

Minutes of the Milk Sanitation Board
April 4, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Roger Tedrick in the Bromfield Building at the Ohio Department of Agriculture Campus. The following members were in attendance:

Mr. Rocky Volpp	Mr. Jim Stockert
Mr. Doug Longenette	Mr. Chuck Ellis
Mr. Amos Miller	Mr. Tim Shipley
Mr. Jamie Higley (Gene Phillips)	Mr. Lewis Jones (Chad Hollon)

Mr. Tedrick outlined that Mr. Higley could vote for Mr. Phillips as he is appointed by the Director of Health as an ex officio. Conversely, Mr. Jones will not have a vote in Mr. Hollon's absence.

Also present were the following:

Sandy Kuhn of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, Scott Higgins representing the Ohio Dairy Producer Association, Ron Geiser of Dairy Farmers of America, and Jim Patterson representing Attorney General's office. Individuals representing ODA included Dr. Sereana Howard Dresback, Brian Wise, Dave Mengel, Julie Phillips, and Reana Jackson.

Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting

It was brought to the attention of the Board that The Ohio State University Wexner Center was spelled wrong and that correction would be made. Mr. Ellis moved to accept the Minutes as amended. Mr. Shipley seconded, Minutes of the December 2012 MSB Meeting were passed by voice vote.

Dairy Division Update

Mr. Tedrick introduced the newest member of the Dairy Team, Angela (Angie) Smith. She has numerous responsibilities including word processing, data entry and keeping farm and plant files organized.

Mr. Tedrick introduced Doug Longenette of United Dairy as the most recent addition to the Milk Sanitation Board replacing Bill Riley of Reiter Dairy.

Dairy Budget Update

Mr. Tedrick passed out a spreadsheet outlining a month to month budget analysis updated as of March 31, 2013. Mr. Tedrick pointed out that although the savings total through the end of March shows \$3,667.00, in reality it is more like \$73,000. This is due to HR attaching a third payroll period into March instead of April. Secondly, the industry fund (4r20) stands at \$218,786 on April 3, 2013. This fund fluctuates based on invoices and percentage pulled from general revenues or the industry fund. In addition, Mr. Tedrick mentioned that Brian Wise created a database to streamline our industry invoicing system. We have used that since the beginning of the year.

Mr. Tedrick mentioned the Division has ordered 3 vehicles and expect delivery within the next few months. Vehicles had not been ordered for a number of years and the fleet is getting older with 5 or 6 over 100,000 miles. Mr. Jones asked if vans were still the choice. Mr. Tedrick explained that each year the available makes and models change. This year the most prudent choice was the Jeep Patriot, a small SUV.

The discussion turned to laboratory costs. A couple items of note were outlined by Mr. Tedrick. One was the issue of the existing MOU between the Consumer Protection Lab and the Dairy Division. Presently \$16,000/month is paid to the CPL for finished product testing and LEO services. The lab met with us recently and outlined plans to up the individual test costs to bring in line with the labs actual expense of running the specific tests. Therefore the monthly \$16,000 will not go as far because of the increase in individual tests. So, the Dairy Division is looking for ways to make up the difference. One way the Dairy Division will save dollars is based on a new sampling document, M-a-98, that outlines a number of tests that can be eliminated. Examples being, phosphatase for assorted cultured products and drug residues for flavored milks other than chocolate. This reduced testing will amount to \$12,000 to \$13,000 savings per year.

Mr. Tedrick also indicated that the Division is looking at vitamin testing, which needs to be tested once per year, being paid for by the processor. This effort will save the Division ~\$10,000/yr.

ODA Update

Dr. Dresbach brought the board up to date on Ag Week activities, as those events are important part of telling the story of agriculture. Dr. Dresbach also mentioned the dangerous wild animal effort which includes the finishing of the new building. This program ended up at Agriculture because we do regulatory programs well and have the veterinary infrastructure to handle that aspect.

Addressing the ODA budget, Dr. Dresbach informed the Board that this is the time of year where the legislature is putting together the budget. Agriculture is looking good at the present time.

The Mid-Atlantic Dairy Leadership Team recently met at the NASDA meeting which was attended by Director Daniels and it was made clear that Ohio was supportive but was not going to join in a formal manner.

Dr. Dresbach also informed the Board of the Governor's initiative relative to human trafficking. The thought is to train our field inspectors in the field of the nuances of human trafficking. This is about the State of Ohio recognizing this important issue and knowing that it is just not an urban but is a rural concern.

The next topic dealt with a more formalized approach to intern opportunities at the Department of Agriculture. Dr. Dresbach pointed out that we all will retire someday and good young talent that knows agriculture will be needed. In addition to that most of these students need an internship opportunity as part of their agricultural major. Dr. Dresbach outlined that the internships will run from May 20 to August 9th. They will be required to work 30 hours per week, which will include office work, some field visits and completing a measurable project and report. ODA will not pay them but there is some funding for a direct payment to the school for some tuition.

Commercial Dog Breeder legislation has also been passed and ODA is gearing up for that oversight. Dr. Dresbach pointed out that a number of dairy farmers supplement their income with commercial dog breeding. Regulations will provide guidance on the minimum level of standards expected out of that particular industry.

72 Hour Rule

Mr. Tedrick asked the question as to what is the time limit milk could reside on the farm before the tank must be emptied, cleaned and sanitized? After a short discussion, Mr. Tedrick told the group that although the Dairy Division has marked this for years on routine inspections and surveys, the PMO speaks in terms of 72 hours only as it relates to partial pickups. Therefore, the Dairy Division has embarked on creating state rule setting the limit at 72 hours between pickups. Mr. Wise then discussed where that would appear in our Grade A rules and the wording we are proposing.

Mr. Geiser asked about the type of enforcement relative to this 72 hour rule? Mr. Wise responded saying that he envisions no changes. It is a cleaning and sanitizing violations with allowances for emergency situations. Mr. Geiser asked if the hauler would be debited. Mr. Wise said the producer licensee would be debited and would have to insist the hauler pick up in a timely manner.

Mr. Wise explained that this would be a state rule not a PMO provision. That is FDA check ratings and State Survey would not debit. Only the State inspectors would enforce this rule.

In addition, Mr. Tedrick discussed the need of a 96 hour rule on the Manufacture Grade side of milk pickup. Mr. Wise explained the fact that there is no limit on the manufacture side other than a cooling rule that states a morning milking does not have to meet a temperature standard if delivered to the plant within 2 hours.

Mr. Ellis asked if can milk would be referred to in the proposed 96 hour rule. Mr. Wise read what the Department is proposing. ("Farm cans and farm milk tanks must be cleaned and sanitized when emptied and must be emptied every 96 hours")

Mr. Ellis asked if these rules would be communicated to the industry and be brought up for vote by the MSB. Mr. Tedrick explained the timing of rule- making and the need to close the barn door relative to the Grade A 72 hour rule.

Mr. Tedrick proposed to address the Grade A 72 hour rule and separate it from the Manufacture Grade 96 hour rule. It was agree that would be appropriate. This topic was tabled so copies of the Grade A 72 hour rule could be made and presented to the Board.

NCIMS Conference

Mr. Tedrick talked about the NCIMS conference starting April 19th and running through the 24th. Mr. Tedrick had previously via e-mail, sent Proposals being addressed by Council I. This was simply to give the Board an overview and feel for what they look like and the procedures. One of the issues to be addressed will be lowering the somatic cell standard. Mr. Tedrick went over the 3 proposals that will be addressed. One in particular, National Milk Producer Federation's proposal will likely get the most attention. Mr. Tedrick asked for comments.

Mr. Ellis said that industry efforts to lower somatic cell counts, does not affect everyone but there are byproducts of the cheese industry that are affected. Mr. Ellis expressed his concern of a Grade A producer who is producing milk at a 500,000 level, where it meets the Grade A standard but he is not able to market his products because it is above the 400,000 level. Mr. Ellis would like the standard to be more uniform across grades of milk.

Mr. Miller was asked if he thought Manufacture Grade can shippers could accomplish this lowering of SCC. Mr. Miller thought that they could but they do have a disadvantage because one cow can negatively impact SCC of a small herd.

Mr. Ellis voiced his opinion that depending on NCIMS actions the Manufacture Grade Subcommittee could be called upon to address the proposed 96 hour pick rule and lowering the Manufacture Grade somatic cell standard.

Ms. Kuhn addressed the Board telling them that the Advisory Board of the Ohio Farm Bureau is in favor of lowering the somatic cell count.

Mr. Geiser mentioned that of the 6 surrounding states most are in favor of moving the somatic cell standard to 400,000.

Mr. Stockert asked if it would be helpful for the Milk Sanitation Board to vote supporting the lowering of the somatic cell standard.

Mr. Tedrick answered that it would not hurt and would personally be appreciated.

Mr. Ellis moved to encourage Ohio's voting delegate to vote for lowering the somatic cell standard to 400,000 as outlined in proposal 101 to the National Conference of Interstate Milk Shipments. Mr. Stockert seconded the motion. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Wise went over a number of proposals that will be addressed at the NCIMS Conference. Included in that discussion were issues of drug storage, robotic milkers, lab forms and hand drying devices.

AIB Label Training

Mr. Tedrick informed the Board of the label training taking place at the Department. Mr. Wise, Mr. Mengel and Mr. Tedrick were involved the first two days and received a new appreciation for what goes into labeling food products.

Dr. Dresbach mentioned that there are many FDA personnel attending from all across the country and our counterparts from other states.

Mr. Ellis asked if there were changes to labeling rules. Dr. Dresbach answered that previous training was piece meal but this was more about comprehensive training not about any changes in particular.

72 Hour Rule (Cont.)

Mr. Wise handed out the legal language relative to the proposed 72 hour pickup rule. Mr. Tedrick asked for support for adding this language to our Grade A rules.

Mr. Ellis moved to move forward with Grade A rule proposing a 72 hour limit on storage of milk on the farm. Mr. Volpp seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

Survey and Farm Section Report

Mr. Tedrick pointed out that Jon Johns compiles numbers after a year of surveys and 2012 review would be useful at this juncture. Mr. Wise presented power point consisting of BTU's, plants and single service survey passing rates and common violations from the State's Survey Officer's, Jon Johns and Robert McCarty.

Mr. Wise went on to give farm numbers by Grade A and Manufacture Grade. MR. Wise pointed out that there was a slight increase in numbers due to seasonal producers coming back on-line this spring. Year to year producer numbers are down but milk production is up.

It was also noted that the State has 10 robotic farms licensed and several more on the drawing board. Mr. Wise went on to say the Division is operating with 8 farm sanitarians as Bob Pendlebury officially retired as of December 31, 2012.

Public Comment

Mr. Tedrick asked for public comment at this time. Hearing none, meeting reconvened.

Plant Section Update

Mr. Mengel told the Board that we are up to 120 licensed processors. Phone calls come in weekly about starting small or on-farm operations, whether they are goat, sheep or cow. Mr. Mengel informed the Board about the on-farm cheese making course that was held here at the Department. It was a single day course that was sponsored by American Dairy Association Mideast and we had over 80 people from 5 states. All of the comments from the participants were positive. The only negative was that it was too much material for one day.

The next meeting of the Milk Sanitation Board will be August 1, 2013 at the State Fairgrounds.

Mr. Shipley moved to adjourn, Mr. Longenette seconded and passed by voice vote.