

**MINUTES OF THE 346TH COMMISSION MEETING  
TEXAS ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

**May 8, 2003**

The Texas Animal Health Commission Meeting was called to order by Chairman Richard Traylor at 9:08 a.m. in the Texas Animal Health Commission Conference Room in Austin, Texas.

Meeting Convened

Dr. Dick Sherron and Roy Martinez.

Commissioners Not Present

Dr. Bob Hillman; Dr. Max Coats; Gene Snelson; Bruce Hammond; Angela Lucas; Dale Jaroszewski; Patti Kuhles; Felix Volk; Bill Powers; Dr. Terry Conger; Dr. Dan Baca; Dave Tomkins; Eleanor Ferren; Rick Nabors; Carla Everett; Carol Gibbons; Barbara Hallmark, Theresa Smith; Cindi King and Edith Smith.

TAHC Staff Present

See list attached.

Visitors Present

**ITEM 1 - WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN TRAYLOR.**

**ITEM 2 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2003 Commission Meeting was made by Ron Davenport and seconded by Quincy Barnes. The motion carried unanimously.

**ITEM 3 - REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS FOR THE PERIOD 3/12/03 THROUGH 5/7/03 - DR. BOB HILLMAN**

Dr. Hillman gave a synopsis of his out of office trips and his visits from outside sources from March 12, 2003 through May 7, 2003. He also presented the waiver request actions processed for the same time period.

Dr. Romulo Rangel moved and Dr. William Edmiston seconded to approve the actions of the Executive Director and the waiver request actions from March 12, 2003 through May 7, 2003. The motion carried unanimously.

**ITEM 4 - EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE REPORT - DR. BOB HILLMAN**

Dr. Hillman gave a synopsis of Exotic Newcastle Disease activities from April 5, 2003 when sick birds were discovered in the El Paso area through the present.

Carla Everett recommended that a resolution be prepared to Wilbert Kubicek's family for his unflinching dedication to the Commission, signed by the Commissioners and presented to his family at the next Commission Meeting. All Commissioners were in agreement to proceed with the resolution.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. James Grimm (Texas Poultry Federation) - Mr. Grimm, on behalf of the industry, thanked the Commission for its prompt response to the Exotic Newcastle Disease outbreak which was important in stopping the spread of the disease. He thanked Carla Everett for the newspaper articles on the outbreak. He informed Dr. Hillman that he and Dr. Coats had scheduled him for the Poultry Convention on July 25 at the Hyatt in San Antonio. He stated that Carla did an outstanding job in putting some educational pieces together to get back to the industry's growers. He gave a special thanks to Bill Powers and Gene Snelson regarding the proposed legislation to follow the low path Federal AI Indemnification Program. It

passed the House and it is now in the Senate. There will be a hearing on it next week. Mr. Grimm stated that if we can get this program in place and we can comply with the minimum requirement, we will be able to receive Federal indemnification instead of using state's and industry's money. Mr Grimm asked that he be invited for educational purposes to one of the next planning session meetings.

**ITEM 5 - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT, MODIFY OR RESCIND THE QUARANTINE ISSUED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO PROHIBIT MOVEMENT OF ALL FOWL FROM EL PASO COUNTY AS BEING EXPOSED TO EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE - MR. GENE SNELSON**

Gene Snelson presented the order to the Commissioners to quarantine fowl in El Paso County.

Jerry Windham moved and Ron Davenport seconded to adopt the quarantine because the Commission has determined that the action is necessary to protect the animal health of this state. The motion carried unanimously.

**ITEM 6 - PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF ANIMAL HEALTH PROGRAM UPDATE - DR. MAX COATS**

Dr. Coats presented program information related to total indemnity, Bovine Brucellosis, Ticks, Bovine tuberculosis, EIA, Swine Brucellosis, Swine pseudorabies, Swine first point testing, Sheep, Chronic Wasting Disease, Poultry, and Japanese cattle.

**ITEM 7 - ADMINISTRATION/BUDGET STATUS REPORT - MR. BRUCE HAMMOND**

Bruce discussed the Method of Financing for Fiscal Year 2003 as of April 30, 2003; the Budget Category Summary for FY 2003 as of April 30, 2003; and the Department Summary for FY 2003 as of April 30, 2003.

He commended Angela Lucas, Patti Kuhles, and Felix Volk for their work on travel, payroll, and purchase transactions for the Post Payment Audit.

**ITEM 8 - CONTRACTS AND PURCHASES - March 1, 2003 through May 30, 2003 - MR. FELIX VOLK**

**Greater than \$5,000 but less than \$10,000**

- One mail machine for Staff Services
- Photocopier rental renewal for Financial Services
- Photocopier rental renewal for Program Records
- SYBASE SQL Server Support Fees Renewal for Information Resources

**\$10,000 or greater - (Request for Approval)**

- Internal Auditor Services Renewal
- Risk Management Services Renewal
- TEXAN Services: Toll, Dedicated Date, Internet/Video/Dial-up and Administrative Service Fee Renewal
- 186 PCFIA kits

Dr. Romulo Rangel moved and Jill Wood seconded to approve the Contracts and Purchases request from March 1, 2003, through May 30, 2003. The motion carried unanimously.

**ITEM 9- DESIGNATION OF AN AGENCY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS AND CHAIR - CHAIRMAN RICHARD TRAYLOR**

Chairman Traylor appointed himself as Chair of the Oversight Committee and appointed Reta Dyess, Jerry Windham and Dr. Dick Sherron as members. Their responsibilities will include developing an organizational chart for the Commission, determining how to set up a fee structure, and working with the Human Resources Subcommittee. Both the Oversight Committee and the Human Resources Subcommittee will meet within 30-60 days after the close of the session.

Ron Davenport moved and Dr. William Edmiston seconded to approve the establishment of a new Oversight Committee with Richard Traylor as Chair and Reta Dyess, Jerry Windham and Dr. Dick Sherron as members. The motion carried unanimously.

**ITEM 10 - PRESENTATION OF AWARDS - CHAIRMAN RICHARD TRAYLOR**

Dr. Bob Hillman presented Carla Everett with her 15 year service award and Bruce Hammond presented Angela Lucas with her five year service award.

**ITEM 11 - TUBERCULOSIS REPORT - TEXAS - DR. DAN BACA**

Dr. Baca talked about Mexican-Origin Feeder Cattle, cattle TB lesions detected at slaughter in Texas, import regulations on Mexican steers and spayed heifers only from parts of Sonora, import regulations for feeder cattle coming from Colima, Durango, Sinaloa, Tamaulipas, Yucatan and portions of Aguascalientes, Baja California Norte, Campeche, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Jalisco, Sonora and Veracruz, import regulations for a whole herd test plus animal test for feeders from Jalisco and Nuevo Leon, the USDA meeting held with El Paso dairy owners regarding completing the dairy buyout contracts, the TB traceback on a dairy cow from Arizona to Muleshoe, Texas and then to Portales, New Mexico, cattle TB infected herds from 2001-2003, and Dr. Terry Beals replacing Dr. John Clifford as the new USDA National Tuberculosis Coordinator.

**ITEM 12 - LEGISLATIVE REPORT - MR. BILL POWERS**

Bill Powers discussed HB 2 relating to the reorganization of, efficiency in, and other reform measures applying to state government; HB 9 relating to homeland security; HB 151 relating to offenses involving dogs that are a danger to livestock and other animals; HB 240 relating to punishment for criminal mischief committed by intentionally introducing infectious diseases into livestock; HB 641 relating to state agricultural policy regarding bison; HB 1324 relating to the sale and slaughter of equine animals; HB 1836 relating to the definition of livestock; HB 2328 relating to the registration of persons engaged in certain fowl operations; HB 2372 relating to livestock branding and identification; HB 3442 relating to statutory authority to reduce appropriations made by the legislature to certain governmental entities; SB 216 relating to the disposal by a veterinarian of animal remains and associated medical waste; SB 271 relating to the regulation of riding stables; SB 287 relating to changing the composition of certain state agency governing bodies; and SB 786 relating to establishing task forces in certain border communities to study impediments to trade in the border region.

**ITEM 13 - RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC COMMENT - CHAIRMAN**

Public comment was given in Item 4.

**ITEM 14 - SET DATE FOR THE 347TH MEETING - CHAIRMAN**

The next meeting will be on July 29, 2003, at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEM 15 - ADJOURNMENT**

ADJOURNED at 11:49 a.m.

APPROVED BY CHAIRMAN TRAYLOR

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Richard C. Traylor, Chairman

The proceedings of the open meeting are on cassette tape and are on record at the office of the Texas Animal Health Commission at 2105 Kramer Lane, Austin, Texas.

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