

## Meeting Minutes: Quarterly Board Meeting

Date: February 28, 2018  
Location: Minnesota Zoo Education Event Center

### Attendance

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#### Board Members

Dean Compart, Chair  
Matt Anderson  
Graham Brayshaw  
Peter Ripka

#### Consultants to the Board

Jerry Torrison, University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory  
Stephan Schaeftbauer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Veterinary Services  
Mary Donahue, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Veterinary Services  
Joni Scheftel, Minnesota Department of Health

#### Guests

Michelle Carstensen, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Jenna Davis, Minnesota Milk  
Sarah Delacueva, Office of the Legislative Auditor  
Saad Gharaibeh, University of Minnesota, Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory  
Stephanie Johnson, Minnesota Department of Health  
Michelle Medina, Minnesota Farmers Union  
Ann Olson, Animal Folks  
Steve Olson, Minnesota Turkey Growers Association  
Pete Klaphake, Poultry Producer  
Mike Starkey, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

#### Staff

Beth Thompson  
Linda Glaser  
Dale Lauer  
Stacey Schwabenlander  
Greg Suskovic  
Shauna Voss  
Courtney Wheeler  
Morgan Grelson  
Michael Crusan  
Erin Crider

## Call Meeting to Order/Approval of Minutes and Agenda

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Dean Compart called the meeting to order and asked for corrections or a motion to approve the December 13, 2017 minutes. Graham Brayshaw made a motion, and Matt Anderson seconded. A vote took place, with all voting aye, and the motion carried. Mr. Compart asked for a motion to approve today's agenda. Peter Ripka made the motion; Graham Brayshaw seconded, with all voting aye.

## Board of Animal Health Update

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Beth Thompson offered an update on activities at the Board of Animal Health. The legislative session is in progress and will run through May 21. The Legislature is dealing with a number of issues, including the federal tax plan; the recent promotion of Lt. Gov. Tina Smith (currently serving out former Sen. Al Franken's term); the Minnesota Licensing and Registration System (MNLARS) project; Real ID for Minnesotans; elder care in nursing homes and assisted living facilities; and school safety. Currently, the Board is not involved in any large legislative proposals, though there may be some proposed legislation for cervids.

Dr. Thompson stated the Board has one vacant seat, as Paul Hanowski finished his second term with the Board at the end of 2017. She said the Board is seeking a candidate with poultry industry experience. One candidate applied for the position before the deadline, and the Governor has not appointed anyone at this time. Dr. Thompson hopes the Board will be back to five members by the next meeting.

There is no financial update for this meeting, as the federal budget is not settled yet. We're moving into the second year of the current biennium, and the state budget update is due to be released late this morning. The Board's cooperative agreement work plans are being sent to the USDA today. Federal funds make up about seven percent of the Board's budget. Dr. Thompson said there will be a budget update at the next meeting. The Board still has emergency preparedness money available to use through the end of the next fiscal year. Some will be used for a functional emergency preparedness exercise in May.

Senator Tina Smith is having a listening session with commodity groups this Saturday at the Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory (MPTL). This is an opportunity for these groups to raise issues, make suggestions and ask questions related to the Farm Bill. Dr. Thompson asked board members to talk with her if they have any issues they would like her to bring to Sen. Smith.

Dr. Thompson introduced Sarah Delacueva, Office of the Legislative Auditor (OLA), who gave an update on the legislative audit of the Farmed Cervidae Program.

- Ms. Delacueva's report currently is under review at the OLA.
- After their review is complete, Dr. Thompson and Dr. Glaser will review the report, and Ms. Delacueva asked that two Board members review it as well.
- After a two-week review period, Ms. Delacueva will meet with the Board to give them the opportunity to comment and correct any factual errors.
- Ms. Delacueva will provide a revised, final draft to the Board, who will write a response letter to include in the back of the report.
- After the report is printed, the OLA will release it at a public legislative hearing, often to the Legislative Audit Commission. The Board is welcome to attend the hearing and publicly respond to the report and answer questions from legislators.

Ms. Delacueva thanked Board members and staff for their cooperativeness throughout the auditing process.

## Advisory Task Force for Commercial Dog and Cat Breeder of Excellence Program

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Courtney Wheeler brought a request to develop an advisory task force for the Commercial Dog and Cat Breeder Excellence Program, which aims to inform consumers of breeders who are exceeding the minimum standards. The work of the task force would include examining the standards in statute and developing a set of criteria to define a “Breeder of Excellence.” The task force would be limited to 15 members, who were located through calls for volunteers in the Breeder Reader (the Board’s quarterly email for commercial breeders), and through emails and mailings sent to veterinarians known to work with commercial breeders. Dr. Thompson asked how soon the task force would begin meeting. Dr. Wheeler stated, pending approval, they planned to meet as early as March 12.

Dean Compart asked for a motion to approve the formation of the Commercial Dog and Cat Breeder Excellence Program Advisory Task Force. Peter Ripka made the motion, Graham Brayshaw seconded it, with all voting aye.

## Report on Research for Avian Influenza Sampling Method

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Carol Cardona provided an update on research regarding sampling for avian influenza (AI). Dr. Cardona stated that she had come to the Board in 2013 to ask to do research using samples collected from drinkers, and the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association (MTGA) funded the research. She said the research focuses on disease detection based on test sensitivity, sample size and clinical appearance of the disease. Early in an outbreak, the individual birds displaying any clinical signs will be small, but finding the infection early and taking quick action can prevent the spread of the disease. The goal of this research was to find a sampling strategy that could improve the subclinical detection of AI when disease prevalence is low.

Dr. Cardona explained the methods for collecting samples. A turkey veterinarian took comprehensive environmental samples in a barn where low-pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) was found. The highest concentration of virus was found in the water and on the water biofilm in drinkers. Research then became focused on water and biofilm samples, which are collected by firmly swabbing the inside lip of a drinker with both sides of a gauze pad. They collected samples from eight different drinkers in the barn. Biofilm samples consistently had a higher concentration of virus than the water samples, and samples were always all positive or all negative. There were never mixed results in a round of samples. Then they tried collecting the same number of samples from four drinkers, with the same results.

In June 2014, researchers performed a study at a facility where a serology positive LPAI case was found in House 1. Producers collected both biofilm samples and oropharyngeal (OP) swabs: they took biofilm samples in all eight houses and OP swabs from four houses, due to the time the OP swabs take. Samples and swabs were collected regularly over the course of a month.

- The biofilm samples detected virus correlating with the OP swab results.
- OP samples stayed positive for 1-7 days, while the biofilm samples detected virus for two weeks or more, depending on the virus.

Biofilm samples show that the flock was or is infected; it does not detect if the infection is active. To determine this, producers need to empty the drinkers, thoroughly clean them, let the birds drink for 30 minutes, and then resample. If the new samples come back negative, then the birds are not shedding the virus.

Research was also done at a facility exposed to HPAI during the 2015 outbreak. The flock was not infected but had been exposed and quarantined. Biofilm and OP samples were collected over the days post-exposure. The biofilm samples became positive on Day 2; OP samples were positive on Day 3.

Dr. Cardona stated that the size of the sample pool causes a difference in sensitivity between the two samples. In order to detect virus in a flock based on OP swabs from 30 birds, there need to be about 1,000 infected birds per 10,000, or a 10-percent prevalence. When using biofilm sampling, the producer needs to watch 50 birds for 30 minutes, with four drinkers per pool, and take 2 samples per barn. When this method is followed, infection is detectable if there are 50 infected birds in a flock of 10,000, or 0.5 percent prevalence (assuming each drinker is independent). Biofilm sampling has been widely used in Minnesota and beyond to detect not only LPAI and HPAI, but also, H1N1, Newcastle disease, avian metapneumovirus (AMPV), and mycoplasma. It can allow for detection 1-2 days sooner than detection by OP swabs. Dr. Lauer concurred that this sampling strategy has been very helpful in getting a “jump” on the infection. It allows people other than veterinarians the ability to do the sampling, and it gives producers more time to stop disease spread and prepare for a depopulation, if necessary.

Dr. Cardona said the good thing about this test is how quick and easy it is for producers to do; it takes about 15 minutes per barn. The bad thing about it is, with reportable sample types, there needs to be follow-up testing. Biofilm samples are not an indicator of active infection. They do not replace OP swabs; it’s just another method of sampling. In an outbreak situation, producers in a control area would do OP sampling. However, in 2015, when HPAI cases were coming up outside of control areas, vets were able to use biofilm sampling to look for HPAI across the state while the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) dealt with the OP samples from inside the control areas.

Dr. Glaser asked what the process is if a biofilm sample is a notifiable positive. Dr. Cardona said this would need to be reported to the MPTL for follow up. Dr. Lauer said that they will collect OP samples, as they are required to clear the flock of infection or to qualify for indemnity. Biofilm samples definitely detect inactive virus, so follow up with PCR testing is required.

Dr. Thompson asked if, as a result of this research, the Board and the University should be doing something to make biofilm testing a recommended strategy for disease detection. Jerry Torrison stated that the University of Minnesota has had some producer requests to do environmental sampling. Having evaluated the costs, they intend to apply for a deviation from the National Animal Health Laboratory Network for \$12,000 for sampling. The validation process for this will take about three months. Dr. Cardona asked if producing a publication on this research would speed the process. Dr. Torrison said that would be helpful; it would shorten the validation to about two months. He also encouraged continued discussions on the latest, most sensitive sampling strategies as they come forward.

## Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory Update

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Dr. Lauer provided an update on Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory (MPTL) activities. He began with an overview of the MPTL budget, which is divided into regulatory testing and industry/flock health testing. Regulatory testing is funded by federal cooperative agreements (Avian Influenza (AI) surveillance, education and preparedness planning) and the Board’s general fund (hatchery and breeder flock programs, including mycoplasma and salmonella testing). Industry and flock health testing (serologic testing, molecular diagnostics, necropsy, disease prevention, and vaccination program evaluation) is paid by poultry producers who use these results to monitor flock health and evaluate vaccination programs. Dr. Lauer stated the MPTL continues to work with all funding sources to make sure they have resources in place for necessary testing.

The Board is working with Minnesota’s poultry industry to update the Minnesota Initial State Response and Containment Plan (ISRCP), which is an official document outlining a state’s H5/H7 Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) response. The USDA has to approve the ISRCP for Minnesota producers to receive indemnity and compensation. The ISRCP also requires that Minnesota have an Emergency Disease Management Committee. This committee last met on January 5. Meeting highlights included discussion of the USDA Flat Rate Virus Elimination proposal, proposed changes to

H5/H7 LPAI indemnity, new USDA guidelines for ensuring ISRCP uniformity between states, and the establishment of EDMC working groups.

Dr. Lauer gave an update on the NPIP Biosecurity Audits. As of this meeting, the Board has sent out 43 audit requests and approved 17 audits as satisfactory and complete. He and Dr. Voss have trained eight field staff to assist with the audits. The Board is working with Wisconsin and Nebraska NPIP Official State Agencies (OSA) to have Minnesota's poultry companies whose home base is Minnesota, have their Minnesota audit cover their premises in Wisconsin and Nebraska.

Dr. Thompson asked about the forecast for AI this year. Dr. Lauer stated that biosecurity measures are working in Minnesota's poultry industry. Even though the audits are only on paper, they are raising awareness of biosecurity. Because of this, even if HPAI is found in the state, we will not see an outbreak like we had in 2015. Dr. Cardona added that she feels there will not be an HPAI outbreak this year. In addition to increased biosecurity awareness, there has not been any Eurasian avian origin virus in domestic poultry in Minnesota since 2015. Producers need to continue with an adequate level of biosecurity and disease surveillance.

Dr. Voss updated the Board on the mycoplasma policy request change discussed at the December meeting. The MPTL has communicated with all outstate backyard producers and hatcheries, and they understand at this point we will not be enforcing the mycoplasma requirement for backyard turkeys. This month, she met with John McCullough of the Office of the Revisor of Statutes to keep the request moving forward.

## **Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory Update**

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Jerry Torrison offered an update on the University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL). He stated the VDL's American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) accreditation is scheduled for April 29 through May 3. In preparation for the auditors' visit, the VDL is making biosecurity modifications to their necropsy entry, as well as resurfacing the necropsy floor. The auditors will also go out to the MPTL. The VDL will find out their accreditation status in late summer/early fall.

The VDL will fully participate in the upcoming multistate FMD exercise. The VDL has 19 PCR technicians who have current proficiency testing for AI, the MPTL has seven, and the National Guard has two. There are 14 technicians proficiency tested for FMD, with five more going through proficiency testing in May. The exercise will be a good test to see what the laboratories can handle.

Dr. Torrison stated that the VDL has been working to balance their budget in various ways, including increasing testing capabilities while removing tests that are used infrequently; increasing prices on testing; and staff reductions through attrition and combining of positions. The VDL is working with commodity groups to increase their funding and is asking for direct state support this legislative session. Their federal funding from the USDA NAHLN remains uncertain until the federal budget is approved.

## **College of Veterinary Medicine Update**

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Dr. Torrison gave an update on the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) activities. He brought printed materials created to boost communication with producers and to thank legislators for helping fund facilities and new staff positions at the University.

Dr. Thompson stated she is writing a letter from the Board of Animal Health, in support of fully funding the NAHLN. She will read it to all state animal health officials next week. These officials have jointly supported legislation before and

could do so again. Dr. Torrison thanked her for her efforts and noted that there is a formal movement to fully fund NAHLN in this year's Farm Bill. He and Dean Trevor Ames have written letters to Minnesota's legislators, and those letters will be handouts at Saturday's meeting with Senator Smith at the MPTL.

## Multistate Foot and Mouth Disease Exercise

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Mike Starkey provided an overview of the multistate Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) exercise, to be held May 7 through 10. This exercise will help prepare and exercise effective communication, policies and procedures, as well as identify needed resources and measurable ways to validate the FMD response plan. The exercise will be comprised of federal, state, and county agencies, as well as local industry personnel (producers, processors, transporters and markets).

Prior to the event, USDA APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) will be hosting 25 preparedness webinars to educate different participating groups. They also have a National Training and Exercise Program Workgroup to prepare and plan the event. Minnesota is playing a leading role in this exercise. The schedule is as follows:

- **May 7: Minnesota will participate in the "Soft Start."** State vet will get a report of sick animals, and Minnesota will go through the process of a possible FMD investigation, with positive sample results.
- **May 8: All-state exercise.** FMD confirmed in a state not bordering Minnesota. Minnesota will notify the industries, the Governor, counties, contractors and other state agencies. The state will also activate the Incident Management Team, establish the Incident Command Post, increase surveillance, and initiate the Secure Food Supply Program. Managed animal movement at state borders may be instituted based on the specific factors of the case (state, species and situation).
- **May 9: FMD confirmed in Minnesota.** The state will notify all the same parties as on May 8. Minnesota will perform all of the actions performed the previous day, but will also initiate depopulation and disposal, surveillance of livestock and wildlife, request VS IMT and National Veterinary Services (NVS) assets, and request a Governor's Declaration.
- **May 10: FMD is confirmed in multiple Midwestern states, including Minnesota.** The state will go through all the procedures as on the previous days, and will work on cleaning and disinfection, acquiring vaccine to treat herds, and initiate the Secure Food Supply Program.

Matt Anderson asked what the possible scenario would be for disposing of a 5,000-head dairy herd. Mr. Starkey said there will be pollution with any disposal option, but the state will have to examine them and choose the best one. Dr. Thompson asked what would happen on a sale day at an auction house with a Stop Movement order. Mr. Starkey stated that the state has the tools in place to manage this during an outbreak.

## Chronic Wasting Disease in Wild Deer

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Michelle Carstensen provided an update on the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) chronic wasting disease (CWD) surveillance efforts. Dr. Carstensen said in the U.S., the infection is increasing. Mississippi recently found their first case of CWD, and Iowa found a case in the Southwest area of the state, where it wasn't found previously.

Dr. Carstensen reviewed the DNR's initial response to detecting CWD in Fillmore County in 2016 and 2017. In 2016, they established a ban on importation of whole cervid carcasses into Minnesota from anywhere, as the source of the CWD infection remains unknown. In response to the detection of CWD on two cervid farms in 2016, the DNR instituted mandatory sample collection around these farms during the hunting opener. Throughout the hunting season and beyond, they also continued surveillance in Area 603, where CWD was first detected in 2016.

- **North Central** (around the Crow Wing County farm): The goal was to collect 3,600 samples; collected 7,927. They had 92 percent compliance; CWD was not detected.
- **Central** (around the Meeker County farm): The goal was to collect 1,800 samples; collected 2,622 samples. They had 92 percent compliance; no CWD was detected.
- **Southeast** (outside of Deer Permit Area 603, including around the Winona County CWD-positive farm): They aimed to collect 1,800 samples; 1,124 were collected. They had 68 percent compliance; no CWD detections.
- **Deer Permit Area 603:** They collected 1,183 samples, with 6 new CWD detections. Four were inside the core area where most of last year's cases were found. Two were shot in Forestville State Park. The cause of the spread to the latter area is not known.

Dr. Carstensen noted that taxidermists contributed 481 samples in all of the CWD surveillance zones. The total cost in the fall of 2017 was \$933,556, not including the late hunt, which ran from January 6 through 14 in Deer Permit Area 603. The late hunt brought in 274 samples with no CWD detected. The DNR also offered landowner shooting permits in Deer Permit Area 603, which granted unlimited take of animals. Sixty-eight permits were issued, but only 13 deer were sampled. No CWD was detected. There are no plans for USDA sharpshooting in this area this year.

Dr. Carstensen also gave an update on the DNR's planned 2018 Southeast Deer Movement Study. In March, they will capture and collar 90 deer fawns (male and female) and 25 adult male deer from an approximately 20 mile radius surrounding Deer Permit Area 603. They will track daily movements as long as the deer survive and will respond to any mortalities to categorize the cause of death. The goal is to estimate activity ranges, dispersal patterns and build movement models. The study will have regional collaboration with the Wisconsin, Iowa and Michigan DNRs, as well as the U.S. Geological Survey.

Next fall's surveillance plans include reducing the size of the surveillance zones surrounding CWD-positive farms in Crow Wing and Meeker Counties and intensifying testing around the Winona County CWD-positive farm and around Deer Permit Area 603. They have been directed to work on a new CWD Management Plan that acknowledges the disease is in Minnesota and will minimize the impact on surrounding areas. Dr. Carstensen noted they are working on building better relationships with the landowners around Area 603 to offer incentives that will increase compliance. The DNR is uncertain of funding for sampling and testing.

Mr. Compart asked how long a deer typically lives once they show clinical signs of CWD. Dr. Carstensen said Wisconsin DNR collared and studied animals who tested positive on rectal biopsy. Once clinical signs appeared, the deer usually died within six months.

Mr. Compart asked if other states are looking to find CWD. Dr. Carstensen stated Michigan does surveillance around positive farms, near their border states, as well as rotating routine surveillance in different areas of the state in different years. Many other states do this as well. Minnesota is fortunate, as the infection seems to be in the early stages. Wisconsin, Iowa and Mississippi have more infection, and each state has different authorities. For example, Iowa cannot institute a feeding ban; participation has to be voluntary. Linda Glaser noted that after Arkansas and Missouri had their first CWD detections, surveillance showed serious infection.

Dr. Thompson asked what the DNR does in relation to taxidermists. Dr. Carstensen said taxidermists have to have everything available for inspection by a conservation officer. They cannot have any deer brought in from other states. The DNR reminded taxidermists of this last year if such animals were found, but now the DNR will hold taxidermists accountable if they accept these animals. Dr. Thompson asked what the inspections entailed. Dr. Carstensen was unsure of the full details, but offered to locate the information and send it to Dr. Thompson.

## Farmed Cervidae Update

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Linda Glaser provided an update on Farmed Cervidae Program activities. First, she noted that the Board has published a CWD Sampling Guide, which provides photos and step-by-step instructions on how to collect, package and ship samples to the VDL. The Board is distributing the sampling guide to field staff to give to producers when they inspect farmed cervid operations.

Dr. Glaser gave an update of the current CWD-positive herds in Minnesota:

- **Crow Wing County:** The herd owner and Board staff are in the process of updating the herd plan. Last year, 61 animals were harvested, and CWD was not detected. The owner wants to update the herd plan with some additional considerations for hunting white-tailed deer in his preserve area. The Board is considering his request to move some animals into his operations for hunting in the preserve area of his property.
- **Winona County:** A fawn died on the farm during the second week of February; CWD was not detected in this animal. The herd owner accepted indemnity from the USDA, and the herd was depopulated on February 21. This producer had moved three deer from his herd to the City of Winona's Prairie Island Park in 2016. These three animals are considered CWD exposed, and the City accepted an offer of indemnity by USDA for these animals. The animals also were depopulated on February 21. Due to USDA indemnification, the NVSL received all samples, and results will be forthcoming.

A request for nominations for the Farmed Cervidae Advisory Task Force went out in the January issue of Animal Bytes. Participants were selected and sent notice on February 23. Veterinarian participants have not been confirmed yet. The Board sent the task force parameters, purpose statement and member responsibilities to the nominees. Dr. Glaser said she plans to finalize the member list in the next week or so, and she plans to hold the first meeting this spring.

Dr. Glaser gave an overview of how surrounding states are handling regulation and surveillance of cervid farms.

- **South Dakota** has 45 farmed cervid herds, and the state splits them into two categories: hobby farms and production. The state has not changed their approach since CWD appeared.
- **Wisconsin** first detected CWD in breeding herds, although they are now finding it on hunting preserves as well. The most recent CWD positive came up last fall on a Southwest Wisconsin breeding herd established in 2009. The state is now considering if food could be the source of infection. Wisconsin requires hunt preserves to test 50 percent of the animals they harvest for CWD. If a CWD positive is found in the preserve, then they must test all harvested animals for CWD going forward. (In Minnesota, 100 percent surveillance is required for all farmed cervid herds, regardless of the type of operation.)
- **Iowa** law states that if cervid producers are not moving animals off their farms, they do not have to ID the animals or register with the state's program for CWD surveillance.

## USDA Update

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Stephan Schaeffbauer gave an update on the USDA. The Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) National Program has required BSE testing since 1990. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-2015, states were required to collect 40,000 samples per year; in FY 2016-2017, the required number was 25,000 samples. FY18 is the first time the number of samples have been allocated to the states rather than the contractor. The AD of each state determines how to allocate sample numbers between the various contractors and/or vendors. Sample numbers are proportionately allocated to states to reflect the distribution of cattle (i.e., states with large cattle population will be assigned more samples).

Minnesota's sampling goal is 1,127 samples of which 63 percent will be from dairy cattle. Dr. Schaeffbauer explained the sampling is focused on quality over quantity. The USDA is educating contractors on eight key points to consider in determining which animals to sample, including World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) value, animal age, clinical signs of BSE, and reporting official identification. Dr. Schaeffbauer noted that only 34 percent of animals tested had official ID. Dr. Thompson asked if there is anything Minnesota could do to improve the percentage of officially identified cattle. Dr. Schaeffbauer said the percentage was based on national numbers; the USDA will have to examine the numbers in Minnesota.

Dr. Schaeffbauer gave an update on CWD in the U.S. Sixteen states have detected CWD in captive deer, twenty-three states have detected it in the wild, and twenty-five states have detected it in both populations. In FY18, eight new positive herds have been identified. The USDA prioritizes herds for indemnity by factors such as availability of funds, herd size (related to fund availability), herd status (CWD-positive herd versus CWD-exposed herd), and type of herd (breeding herd versus hunting preserve). In addition to the Winona County herd, an Ohio herd also received federal indemnity.

Dr. Schaeffbauer also gave a USDA hiring update. In FY17, they received funding for emergency preparedness, and they used those funds to hire two Veterinary Medical Officers (VMOs). However, the USDA now has a hiring hold in place, which will be met through retirements and attrition. The USDA has a large percentage of employees in the retirement age group, so they expect the wait to hire will not be long.

Dr. Schaeffbauer provided an overview of the new electronic VS 10-4 form, which modernizes the USDA process and improves customer service. The electronic form will allow for greater data integrity and includes a number of time-saving features. The electronic VS 10-4 will not replace the fillable PDF version.

Dr. Schaeffbauer mentioned that Robyn Corcoran, one of their newly-hired VMOs, was accepted to the USDA VMO Career Program (VMOCP), a one-year program for VMOs aimed at preparing them to serve in leadership positions.

## Next Meeting and Adjourn

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The next meeting of the Minnesota Board of Animal Health is scheduled for Thursday, April 12, 2018, at 9:30 a.m.

Dean Compart asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Matt Anderson made the motion, Peter Ripka seconded, with all present voting aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Thompson