the health plan. The private sector, the aquaculture industry, Department of Commerce, and State departments of animal health worked with the USDA to put a plan in place. Planning is underway for a meeting in Washington, DC, in the next few months. The notice concerning the subcommittee and its work will be made publically available through the Committee's Web site.

Dr. Clifford addressed several questions concerning the subcommittee and explained that it was more practical, in terms of costs and function, to have a subcommittee rather than a separate advisory committee. The SACAH covers all animal health matters—both terrestrial and aquatic. The subcommittee will report back to SACAH in a public forum for discussion and consideration of recommendations. Subcommittee leadership will be determined at the first meeting or shortly thereafter. The agenda for the first subcommittee meeting will likely be set up during a series of planning calls. Mr. Doerrer also suggested that the parent Committee (SACAH) might also weigh in on matters for subcommittee consideration; Dr. Goodwin and Dr. Hoenig of the parent Committee are also members on the subcommittee.

Dr. Hoenig followed with a brief discussion about the upcoming face-to-face meeting on November 1–2, 2011, in Washington, DC. Dr. Hoenig suggested that the Committee focus on two high profile areas: the TB/Brucellosis regulatory framework and the recently published proposed rule on traceability.

Dr. Hoenig referenced the email sent to the Committee in August that requested a poll of the stakeholders regarding specific areas of the TB/Brucellosis framework. The stakeholders were also asked about issues they might have regarding the framework. The first point had to do with APHIS' approach to test and removal and suggested alternatives to that approach. Several members had clarifying questions addressed by Dr. Lee Ann Thomas. Dr. Hoenig provided specific feedback from other State veterinarians, and several other members offered points of view regarding herd management, quarantines, and indemnity. Dr. Hoenig suggested that the Committee begin formulating recommendations on these issues and advance those at the November meeting. Discussion followed on control of TB through wildlife surveillance and collaboration of State wildlife and Federal animal health agencies.

The following topics were also discussed:

- Test and remove management plans for beef herds
- Options for marketing calves
- Quarantine feedlots
- Opportunities for producers to market or feed out intact heifers.

Dr. Hoenig also revisited the topic on use of a calculator for indemnity. Whether replacement cost takes genetics, purebred, and loss of production into consideration was addressed.

Dr. Hoenig invited the Committee members to draft language based on the discussion to propose recommendations during the upcoming meeting.

Dr. Hoenig opened up discussion to the Committee on the proposed rule on traceability for livestock moving interstate. Mr. Doerrer confirmed that the Secretary extended the comment period for the proposed rule to 120 days. Several members voiced concerns about the extension of the comment period, and others noted that many industry stakeholders requested an extension. Dr. Hoenig reported that overall, State veterinarians were broadly in favor of the proposed rule and that a having collaborative State/Tribal/Federal working group was a good template for future rules.

The following topics were also discussed:

- Feeder cattle based on an undetermined set of criteria
- Branding as official identification with qualifying statement
- Interstate movement of poultry flocks relative to the language in the rule and the National Poultry Improvement Plan
- Group identification
- Compliance required of both shipper *and* receiver of livestock moving interstate
- Distinctions between dairy herds and dual-purpose or breeder herds

The Committee agreed to communicate via email in preparation for its face-to-face meeting scheduled for November 1–2, 2011.

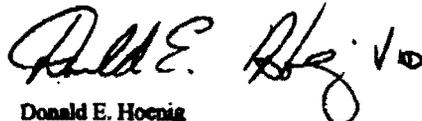
The DFO adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Michael Doerr
Designated Federal Officer

I certify these summary minutes of the September 23, 2011, Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health meeting are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Donald E. Hoehn
Chair

Note and Disclaimer: The minutes of this public meeting are a summary only. A recorded 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).