

**MARYLAND HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD – HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
July 16, 2009**

**Meeting called to order at 12:14 PM.**

**Committee members present were:** Dr. Swanby (attending for Dr. Anderson), Dr. Amy Burk, Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, Karen Fulton, Dr. Marla Stevens, J. Michael Hopkins, Dr. John W. Lee, Jr., and Dr. Amy Polkes, Dr. Nathaniel A. White II, Erin Pittman.

**Also present were:** Rob Burk, Crystal Kimball, Virginia Pierce, Pegeen Morgan and Kelley Fitzgerald.

**Committee members unable to attend:** Dr. Doreen Hill, Dr. Kathleen Anderson, Dr. Siba Simal.

**1. Motion was made to accept the April Meeting Minutes of the MHIB.**

- **Moved: Mike Hopkins**
- **Second: Karen Fulton**
- **Motion passed**

**2. Racetrack Veterinarians update by Dr. Swanby.**

- No updates & no racing in MD currently.

**3. UMD-College of Ag. And Natural Resources update by Dr. Burk.**

- Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> in Montgomery County
- Parasite mngt, target mngt, reduce use of dewormers, looking to bring in a vet to discuss
- MD Horse Conference
- Looking for a keynote speaker
- Business, nutrition, farm mngt/pasture mngt talk

**4. MD Assoc. of Equine Practitioners update by Dr. Callahan**

- MDA's Centerville lab likely to close; petition circulating to keep it open
- Would now have to haul carcasses 2.5 hours for necropsy
- New Bolton changing payment structure; emergencies require \$1,500 deposit & \$3,500 deposit for colic; balance must be paid before horse can leave

**5. VA-MD RCVM, Maryland Campus update by Dr. Siba Simal**

- Not present

**6. MD Horse Council – Licensed Stable Operator update by Karen Fulton.**

- Discussion regarding the Maryland Horse Council's representation on the committee.

**7. MDA – Office of the State Veterinarian update by Dr. Marla Stevens.**

- Bred last known CEM trace-back on July 15
- Waiting on results for 3 stallions in MD
- Training for CEM; continuing education

**8. MD Racing Commission update by Mike Hopkins.**

- New study from S. Africa on lasix for horse; beneficial
- Bute issue – current permissible level of bute interferes with vet exam on race day (5-10 micrograms/mL permitted) 2grams 28 hours prior to post
- DE changed shoe rule again – increased length of toe grab from 2 to 4 mm.
- NY – harness racing, pay \$10 per start for testing & the lab wasn't doing the testing, just using the money to recoup funds
- DE – no steroid rule
- Magna – Rosecroft in bankruptcy; suing for \$20m;

**9. MHIB Licensed Veterinarians Representative update by Dr. John W. Lee, Jr.**

- New law that states that vet students are permitted to perform more procedures on their own with supervision.

**10. MHIB Representative update by Erin Pittman**

- 2010 Census – to begin in May 2010; follow-up to 2002 census.

**11. MVMA update by Dr. Amy Polkes.**

- Continuing education meeting; equine portion has low attendance; good speakers but expensive to attend.

**12. VA-MD RCVM, EMC update by Dr. Nathaniel A. White II.**

- Not present.

**13. MD Horse Forum, August 6, 2009 at The Showplace Area and PG Equestrian Center. Equine Euthanasia and Disposal by Dr. John W. Lee, Jr.**

- Discussion of topics that should be addressed at the Forum.
- Statement on need for continuous disease detection & surveillance (herpes, west nile) (lab closing)
- Develop comprehensive disposal plan
- How to determine (guidelines/standards) which horses are suitable for rescue (salvageable) – for rescues & vets
  - Age/useable years left; temperament;
- Vascular stomatitis (VS) discussion

**14. MDA update by Rob Burk.**

- Rob provided an update of current MDA activities, including an update on the budget of the MDA.

**15. CEM update by Dr. Marla Stevens.**

- Reviewed the current CEM investigation.

**16. Electronic EIA Reports, CVI Documents and Passports Update by Dr. Virginia Pierce and Dr. Stevens.**

- Can bring blood samples to MDA labs from MD & other states
- Global vet link
- Need to get an estimate of how many vets would want to do electronic coggins and how many per year
- \$400/year/lab + \$.50/coggins
- Is there a need for the state to pay Global Vet? When if that's what the client wants (electronic) they can submit it to Antech

**Motion: At this time, do not switch the labs over to Global Vet Link system until the time that it can be deemed to be economically feasible.**

**Moved: Mike Hopkins**

**Second: Dr. Swanby**

**Motion Passed**

**17. Review of the MHIB-HAC motions and results to date by Dr. Lee.**

- Motion 9 – AAEP guidelines are posted on the MDA website as of today

**Motion: Recommend that the MDA animal health section along w/ the MDA, publicize the fact that PCR testing is now available and giving guidelines for submission for practitioners.**

**Moved: Amy Burk**

**Second: Dr. Swanby**  
**Motion Passed**

**A motion was restated that the committee does not recommend that the Self-Certification program be put in place. The Committee further stated that until a detailed report was conducted by the MDA – Animal Health Section detailing the purpose of the program, what diseases of concern would be reduced as a result of said program, and whether said program would effectively reduce disease incidence the committee does not recommend instituting this program.**

**Moved: Dr. Callahan**  
**Second: Karen Fulton**  
**Motion Passed**

Meeting Adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kelley Fitzgerald