



Eric J. Holcomb, Governor
Bret D. Marsh, DVM, State Veterinarian

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Office of the State Veterinarian
Discovery Hall, Suite 100
1202 East 38th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46205-2898
Phone: 317/544-2400

Notice of Executive Session (IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(9))

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health will hold an executive session under IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9) to evaluate the job performance of the state veterinarian on **January 9, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.** at Discovery Hall - Suite 100, 1202 E. 38th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH **QUARTERLY MEETING**

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) will hold its quarterly meeting at **9:45 a.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2024** at the Board of Animal Health office on the Indiana State Fairgrounds at Discovery Hall, Suite 100, 1202 E. 38th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205. Electronic participation is available; see below for log-in details.

MEETING AGENDA

- Recognition of BOAH Employees for Years of Service
1. Approval of minutes of the previous quarterly meeting: October 3, 2023.
 2. Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL) Report
 - a. Strategic Plan update
 3. Animal Programs – Commercial Dog Breeder program overview
 4. Technical Services
 - a. Public Information report - Denise Derrer Spears
 - b. Chief of Staff report - Gary Haynes
 - c. General Assembly update – Sarah Simpson
 5. Animal Programs Division Report - Dr. Kyle Shipman
 - a. Avian Health – Dr. Mike Kopp, Dr. Maria Cooper
 - b. Swine Health – Dr. Kelli Werling
 6. Food Safety
 - a. Meat and Poultry Division – Dr. Kerri Suhr
 - b. Dairy Inspection Division – Patrick Hash
 7. Other Business:
 - a. State Veterinarian’s Report; Bret D. Marsh, D.V.M., Indiana State Veterinarian
 - b. Establish date for the April 2024 meeting. Proposed date: April 9, 2024

Electronic Meeting Access Via MS Teams Details

- Join on your computer, mobile app or room device: [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Meeting ID: 265 389 597 271 Passcode: qGQgsR
- Or call in (*audio only*) dial: **1 317-552-1674** Phone Conference ID: 473 350 179#

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Indiana State Board of Animal Health
Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2023

Quarterly Meeting

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) held its regular quarterly meeting on Tuesday, October 3, 2023. The meeting was held at the Board of Animal Health office at Discovery Hall, Suite 100, 1202 E 38th Street, Indianapolis. Board members participated by attending in-person and electronically via Microsoft Teams video and audio conference. The meeting was available to the public online via the Microsoft Teams video and audio conference.

Chairperson Dr. William Doig called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and conducted a roll call of the board members.

Members Participating: William Doig, DVM, Chairperson; attended in-person
Mr. David Hardin; attended electronically
Mr. Tim Rice; attended in-person
Dr. Darryl Ragland, attended in-person
Dimple Hall, DVM; attended in-person
Virgil Bremer, PhD, attended in-person
Tracey Gillespie, DVM attended in-person
Ashley Armstrong, DVM attended in-person
Mr. Kraig Bowers, attended in-person
Mr. Ty Harweger, attended in-person
Mr. Keith Beer, attended in-person

Members Absent: None

Vacant Position: None

BOAH Staff Participating:

Bret D. Marsh, DVM, State Veterinarian
Gary Haynes, Chief of Staff
Denise Derrer Spears, Public Information Director
Sarah Simpson, General Counsel
Kyle Shipman, DVM, Director, Animal Programs Division
Maria Cooper, DVM, Senior Director of Planning
Mike Kopp, DVM, Director, Avian and Poultry Health
Jennifer Strasser, DVM, District 1 Field Veterinarian, Director of Equine Programs,
Aquaculture Coordinator
Patrick Hash, BOAH, Director, Dairy Division
Dr. Kerri Suhr, DVM, Director, Meat and Poultry Division

Chairperson Dr. Bill Doig proceeded with the posted agenda. (Exhibit 1)

Recognition of BOAH Employee's Years of Service

State Veterinarian Dr. Bret Marsh recognized the following BOAH employees for years of service to the State of Indiana:

Remington Wolff, 5 years
Troy Casada, 5 years
Julio Rodriquez, 10 years
Kenneth Himebrook, 20 years
Bruce Lamb, DVM, 20 years

Dr. Marsh and Board Chairperson Doig welcomed and celebrated Tina Zaring for 45 years of service to the State of Indiana.

First Order of Business - Approval of Minutes

Dr. William Doig asked the Board to approve the minutes from the July 18, 2023 meeting. Dr. Darryl Ragland made a motion – MOTION – “I move to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2023 meeting.” Dr. Virgil Bremer seconded the motion. The Board approved the MOTION by a roll call VOTE of 9-0. Mr. David Hardin and Ty Harweger abstained. (Exhibit 2)

Second Order of Business – Public Hearing – Proposed Rule concerning equine health – LSA #23-340. (Exhibit 3)

BOAH General Counsel Sarah Simpson explained the proposed rule governing testing and documentation required to move equine into Indiana and notified the Board that no written comments on the proposed rule were submitted. There were no oral comments during the public hearing.

Chairperson Doig closed the public hearing.

Third Order of Business – Consideration for Final Adoption – Proposed rule concerning equine health – LSA #23-340.

Dr. Virgil Bremer made a motion – MOTION – “I move that the proposed final rules be approved” The motion was seconded by Mr. Kraig Bowers. The Board approved the MOTION by a roll call VOTE of 11-0. (Exhibit 3).

Fourth order of Business – Consideration for Final Adoption – Readoption of Expiring Rules – LSA Document #23-625 (Exhibit 4)

Sarah Simpson, BOAH Director of Legal Affairs, explained the readoption process and the proposed readoption rule.

Dr. Tracey Gillespie made a motion - “I move that the proposed rule readoption be approved.” The motion was seconded by Dr. Dimple Hall. The Board approved the MOTION by a roll call VOTE of 11-0.

Fifth Order of Business – Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL) report

Kenitra Hendrix, DVM, PhD, DACVM, Director, Purdue ADDL, presented an update on ADDL activity, including budget outcomes, a new grant from the National Animal Health Laboratory Network that will enable an increase in PCR testing capacity, recruiting personnel and progress in a strategic planning process that is expected to conclude by the end of 2023. (Exhibit 5)

Sixth Order of Business – Technical Services

a. Public Information Report (Exhibit 6)

Ms. Denise Derrer reported on agency public information activity and presented a demonstration of changes to the agency website that will direct the public to appropriate local agencies for reporting concerns about companion animal care.

b. Chief of Staff Report. (Exhibit 7)

Mr. Gary Haynes informed the Board that if Congress does not pass a budget and the federal government “shuts down” the impact to BOAH is expected to be minimal. Mr. Haynes discussed challenges with inadequate funding from the United States Department of Agriculture for the Indiana meat and poultry inspection program.

c. General Assembly update

Sarah Simpson discussed ongoing discussions concerning the sale of dogs at pet stores and laws governing dog breeders and other dog related enterprises.

Seventh Order of Business – Animal Programs

Animal Programs Division report – (Exhibit 8)

Dr. Kyle Shipman updated the Board on:

- Changes in Animal Programs Division staff and current recruiting efforts.
- A BOAH hosted meeting with stakeholders in the cull swine market channels to discuss planning for a high consequence animal disease event.
- Certified swine sampler training for industry and BOAH training.
- BOAH received cooperative agreement funds from USDA to provide farmed white-tailed deer owners an opportunity to obtain genetic testing and Genomically Estimated Breeding Values for their herd to inform breeding decisions that may lead to a captive herd that is more resistant to chronic wasting disease.

- BOAH exceeded USDA assigned sampling goals for scrapie testing in Indiana sheep and goats.
- BOAH's efforts to change from using a PDF electronic certificate of veterinary inspection (eCVI) that is no longer supported to a new application called Vet CVI.
- Complaints and investigations conducted during the quarter.

Equine Health report (Exhibit 8):

Dr. Jennifer Strasser updated the Board on BOAH equine health programs, including efforts to control Equine Infections Anemia, Equine Piroplasmiasis, Equine Herpesvirus Myeloencephalopathy, West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalopathy.

Avian Health report (Exhibit 8):

Dr. Mike Kopp updated the Board on:

- The recent outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in domestic and wild birds throughout the United States. Dr. Kopp reported that the event was officially closed in Indiana in September 2023, 577 days after it began in February 2022. Detections of the virus continue in wildlife across the United States, including wild bird populations and mammals. The virus was recently detected in live bird markets in New York and New Jersey which has led to some trace back testing in Indiana.
- Egg Drop Syndrome virus (EDSV) in poultry in Northeast Indiana and efforts to produce and procure enough vaccine to meet demand.
- Closure of the Tyson processing plant in Corydon and the impact on Indiana poultry producers.

Dr. Maria Cooper updated the Board on:

- Infectious Coryza detections in chickens in East Central Indiana and Ohio.
- A detection of Mycoplasma Gallisepticum (MG) in a turkey breeding flock in Boone County. This is the first case of MG in commercial turkeys in Indiana since 2000.

Swine Health report (Exhibit 8):

Dr. Bret Marsh updated the Board on the agency's progress implementing the swine health improvement plan (SHIP) in Indiana.

Eighth Order of Business – Food Safety

- a. Dr. Kerri Suhr reported on Meat and Poultry Inspection program activities, including staffing for the Meat and Poultry Division, the ongoing increase in activity at state inspected meat plants, and the number of new state-inspected plants that have recently started and more that are expected to start in 2023. (Exhibit 9)
- b. Patrick Hash reported on Dairy Division activity. (Exhibit 10). Mr. Hash discussed recent survey and check ratings by state and federal auditors and reported that for the first time in several years the overall number of grade A farm permits did not decrease during the quarter.

Ninth Order of Business – Other Business

a. State Veterinarian’s report, Dr. Bret Marsh (Exhibit 11)

Dr. Marsh thanked the Board members for attending regularly and volunteering their time to serve on the board. Dr. Marsh presented his Quarterly Report to the Board and discussed:

- New positions funded by the General Assembly in the biennial budget and BOAH’s efforts to recruit for the new positions that will support poultry health programs.
- The Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory’s initiative to create a strategic plan.
- Swine health programs and activities including the Swine Health Improvement Plan, traceability and exhibition recommendations.
- The Indiana Board of Veterinary Medicine’s draft proposed legislation for the 2024 legislative session.
- BOAH’s recently convened public meeting to discuss poultry health issues in the state.
- Dr. Marsh’s effort to begin a national discussion about standards for state animal health agencies and programs.

b. Date of Next Meeting

The Board set the date for the next regular meeting to be January 9, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Chairperson Dr. William Doig thanked State Veterinarian Dr. Bret Marsh and the BOAH staff for their work and adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

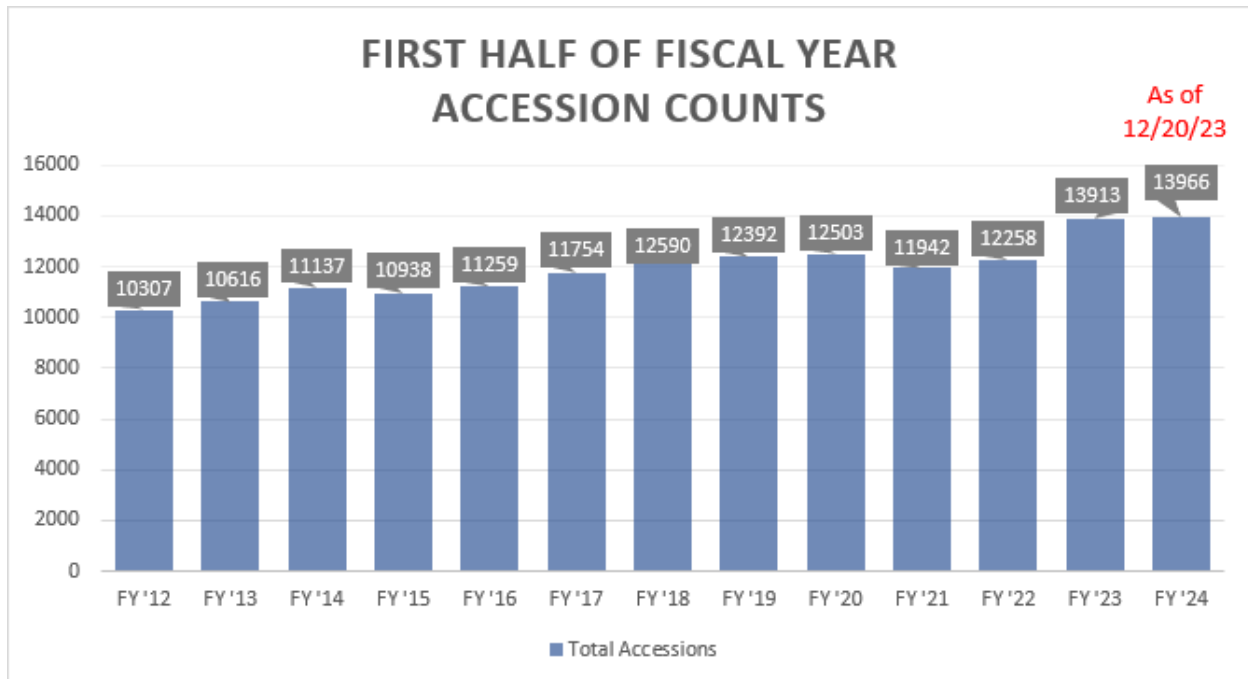
William Doig, D.V.M., Chairperson

Bret D. Marsh, D.V.M.
Indiana State Veterinarian
Secretary

Report for the Board of Animal Health Quarterly Meeting – January 2024

- Budget Summary (FY 2024 year to date compared to FY 2023)
 - Sales and Services: Up 23% from last year (\$277,347)
 - Salary, Wages and Fringe: Up 8.7% from last year (\$175,989)

- Case Load Increase



- Open searches:
 - Histopathology S2 (1) – taking applications
 - Client Service Veterinarians (2) – taking applications

- Dog Genetics Testing
- LIMS: RFP to launch January 2024
- Construction
- Strategic Plan



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Media/Public Information Office Report

14 December 2023 for 9 January 2024 Board Meeting

Denise Derrer Spears, Public Information Director

Public Information:

- Attended the National FFA Convention kickoff luncheon.
- Continued to represent BOAH within the Indiana Family of Farmers group, as well as the Indiana Environmental Health Association.
- Prepared content for partner newsletters, including: IVMA, IDEFA, ICAW, IBCA, IDP, ISA.
- Spoke at the annual Indiana Department of Health statewide new staff orientation about BOAH's program areas. This training is for new hires to local health departments across the state to learn about state resources.
- Hosted a booth at the Indiana Farm Bureau State Convention in Fort Wayne.

Animal Health & Care:

- Participated in the *Measures to Minimize Influenza Transmission* meeting to update the guidance document to prevent flu transmission between pigs and people at exhibitions.
- Assisted in updating and planning training resources for animal welfare professionals in lieu of the Animal Welfare Academy that was first held 2023.
- Issued a veterinary advisory, followed by a press release, about the canine respiratory disease complex that has been billed as the "mystery disease" in the popular press. Fielded nearly a dozen media inquiries.
- Coordinated and promoted a quarterly lunch-and-learn webinar about infection control measures for veterinary clinics.
- Hosted a booth at the Indiana Beef Congress.
- Hosted a booth at the Midwest Pork Conference.

Disaster Preparedness:

- Led crisis communication training course/mini-tabletop exercise for a joint staff meeting of the American Dairy Association of Indiana and United Dairy Industry of Michigan. The goals were to provide a refresher on communicating in a crisis, as well as demonstrate how industry can partner with the state/government to support response in an emergency.
- Continued work on an online version of *Animal Issues in Disaster*. We are in the editing stage.

Food Safety:

- Spoke to VM441 class at Purdue about BOAH's food safety and inspection programs.

Website & Social Media Fun Facts:

- BOAH website traffic in the last quarter was 38,517 page views that were made predominantly (66.9%) by new visitors.
- Most popular pages: [Animal-Related Laws](#), [Compliance Issues](#), and [Animal Care and Welfare](#).
- Since the new interactive map for reporting animal welfare was launched, we have had 2,433 page views.

Upcoming Events:

- Indiana Beef Cattle Association regional meetings
- Crossroads Veterinary Conference, Noblesville; Feb. 1-3, 2024

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Chief of Staff Report January 9, 2024

Quarterly Highlights

- **Finance:**
 - Closed out federal fiscal year 2023 meat and poultry projects. Federal funding was \$323,036 less than the federal share of expenses for the FFY2023 projects.
- **Cooperative Agreements:**
 - Implemented a new State of Indiana electronic grants management system (eCivis) for approval and tracking federal funding requests and awards.
 - Submitted initial work and financial plans for 2024 USDA cooperative agreements for animal disease traceability, sheep and goats (scrapie) and swine.
 - Received a Food and Drug Administration award for Dairy Division training during 2024.
- **Personnel:**
 - Continued to implement personnel changes resulting from legislative approval of the agency's biennial budget request. Hired a Veterinary Epidemiologist and Poultry Program Director. Recruiting continues for a Poultry Veterinarian.
 - Hired two meat inspectors. BOAH will hire two interns for Summer 2024.
- **Policy:**
 - Participated in BOAH's working group planning for potential BOAH and Board of Veterinary Medicine legislative proposals for 2024 General Assembly session and responding to other proposals affecting BOAH.
 - Continued work with the Board of Veterinary Medicine on policy questions and initiatives.
 - Participated in BOAH's working group to review fees, fines and penalties and determine steps needed to comply with new laws governing state agencies.
 - Participated in the BOAH's working group to assess PFAS issues and related agency policies. Attended "PFAS: Current Knowledge and Applications for Agricultural Production" conference at Michigan State University.
- **Technology**
 - Attended Certified Information Privacy Manger training for agency privacy officers.
 - Continued to monitor training for BOAH employees regarding technology security.
 - Implemented a new office phone system and copiers. Database server changes are planned. Began planning to purchase a replacement animal health database program.
 - Substantial progress in moving Meat and Poultry Division from federal computers to state computers and implement revised identity verification procedures.



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Animal Programs Division Board Report 4th Quarter, 2023

Quarterly Highlights

- The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) Annual Meeting was held in National Harbor, Maryland this quarter and was well attended by BOAH team members who had the opportunity to participate in discussions related to the nation's animal health endeavors over the past year.
- Several BOAH veterinarians participated as event judges for the National FFA Veterinary Science Career Development Event in November, thereby continuing partnership and outreach efforts with national FFA and the next generation's veterinary professionals.
- With the arrival of BOAH's new Poultry Health Specialist, Chelsie Leatherman, this quarter, the Animal Programs team has been working to transition many of the inspection, compliance, and administrative duties of the National Poultry Improvement Plan from the Indiana State Poultry Association to BOAH.
- BOAH submitted five veterinary shortage area nominations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program, administered by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Applications will open in February 2024 at which time qualifying veterinarians may apply.
- BOAH again participated in the Purdue College of Agriculture Career Fair this fall, recruiting full-time employees and student summer interns.

Programmatic Updates

Animal Care & Welfare

- BOAH received 81 animal welfare-related complaints or inquiries, leading to 43 animal care investigations and one animal fighting investigation this quarter. The complete Animal Programs Investigations Report is included at the end of this report.
- This quarter, BOAH launched an interactive map on its website providing animal control/law enforcement points-of-contact for each county. This has helped route animal care inquiries to the correct local authorities where BOAH may not have primary jurisdiction.
- The Animal Programs Division is re-envisioning the Animal Investigations Academy into an online resource offering, and work is underway to offer this training to animal control officers, law enforcement, and county prosecutors asynchronously rather than as an in-person course.
- Dr. Lovejoy is developing a presentation on veterinary clinic resources for suspected cases of animal maltreatment. This presentation will be delivered at the 2024 American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) conference in Austin, TX.

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Aquaculture

- Dr. Strasser participated in the annual fish health review with representatives from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Indiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory at Purdue University (ADDL) this quarter. No aquatic foreign animal diseases were diagnosed on Indiana farms this past year; however, bluegill picornavirus may be an emerging threat to bluegill in the state.

Avian

- H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) continues to be reported in wild birds in 49 states, excluding Hawaii. HPAI was once again diagnosed in commercial poultry on October 4, 2023, with the U.S. having gone over five months without a positive domestic commercial case. Similarly, a small flock was diagnosed on October 3, 2023, having gone over four months without a positive small flock case nationally.
- BOAH did not receive any reports of clinical signs nor laboratory diagnoses of egg drop syndrome (EDS) this quarter. The last two reported cases were in June 2023 which appeared to be from the earlier shortage of vaccine with reduced doses being given to the birds. Merck and Ceva Animal Health report that the vaccine currently being imported from abroad continues to remain in limited supply.

Biologics

- As of the time of this report, BOAH has reviewed and processed 257 requests for use of veterinary biologics products in Indiana this year, including autogenous vaccines and bacterins, products with conditional or restricted licenses, and experimental biologicals undergoing laboratory or field study in the state. These requests came from 42 different pharmaceutical and biologics companies.

Cattle

- BOAH representatives attended the 2023 Indiana Beef Cattlemen's Association area meetings this quarter, highlighting the following topics: introduction of Asian longhorned ticks into Indiana, upcoming 2024 Board of Veterinary Medicine legislative proposals, and updates in state meat and poultry inspection.
- There are currently three cattle herds participating in the Johne's program and five cattle herds participating in the cattle tuberculosis accreditation and brucellosis certification programs.
- BOAH processed 42 brucellosis vaccination records this quarter, which account for 278 cattle.

Cervids

- As reported previously, Indiana had 12 cervids test positive on their initial TB tests this year. Nine animals were found negative on the second test, three tested positive for a second time and were indemnified and sent for necropsy at ADDL, with tissues being forwarded to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL). At the time of the last board report, BOAH was awaiting culture results from NVSL for two of the three deer that were submitted for necropsy. Both deer now have negative culture results.
- As of December 11, 2023, there have been three hunter harvested wild deer tested for TB upon hunter reporting of suspicious lesions. All three were found negative.
- Seven enforcement letters were issued for non-compliance with CWD program standards this quarter related to missing CWD samples, inadequate records, or identification issues.
- BOAH issued eight import permits for 64 total cervids, and producers exported 351 cervids to other states this quarter. With the positive CWD diagnosis in a wild Kentucky deer, BOAH anticipates Indiana's deer to be in even higher demand since the number of states that remain CWD-free continues to decrease. The number of imported deer will also likely decrease with this newly positive state.

- To date, BOAH has utilized \$76,350 from the USDA Cooperative Agreement funding to cover testing costs for obtaining Genomically Estimated Breeding Values (GEBVs) for farm-raised white-tailed deer.

Commercial Dog Breeder & Broker Program

- As of December 15, 2023, there are 193 active commercial dog breeders and 6 active dog brokers in Indiana.
- In October, Dr. Lovejoy presented at Purdue College of Veterinary Medicine’s Introduction to Population Medicine and Veterinary Ethics on welfare in commercial breeding kennels. Dr. Lovejoy will also be presenting on Indiana’s commercial dog breeder and broker program at the 2024 AVMA Convention in Austin, TX.

Companion Animal

- Eleven bats tested positive for rabies in Indiana in 2023, with two new positive diagnoses since the last report. Those bats were found in Allen and Johnson Counties. There was no domestic animal exposure reported in either of those situations.
- Both owners with animals under quarantine during Q3 for known exposure to a positive bat satisfactorily met the conditions of their quarantines and both quarantines have been released.
- Since September, BOAH has been receiving calls from veterinarians from Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, Evansville, and Bloomington about dogs who appear to have clinical signs consistent with “Kennel Cough” or Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease (CIRD). These cases don’t seem to be responding to treatment and/or are more aggressive clinically than traditional cases. Because CIRD is not a reportable illness in Indiana, BOAH can’t accurately enumerate the number of affected animals other than voluntarily reported cases. This illness doesn’t seem to be isolated to Indiana, as veterinarians throughout the country are now reporting similar cases. The underlying cause of the illness has not been identified as most tests for common respiratory illnesses have been negative.

Compliance

- Seven compliance cases were investigated this quarter involving alleged noncompliance with rules related to carcass disposal (2), commercial dog breeder/broker program (1), dairy compliance (1), rabies documentation (2), and traceability/interstate movement (1). Case outcomes this quarter included: corrective action taken (3), unfounded complaint (2), and pending action (2). The full Animal Programs Investigations report is included at the end of this report.

Drug Residue Prevention

- There have been no milk drug residues reported this quarter.
- Three visits were made to new dairy farms in Fulton, Miami, and Wayne counties to discuss drug use and drug residue prevention in milk and meat. The farm owners were provided with BOAH’s drug recordkeeping manuals during the visit.

Emergency Preparedness & Training

- BOAH continues to work through the Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) Operational Readiness Grant to develop the Animal Issues in Disaster Course into an online format.
- BOAH field veterinarians participated in the Operation Safe Harbor Full Scale Exercise in October in Bloomington, IN.
- Dr. Macy coordinated and moderated the Q4 BOAH VMRC webinar with Dr. Jen Brown, presenting “A Culture of Safety: Veterinary Occupational Health and Infection Control.”

- The Animal Programs Division is rebranding and repurposing the PETS (companion animal response) trailer to have a primary mission of assisting in animal hoarding and fighting cases and a secondary mission of pet sheltering. Updating all PETS trailer documents and inventory to meet these missions is currently underway.
- Dr. Macy and Dr. Lovejoy are collaborating with the Purdue Technical Large Animal Rescue Team to establish connections for additional training opportunities in the future.
- Dr. Shipman, Dr. Werling, and Dr. Macy met with the Indianapolis Area Chapter of the Red Cross to discuss issues and concerns around co-sheltering pets in disasters and Psychological First Aid training for first responders.
- BOAH continues to work with USDA to update the National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) Core Accreditation Orientation for Purdue 4th year students.
- Dr. Cooper provided a “State of Animal Health” message to all Indiana USDA-FSA county employees, highlighting current events and issues across each of BOAH’s divisions, discussing diseases of concern to Indiana livestock and companion animals, and delivering avian influenza preparedness and response updates and biosecurity reminders.
- Dr. Werling presented at the statewide Purdue Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator annual retreat, highlighting current events and issues at BOAH, discussing diseases of concern to Indiana livestock and companion animals, and delivering foreign animal disease preparedness and response updates and biosecurity reminders.

Equine

- Dr. Solomon-Gabl and Dr. Strasser attended the biannual Indiana Association of Equine Practitioners (IAEP) meeting in November and updated equine practitioners on equine regulatory issues.
- Dr. Strasser has been working with Dr. Solomon-Gabl to review and update equine procedures as the equine program will be gradually transitioned to Dr. Solomon-Gabl. Currently both Dr. Strasser and Dr. Solomon-Gabl will field equine-related questions. This quarter, they focused on reviewing and revising BOAH’s Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM) Quarantine Facility agreement and Mare Import Permit form.
- This year ended with a total of four reported positive equine cases of West Nile virus. There was a single case in each of four Indiana counties: Vanderburgh, Daviess, Adams, and Kosciusko. No cases of eastern equine encephalitis were reported this year.
- The single mare positive for piroplasmiasis for over 10 years remains under quarantine. No other equid is under quarantine in Indiana at this time.

Foreign Animal Disease Investigations

- In addition to responding to sick bird calls and ruling out avian influenza, BOAH conducted three foreign animal disease investigations this quarter. These cases ruled out vesicular stomatitis in horses and foreign vesicular disease in a show heifer. Additionally, BOAH helped facilitate an ASF/CSF rule out investigation on a swine premises in Michigan.

Licensing

- Indiana-issued brands expire on December 31, so brand renewal cycle is underway. There are currently 484 active brands registered in Indiana. Changes to state forms for the brand program are coming next year that should make registration and brand renewal more constituent-friendly.

- There are 14 licensed disposal operations in the state. BOAH is also planning to increase flexibility of annual inspections of these licensed entities to better accommodate inspectors' schedules and allow for more flexibility to respond to urgent disease outbreaks without impacting the continuity of business of these licensees.

One Health

- Upon the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s and Indiana Department of Health (IDOH)'s request, IN BOAH assisted with a multistate *E. coli* O157 outbreak investigation this quarter. The respective investigation required extensive and forward-thinking epidemiological work, due to the extenuating circumstances of the premises, and involved multispecies and environmental sampling. Both the CDC and IDOH were extremely thankful for BOAH's expertise and readiness with this multi-agency effort.
- From October 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023, both blood and nasal swabs were collected from Indiana white-tailed deer as part of an active surveillance effort to detect SARS-CoV-2. Of the 315 serology samples analyzed, 65 were presumptive positive, giving an approximately 20% antibody response rate. Of the 215 nasal swabs analyzed, zero deer were presumptive positive by real-time PCR. These same data are available for much of the continental U.S.
- A subcommittee of the Indiana One Health committee, which includes colleagues from IN DNR, IDOH, and BOAH, will be formed in the 1st quarter of 2024 to address and analyze nonhuman primate ownership in the state of Indiana.
- BOAH continues to partner with the Marion County Sheriff's and Public Health Departments, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation, IDOH, and Indianapolis Police Department as part of the Biowatch Advisory Committee. In November, a tabletop exercise was conducted at Eskenazi Hospital. The event was facilitated by a third party and was designed to emulate a scenario of biological warfare near Lucas Oil Stadium during an Indianapolis Colts game. All parties agreed that the event was extremely beneficial and worthwhile.

Sheep & Goats

- As of the end of October, Indiana has credit for surveillance of 59 sheep (IN's minimum 246) and 57.5 goats (IN's minimum is 121) for the current Scrapie surveillance cycle which runs from October 1, 2023, thru September 30, 2024.

Swine

- Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo were added to the list of regions affected by African swine fever this quarter.
- Dr. Werling continues to attend the quarterly meetings of the ASF Technical Working Group, a group of Federal, State, and Industry stakeholders meeting to discuss their efforts to narrow documented ASF Response Gaps and provide pertinent updates on existing projects.
- BOAH participated in the North American Meat Institute (NAMI)'s Pork Packer ASF exercise held in Chicago, IL in October. This exercise brought together state and federal animal health officials, packers, renderers, and other allied industry participants to exercise the new templates for ASF response in a meat harvest facility, off-site rendering facility, or spray dried blood/plasma facility.
- This quarter, Dr. Werling completed Indiana's plan for Emergency Permitting for FADs in Swine in preparation for the regional ASF Permitting Tabletop exercise in January 2024 and revised Indiana's ASF Initial Response and Containment Plan (InASFPlan) to reflect information learned from the cull market workshop and NAMI pork packer exercise.

- The Swine Exhibitions Zoonotic Working Group reconvened in Indianapolis in November to discuss updates to the document “Measures to Minimize Swine Influenza at Swine Exhibitions, 2018” and potential publication.
- Dr. Werling attended the 2023 Midwest Pork Conference and provided updates to swine veterinarians on the following topics: U.S. Swine Health Improvement Plan (SHIP), Indiana Center for Animal Policy, 2024 Board of Veterinary Medicine agency bill, Securing Indiana’s Pork Supply, and the Certified Swine Sample Collector training program.
- Indiana continues to participate in Michigan’s swine permitting tabletop exercise planning work groups. Indiana has identified one integrator, one independent producer, one swine management company, one exhibition/seedstock producer, and one veterinary services provider to participate in the exercise, scheduled for January 23 & 24, 2024.
- BOAH participated in a pilot program with Ohio in December to exercise the functionality of AgView’s new Swine Production Health Plan module.
- Three new swine commuter herd agreements were established, and 4 renewals were performed this quarter. As of December 12, 2023, Indiana has 75 active commuter herd agreements (45 - import, 30 - export) with 13 states.
- IN BOAH continues to facilitate the Securing Indiana’s Pork Supply program, a voluntary preparedness and continuity of business program for swine producers. This past quarter’s accomplishments include the addition of sites completing biosecurity plans and updating premises maps.
 - Status report as of December 12, 2023: Premises Validation: 1,188, Biosecurity Assessment and Training: 459, Certified Swine Sample Collector Training: 88, SPS Meeting with BOAH: 699, Electronic Movement Permit Training: 582, Completed all five steps: 332.
- The current U.S. SHIP enrollment by state with Indiana’s enrollment per site classification is below. This represents approximately 63% of Breeding Herds and 53% of Growing Pig Herds enrolled in U.S. SHIP in Indiana. National enrollment represents 70% of the U.S. breeding herd and 62% of the U.S. growing pig herd.

Current Indiana Enrollment (as of 12/12/2023):

Site Classification	# Sites	Aggregate Capacity
Boar Stud	1	165
Breeding	35	165,090
Farrow-to-Feeder/Finish	1	3,500
Growing Pig	446	2,135,064
Small Holding	28	17,493
Non-Commercial	2	~10
Packer	2	32,500
Live Animal Market Operations*	0	
TOTAL SITES	515	

The U.S. SHIP program is currently in the process of drafting language for program codification, and it is expected to be ready for public comment in spring 2024 with a codification goal of 2025. Following the 2023 U.S. SHIP HOD meeting, live animal marketing operations have been added as a site classification type.

- The National Certified Swine Sample Collector (CSSC) Training Program is a national swine sample collection training program that authorizes producers, animal caretakers, etc. to correctly collect, handle, and submit samples after training by category II accredited veterinarians working in the pork industry. IN BOAH keeps a repository of all CSSC in Indiana. Eighty-eight individuals are rostered as CSSCs in Indiana.
- There are 32 herds enrolled in the Validated Swine Brucellosis-Free/Qualified Pseudorabies-Negative (VQ) Herd Program.
- As of September, 494 samples have been collected and tested in fiscal year (FY) 2023 through the USDA's ASF/CSF Active Surveillance Program. Collection for FY 2024 began in October.

Traceability

- The BOAH team completed eight USDA traceability performance exercises this quarter with an average trace time of one minute and twelve seconds.
- One hundred forty-four rejected export CVIs were returned to Indiana veterinarians this quarter. The top 3 causes for rejection of these export CVIs were: 1) No permit number or incomplete origin/destination information, 2) Missing ID/incomplete ID, and 3) Vaccination requirements not met.
- BOAH continues to participate in discussions about the USAHERDS/AgEnterprise database upgrade which is estimated to be available early 2024.
- Six hundred fifty paper CVIs were distributed to Indiana veterinarians this quarter.
- Eleven veterinarians at seven veterinary clinics were trained to use the eCVI this quarter. This is the last quarter BOAH will be providing training on the eCVI and associated documents.
- This quarter, 250 veterinarians at 98 veterinary clinics were trained to use the VET-CVI application through a series of virtual training opportunities. Moving forward, the VET-CVI will be the only free electronic CVI option offered from BOAH. Due to the success of this quarter's virtual training sessions, more virtual training sessions are scheduled for 2024. BOAH is actively working on several enhancements for this application for the benefit of Indiana's veterinarians and have been working collaboratively with other states to improve the VET-CVI mobile app.
- Seven hundred ten commuter herd movements, 19,100 paper and electronic CVIs, and 1,700 VET-CVI movement documents were processed this quarter.
- BOAH issued and reviewed a total of 35 swine import permits and 319 cattle import permits this quarter.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kyle Shipman, DVM
Animal Programs Division Director

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH - ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATIONS REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2023

Incident Name County	Species Involved	Primary Investigator	Requesting Entity	Reason for Request	Case Classification
150Z154E-01X Lawrence	Canine, Chinchilla, Feline, Rabbit	Lovejoy	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
15300X0Y-01X Marion	Canine	Lovejoy	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
152F0YHS-0AL Ripley	Feline	Macy	Local Health Department	Neglect	Animal Care
155312X8-01Y LaGrange	Equine	Lamb	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
152U1LU2-0AL Dearborn	Canine	Macy	Law Enforcement	Aggressive Dog Assessment	Animal Care
15360RJ9-093 Daviss	Bovine, Porcine	Renshaw	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
15311N86-0AL Jefferson	Avian, Bovine, Canine, Equine, Porcine	Macy	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
15370TDL-0B4 Tiptecanoe	Canine	Boyd	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
153H1FXR-01Y LaGrange	Avian, Bovine, Caprine, Equine	Lamb	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
15311B2Q-0CJ Owen	Canine, Caprine, Equine, Ovine	Solomon	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
153A0RBN-0B4 Clinton	Equine	Boyd	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH - ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATIONS REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2023

Incident Name County	Species Involved	Primary Investigator	Requesting Entity	Reason for Request	Case Classification
15390ZCP-0B4 Tippecanoe	Canine	Boyd	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
153G16AQ-0CJ Parke	Canine	Solomon	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
153E16SQ-0CJ Vermillion	Feline	Solomon	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
1542148R-01Z Starke	Feline	Strasser	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
153E1HF7-0B4 Tippecanoe	Canine	Boyd	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
153F18ZU-01X Brown	Canine	Lovejoy	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
153N17HA-0CJ Owen	Equine	Solomon	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
154517FW-01Z Jasper	Canine	Strasser	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
153N11XD-093 Knox	Canine	Renshaw	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
153N14FE-093 Daviss	Bovine, Porcine	Renshaw	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
15451AEV-04C Blackford	Equine	Justice	State Agency	Neglect	Animal Care

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH - ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATIONS REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2023

Incident Name County	Species Involved	Primary Investigator	Requesting Entity	Reason for Request	Case Classification
154G0YBP-01X Lawrence	Canine	Lovejoy	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
153Y1B2N-0AL Scott	Equine	Macy	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
153Y1BP6-0AL Scott	Canine	Macy	Animal Control	Aggressive Dog Assessment	Animal Care
1544138E-04C Madison	Canine	Justice	Humane Organization	Abandonment	Animal Care
154313WM-093 Knox	Equine	Renshaw	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
154418H8-0B4 Clinton	Equine	Boyd	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
15441BZY-0B4 Clinton	Equine	Boyd	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
154G106P-02N Huntington	Equine	Chavis	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
154F1G47-02N Huntington	Equine	Chavis	Humane Organization	Neglect	Animal Care
154G1KVZ-016 Morgan	Equine	Miller	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
154N0XZZ-04C Wayne	Canine	Justice	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care

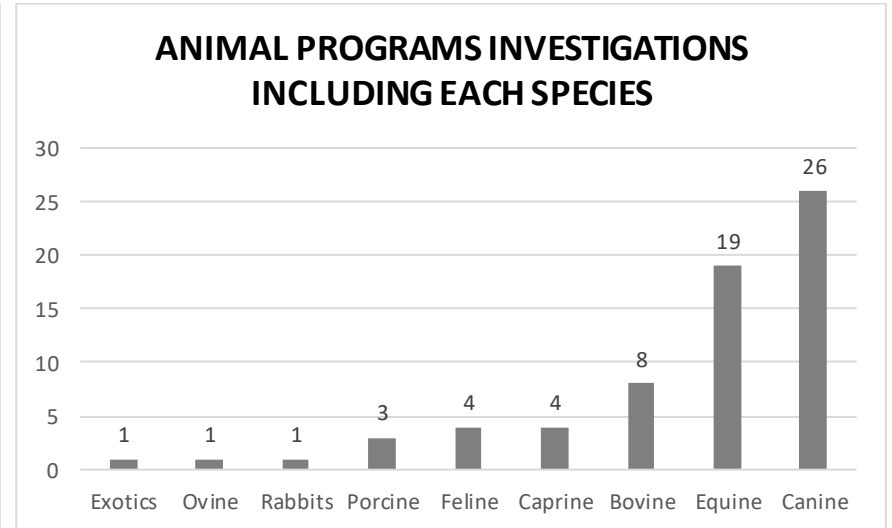
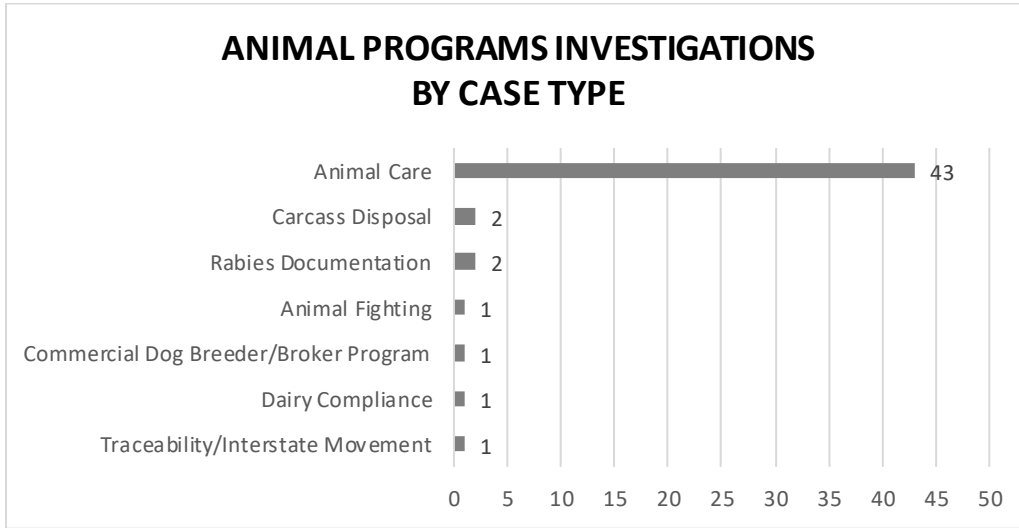
INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH - ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATIONS REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2023

Incident Name County	Species Involved	Primary Investigator	Requesting Entity	Reason for Request	Case Classification
154N0X7A-04C Wayne	Canine	Justice	Law Enforcement	Abandonment	Animal Care
154R14F6-0CJ Owen	Caprine	Solomon	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
154W10RR-02N Huntington	Equine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
154N0Z7B-0B4 Tippecanoe	Canine	Boyd	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
155515FL-0B4 Cass	Equine	Boyd	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
155319QP-02N Huntington	Equine	Chavis	Humane Organization	Neglect	Animal Care
155H1ADL-01Y LaGrange	Canine, Caprine, Equine	Lamb	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
155G1QUV-04C Wayne	Canine	Justice	Law Enforcement	Abandonment	Animal Care
155G1QDZ-04C Wayne	Canine	Justice	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
155G12RG-02N Miami	Equine	Chavis	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
155K1Z2G-01X Lawrence	Canine	Lovejoy	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care

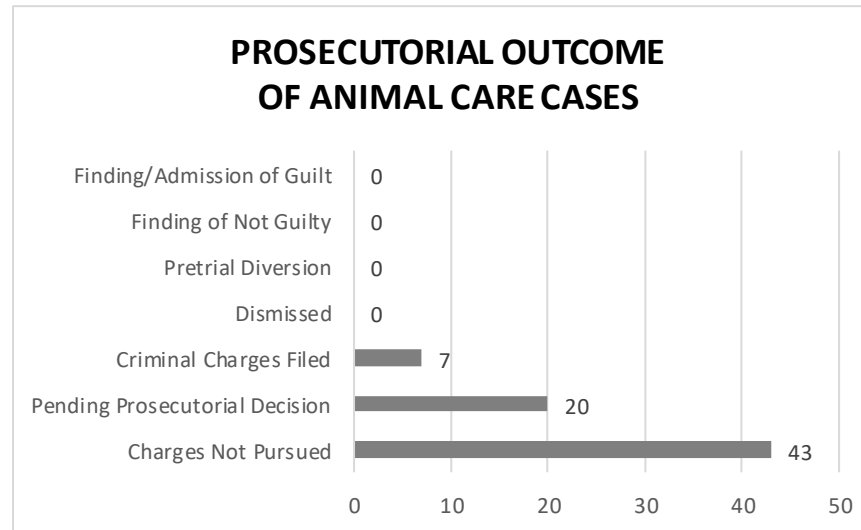
INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH - ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATIONS REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2023

Incident Name County	Species Involved	Primary Investigator	Requesting Entity	Reason for Request	Case Classification
155216S2-04C Madison	Canine	Justice	Humane Organization	Dog Fighting	Animal Fighting
155C0YSW-01Y Jackson	Bovine	Siedling	Private Citizen	Improper Carcass Disposal	Carcass Disposal
15521A02-0BJ Elkhart	Bovine	Paul	BOAH Dairy Inspector	Improper Carcass Disposal	Carcass Disposal
15521845-0BJ Elkhart	Canine	Paul	Private Citizen	Unregistered Dog Breeder	Commercial Dog Breeder/Broker
154415NH-01Y Morgan	Bovine	Gunn	Private Citizen	Raw Milk Sales	Dairy Compliance
155H1693-01Y Kosciusko	Canine	Price	Private Citizen	Altered Rabies Certificate	Rabies
155A1QXN-01Y Morgan	Canine	Miller, Price	Private Citizen	Altered Rabies Certificate	Rabies
153D1204-01Y Noble	Bovine	Price	Private Citizen	Import Requirements Violation	Traceability/Interstate Movement

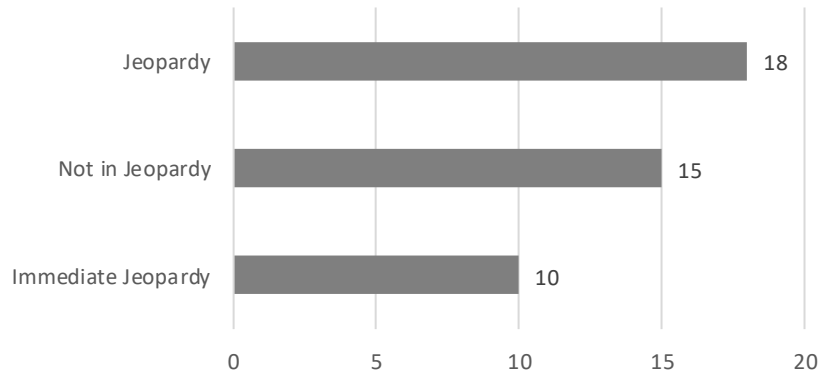
ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATIONS SUMMARY



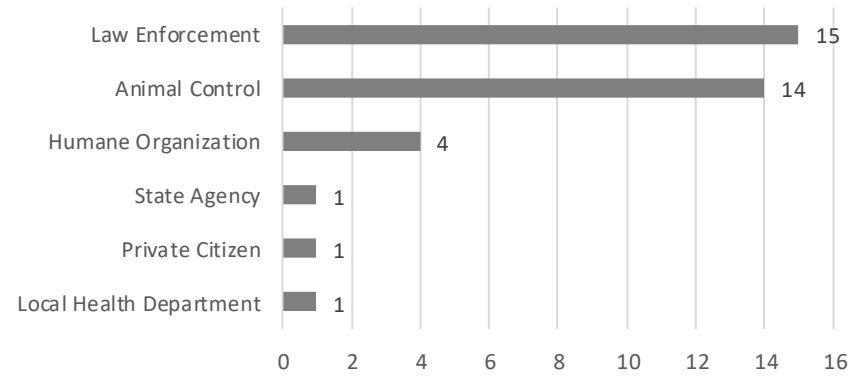
ANIMAL CARE INVESTIGATIONS SUMMARY



BOAH CASE FINDINGS FOR ANIMAL CARE INVESTIGATIONS

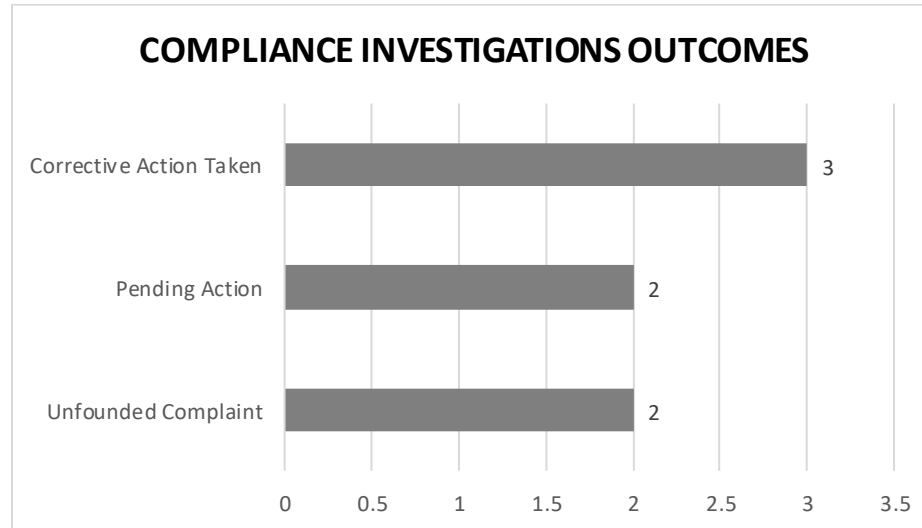


SOURCE OF COMPLAINT FOR ANIMAL CARE INVESTIGATIONS



COMPLIANCE INVESTIGATIONS SUMMARY

COMPLIANCE INVESTIGATIONS OUTCOMES



REPORT TO THE BOARD, January, 2024

Quarterly and Year End Highlights

- 2 new facilities have joined the program this quarter. One is a Custom Exempt slaughter and processing facility and the other is an inspected pizza processing facility. 3 plants have increased their inspection from State inspection to the Cooperative Interstate Shipment Program. 1 facility increased inspection from Custom Exempt only to inspected processing. We had 0 inspected facilities close.
- In 2022, we had 11 new plants total. 2023 saw this number more than triple with 32 new facilities/owners. (19 new facilities, 11 new owners and 2 reopened plants)
- 12 plants have increased their inspection in the past year. (Custom Exempt to Inspected or Inspected to CIS)
- Dan Doles, EIAO, held a HACCP training session on December 14, 2023, for 7 inspectors.
- Dr. Suhr attended the ASMID (Association of State Meat Inspection Directors) meeting in October during the annual USAHA (United States Animal Health Association) meeting in Washington D.C. The directors changed their name from NASMFID (National Association of State Meat and Food Inspection Directors) to ASMID during the meeting. USDA funding of state programs was discussed along with regulatory updates and other issues.



Fast Facts:

• Facilities by type:		
	Red meat harvest and processing	51
	Poultry harvest and processing	1
	Meat harvest, no further insp. processing	2
	<u>Processing only facilities</u>	<u>29</u>
	Official establishments	83
	+	
	Limited Permit Retail HRI	3
	<u>Custom exempt establishments</u>	<u>55</u>
	Total program facilities	141

Meat & Poultry Inspection Division



- We currently have one open inspector position in the Northeast area.
- Elmer Clancy, Supervisor in the Northeast area retired the end of November. Jamie Wolff has been promoted to fill his position as supervisor. Greg Lower, Supervisor in the Northwest area retired in June. Jeff Laffoon replaced him as supervisor.
- Our staff consists of 41 inspectors, 6 Supervisors, 2 EIAOs, 1 Compliance Officer, 1 EIAO/Compliance officer, 4 Central Office staff = 55 employees
- BOAH MPI continues to take advantage of USDA/FSIS virtual training courses. We had 1 employee complete the Thermal Processing course in November.

Looking ahead

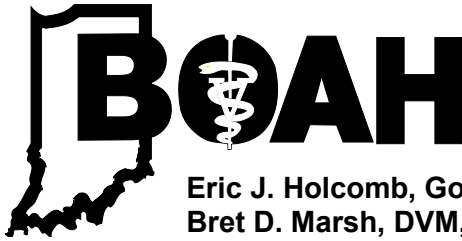
- Dr. Swiatkowski will continue meeting weekly with small groups of inspectors for training.
- 5 new facilities are estimated to join the State MPI program in the next few months.
- Dr. Suhr and Dr. Swiatkowski are planning to attend the Indiana Meat Packers and Processors (IMPPA) annual meeting in February, 2024
- Trainings for the inspectors by the EIAOs will continue on a quarterly basis.

Partnerships and Outreach

- FSIS Chicago District Office CIS weekly teleconference between BOAH MPI and Ohio MPI – sharing pandemic and CIS related information.
- MPI weekly teleconference with field staff.
- MPI, IMPPA and ISDA are holding monthly meetings to help support new and existing plants that we actively participate in.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri N. Suhr, DVM



Eric J. Holcomb, Governor
 Bret D. Marsh, DVM, State Veterinarian

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Office of the State Veterinarian
 Discovery Hall, Suite 100
 1202 East 38th Street
 Indianapolis, IN 46205-2898
 Phone: 317/544-2400

Dairy Division

Highlights

- In 2022 there were 69 State Surveys and 15 Federal Check Ratings. Of those 84, 5 required re-surveys. The historical data shows that while the number of ratings per year continues to increase, we are seeing a decrease in adverse actions.

Calendar Year	2009	2010	2021	2022
Ratings	56	53	71	69
Re-ratings	11	9	7	5
% requiring re-rating	20%	17%	10%	7%
Check ratings	7	7	18	15
% of ratings that are led by FDA	12.50%	13.21%	25.35%	21.74%

Fast Facts

- Currently 697 Grade A farms (-14)
- Haulers 439 (+2)
- 23 Grade A Dairy Plants
- 3 Pending Grade A Plant
- 4 Truck Wash / 2 Transfer Stations
- 33 farms with a total of 177 AMI's
- 13 Manufactured Grade Farms
- Milk Trucks 554
- 26 Manufactured Grade Plants
- 14 Single Service Manufactures
- 9 Distributors

Looking Ahead

- There are 3 plants currently pending approval for permit. We expect these plants will be up and producing product in the 1st quarter of 2024. Two of these plants are Grade A with the last one being a Manufactured Grade plant looking to produce cheese.

Partnerships and Outreach

- BOAH sent a large delegation from the Dairy Division to the Eastern Regional Milk Seminar held in Nashville TN. This is a required training for all milk rating officers to keep their certification. This seminar had been postponed due to COVID.
- BOAH sent four members of the Dairy Division leadership team to Dairy Practices Council, held in Nashville TN. DPC is a non-profit organization with members representing industry, regulatory and academia with a focus on milk quality, sanitation, and regulatory uniformity. This group develops educational guidelines to improve sanitation in the processing of milk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Safeguarding Indiana's animals, food supply and citizens for more than 125 years.

An equal opportunity employer and provider.

State Veterinarian's Progress Report

For the Period

October 4, 2023 through January 9, 2024

Highlights of the Quarter

1. As I previously reported, a survey of State Veterinarians was conducted to determine their interest in a state-based accreditation program. Additionally, I made a presentation to the NASDA Animal Agriculture Committee and the USAHA District at Large to determine their interest for the proposal. There was broad support for moving forward, so I made a presentation to the USAHA Board of Directors. The Board approved establishing a committee to develop the state-based accreditation program. I have been asked to chair the Committee, and we are to report back to the Board at the 2024 Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN.
2. I have been engaged in several meetings with the Indiana State Poultry Association (ISPA) regarding the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP). Although the ISPA will remain the NPIP Official State Agency (OSA) for Indiana, several of the primary responsibilities for the program are being transferred to BOAH.
3. I, along with other BOAH team members, traveled to Chicago to participate in the Pork Packer African Swine Fever (ASF) Exercise hosted by the North American Meat Institute. Several pork packing plants were represented, as well state animal health officials and rendering companies. It provided an opportunity to address gaps in planning efforts at packing plants. Indiana's two, large pork packing plants were represented at the meeting which made it even more meaningful.
4. The ADDL Strategic Plan is being finalized, and I appreciate the opportunity to participate in several discussions leading up to the Plan's release. Drs. Hendrix and Bowen have actively engaged several stakeholders throughout the state to determine the best course forward for the veterinary diagnostic laboratories. Dr. Hendrix will provide details of the Plan at the January 9, 2024, Board meeting.
5. The VetBoard met on November 2, 2023, with an aggressive agenda. Renewals for veterinarians closed on October 15, 2023, and Laura Turner, VetBoard Director, is now evaluating the continuing education of approximately 10% of the licensed veterinarians. Registrations for veterinary technicians closes on January 1, 2024, and a very similar audit of continuing education will take place for technicians.
6. I am pleased to report that two of the three new animal health positions approved by the 2023 General Assembly have been filled. Chelsie Leatherman joined BOAH as a Poultry Health Specialist, and Dr. Isaac Traynor is BOAH's new Veterinary Epidemiologist.
7. Two BOAH team members were recognized by Governor Eric Holcomb for their years of service to the citizens of Indiana. At a ceremony held at the Indiana Statehouse, Dr. Michael Kopp was recognized for 40 years of service, and Tina Zaring was appropriately recognized for 45 years of service.
8. I have had the pleasure of participating in several meetings this quarter including, but not limited to, Indiana Council on Animal Welfare Board of Directors, "Measures to Minimize Swine Influenza Transmission at Swine Exhibitions" meeting hosted by BOAH, NPPC national traceability plan, SHIP calls, Hoosier Beef Congress, Channel 8 in-studio interview on canine

“mystery” illness, Indiana Beef Cattle Association area meeting in Brownstown, visit to Heeke Laboratory in Dubois county, Indiana Farm Bureau Annual Convention in Fort Wayne and the Indiana Association of Fairs.

Looking Forward

1. The VetBoard (VB) will meet on January 25, 2024. Laura Turner, VB Director, will provide the members with the latest license/registration renewal statistics. Further, the VB will discuss the four components of the legislative proposal approved by the Governor. More specifically, the four components are:
 - a. Streamline licensing and renewals for veterinary professionals by updating Indiana’s criminal background check statute to include BOAH/VB.
 - b. Increase understanding of the veterinary profession through data collection at licensing/registration renewal.
 - c. Align the Indiana Controlled Substances Act with federal law to clarify prescribing authority for mobile veterinarians. This one is important with recent changes by FDA in the requirement for medically important antibiotics to be available only by prescription.
 - d. Give the VetBoard discretion in requirements to renew a license expired more than 5 years, instead of requiring the licensee to start over. This will lower the barriers to individuals re-entering practice.
2. Regarding 1b above, data was collected from veterinarians and veterinary technicians during the 2023 renewal period that will be very beneficial for determining shortage areas. The legislative proposal will codify the collection of data, so it is collected at each renewal cycle. We are in discussions with the Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research and Policy at IUPUI to analyze the data. The Bowen Center conducts similar evaluations of data for the human health professions, and we are investigating how to utilize the data to improve the delivery of veterinary medical services statewide.
3. We have scheduled a meeting with Todd Greenwood, VP of Strategic Partnerships, Farm Journal Foundation. The Foundation has been very active in identifying veterinary workforce solutions, and we are learning how their work will improve the delivery of veterinary services to underserved communities in Indiana.
4. There are several meetings/functions scheduled during the next quarter, including, but not limited to, Indiana Beef Cattle Association Annual Conference, IVMA Board of Directors meeting, Crossroads Veterinary Conference in Noblesville, Veterinary Medicine 102 class at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Milk Quality Conference, and the legislative banquets for the pork and poultry industries.
5. More to come...

Bret D. Marsh, DVM

State Veterinarian