

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
FEED INSPECTION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING (FIAB)
Modesto, California
February 16, 2010
MINUTES**

MEMBERS

Richard Hoch
Thomas Daly
Fred Frost
Thomas Geary
Michael Koewler
Thomas Prokop
John Walth

CDFA

Asif Maan
Natalie Krout-Greenberg
Elaine Wong
Michael Davidson
Jenna Areias
Killeen Sanders
Chris Hansen
Avnee Jivabhai
Frank Delgado

INTERESTED PARTIES

Gene Beach
Tad Bell
Steve Coulter
Kevin Fritz
Chuck Henring
Mark Krebsbach
Chuck Littlefield
Tim Riordan
Gary Rogers
Shawn Sawa
Ron Seley
Scott Sickler
Bill Tenney
Hal Thompson

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Richard Hoch called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and a quorum was established. Mr. Rob Gilbert and Mr. Jon Tollenaar were unable to attend.

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Hoch welcomed the group and self introductions were made.

MINUTES OF THE LAST BOARD MEETING

Mr. Hoch asked the Feed Inspection Advisory Board members to review the minutes from the October 14, 2009 meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Michael Koewler to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Thomas Prokop seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT / DIVISION / BRANCH UPDATE

Dr. Asif Maan informed the board that the governor's proposed budget for FY 2010-11 includes a 5% cut in the base salary across the board for all state employees. Furloughs will continue through June 30, 2010. Mr. Nate Dechoretz has been promoted as Deputy Secretary in the executive office. Three Branch Chiefs will be rotating as Acting Directors until a full time Division Director is appointed. At the branch level, realignment and reorganization of Feed, Fertilizer, Livestock Drugs and Egg Regulatory Services programs has been completed. Dr. Maan highlighted the branch organization chart and noted that the Egg Quality Control Program has been moved into the Feed Inspection

Program under Natalie Krout-Greenberg's supervision. He also noted a research analyst vacancy for livestock drug registration.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION - CANOLA MEAL IMPORT UPDATE

Chairman Hoch introduced Mr. Dan Solis of U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and thanked him for taking the time to update the board on canola meal import. Mr. Solis introduced himself and explained the organization of FDA including the Center for Veterinary Medicine and the Office of Regulatory Affairs. He noted that FDA regulates animal feeds and drugs amongst others. Mr. Solis summarized a new program introduced by President Obama that regulates products involving tobacco. He informed the board that he is working with Ms. Natalie Krout-Greenberg to develop a Memorandum of Understanding to exchange information between the two programs. Mr. Solis then elaborated on the imports into the United States (namely California) that FDA regulates. He noted that according to the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act Section 801 (a) "any product that appears manufactured, improperly packed, etc., can be held." If a product is detained, the manufacturer has fourteen days to fight the detainment before further action is taken. He presented contact information for anyone whose products have been detained. Mr. Solis then shared the information needed from importers in order to expedite their compliance.

Mr. Kevin Fritz introduced himself and explained importer responsibilities to the board. He noted that when a shipment reaches the United States, the importer of record is required to file entry documents with FDA. He outlined the process of filing the required paperwork and the release of imports thru this process. Mr. Fritz then described the process and guidelines for the destruction and exportation of goods. Discussion ensued regarding specific cases of holds placed by FDA.

FUND CONDITION

Ms. Krout-Greenberg provided program expenditures, revenue and the fund condition. She noted a beginning balance of \$2,812,062 as of July 1, 2009 and an ending balance of \$2,973,061 as of December 31, 2009. It was noted that the amount does not include outstanding encumbrances. She presented historical trends for July thru December for the past four fiscal years for revenue and feed tonnage.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Ms. Krout-Greenberg informed the board that there have been delays in the database development because of furloughs and technical issues. The inspectors' portion is still being developed and will be complete in approximately one month.

Mr. Tad Bell requested that Ms. Krout-Greenberg elaborate on the current salmonella issue that has risen with a canola shipment being held by FDA. She noted that every effort has been made by CDFA to expedite this process, but FDA has processes which they must complete before the shipment can be cleared or released.

Ms. Krout-Greenberg informed the board that an aflatoxin issue arose in almond hulls that had been shipped to Nevada and fed to cows whose milk was then brought back into California. The program sent an investigator to pull samples and identified a course of action but FDA will have the final say since CDFA has no authority in Nevada. FDA will take the programs efforts and results into account while determining a course of action.

The aflatoxin regulation has been passed and an industry notice was issued. There is a vacancy for a research analyst for the livestock drug position. There are some well qualified candidates that the program is considering and the position may be filled as early as the beginning of March. Ms. Krout-Greenberg reviewed the various meetings that the program attended including the California Grain and Feed Association meeting and the American Animal Feed Control Officials meeting. She noted that in 2009, 77% of 1,506 samples were completed within 31 calendar days. So far in 2010, 40 samples have been obtained and turned around in 30 days.

Ms. Jenna Areias informed the board that the Safe Animal Feed Education program had a booth and provided outreach folders at career fairs and the farm show. Two Safe Animal Feed Education audits were completed last year and three are scheduled for March. She will be participating in classroom outreach efforts at California State Universities and University of Californias as well as working with the Department of Texas Chemists to hold a Hazard Analyses Critical Control Points Training in the spring in Sacramento for all our staff, New Mexico, Idaho, Oregon, Arizona and FDA staff. Discussion ensued regarding Feed Program staff conducting Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy rendering inspections.

AAFCO MODEL REGULATIONS

Ms. Krout-Greenberg informed the group that legislative language was developed by the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) to serve as a model to provide express authority to the states that wish to regulate the manufacture of feed not in commerce or intended for distribution into commerce. Also, AAFCO Model Good Manufacturing Practices Regulations for feed and feed ingredients apply to the manufacturing of non-medicated feed and feed ingredients to enhance existing model regulations that prevent adulteration and focus on feed safety. Ms. Krout-Greenberg does not believe that at the state level, the program has the authority to regulate these issues but the board can consider making changes accordingly.

LABORATORY UPDATE

Ms. Elaine Wong reported that the lab completed approximately 400 more samples last year than in the prior year. She presented the number of assays completed. She noted that 20 aflatoxin samples for almond hulls were received last week, of which 11 are already completed. Ms. Krout-Greenberg and Ms. Wong informed the board that further

sample analysis have been delayed and samples have been stored in a freezer until a new instrument is completely calibrated and ready for use.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Tad Bell informed the board that his focus has been on the budget process. The governor's office is pushing to see some of the general fund replaced by industry fees. This may affect animal health branches. California Grain and Feed Association (CGFA) suggested that they would rather see other programs charged a fee rather than cutting the general fund. The budget is not really going to start happening until the summer. Questions arose about whether feed program employees can be exempt from furloughs because they are not general fund. Dr. Maan noted that at this point there is no definite way to obtain the exemption.

CLOSED SESSION

A closed session was called to order at 11:53 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

The closed session ended at 11:59 a.m.

FEED INSPECTION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS


The FIAB recommended and voted to appoint Mr. John Walth, Mr. Thomas Prokop, Mr. Richard Hoch and Mr. Thomas Daly to the board.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS / NEXT MEETING

The next board meeting will be held on September 14th, 2010 at 9:00 a.m., location to be determined at a later date.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Michael Koewler to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Thomas Prokop seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Asif A Maan, Ph.D., Branch Chief
Feed, Fertilizer, Livestock Drugs and Egg Regulatory Services
Inspection Services

8/24/10

Date