



**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 38<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46205-2898**  
**Phone: 317/544-2400**

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

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) will hold its quarterly meeting at **9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 2024** at the Board of Animal Health office on the Indiana State Fairgrounds at Discovery Hall, Suite 100, 1202 E. 38<sup>th</sup> 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: January 9, 2024.
2. Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL) Report
3. Technical Services
  - a. Public Information report - Denise Derrer Spears
  - b. Chief of Staff report - Gary Haynes
  - c. General Assembly update – Sarah Simpson
4. Animal Programs Division Report - Dr. Kyle Shipman
  - a. Avian Health – Dr. Mike Kopp, Dr. Maria Cooper
  - b. Swine Health – Dr. Kelli Werling
5. Food Safety
  - a. Meat and Poultry Division – Dr. Kerri Suhr
  - b. Dairy Inspection Division – Patrick Hash
6. 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: July 16, 2024

	<u>Offices</u>	<u>Current Officer</u>
c. Election of Officers:	i. Chairperson	Dr. William Doig
	ii. Vice Chairperson	David Hardin
	iii. Hearing Officer	Dr. William Doig

***Electronic Meeting Access Via MS Teams Details***

- Join on your computer, mobile app or room device: [Click here to join the meeting](#)
  - Meeting ID: 288 348 724 903 Passcode: 4JuoPK
- Or call in (*audio only*) dial: **1 317-552-1674** Phone Conference ID: 310 480 997#

**Indiana State Board of Animal Health**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 9, 2024**

**Executive Session**

An executive session under Ind. Code 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9) was called to order at 9:30 a.m. to evaluate the job performance of the State Veterinarian. The Board certifies by approving these minutes that they did not discuss any other subject matter. The public was not invited to attend the session. Chief of Staff Gary Haynes attended the meeting at the request of the Chairperson.

**Quarterly Meeting**

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) held its regular quarterly meeting on Tuesday, January 9, 2024. The meeting was held at the Board of Animal Health office at Discovery Hall, Suite 100, 1202 E 38<sup>th</sup> 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 9:45 a.m. and conducted a roll call of the board members.

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

Members Absent: Dr. Darryl Ragland  
Mr. Kraig Bowers

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, Animal Programs Division Director  
Maria Cooper, DVM, Senior Director of Planning  
Mike Kopp, DVM, Avian and Poultry Health Director,  
Kelli Werling, DVM, Senior Director of Operations, Swine Health Director

Patrick Hash, BOAH, Dairy Division Director,  
Dr. Kerri Suhr, DVM, Meat and Poultry Division Director

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:

Rosa Henson, 5 years  
Katlyn Macy, DVM, 5 years  
Barb Pierle, 15 years  
Mike Kopp, DVM, 40 years

### **First Order of Business - Approval of Minutes**

Dr. William Doig asked the Board to approve the minutes from the October 3, 2023 meeting. Tim Rice made a motion – MOTION – “I move to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2023 meeting.” Dr. Tracey Gillespie seconded the motion. The Board approved the MOTION by a roll call VOTE of 9-0. (Exhibit 2)

### **Second Order of Business – Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL) report**

Kenitra Hendrix, DVM, PhD, DACVM, Director of the Purdue ADDL, presented an update on ADDL activity, including a budget update, case load statistics, progress on procurement for a new laboratory information management system and planning for facility needs.

Dr. Hendrix presented outcomes from a strategic planning process, next steps to continue the process, and actions planned to begin implementation. (Exhibit 3).

Chairperson Doig complemented Dr. Hendrix for accepting the challenge to engage in strategic planning, expressed the Board's appreciation for the information provided and encouraged her to continue the process, with ongoing reports to the Board.

### **Third Order of Business – Commercial Dog Breeder program overview**

Dr. Kyle Shipman described the state commercial dog breeder and broker program that is administered by BOAH. Dr. Shipman reported on the number of registrants, the rules required for registrants and changes in the industry since the program began. Gary Haynes updated the Board on funding for the program, which is through registration fees that provide a small amount of funding for limited agency inspections.

### **Fourth Order of Business – Technical Services**

#### **a. Public Information Report (Exhibit 4)**

Ms. Denise Derrer reported on agency public information activity, including a presentation she delivered on disaster communications at a multi-state dairy meeting.

**b. Chief of Staff Report. (Exhibit 5)**

Mr. Gary Haynes discussed challenges with inadequate funding from the United States Department of Agriculture for the Indiana meat and poultry inspection program and efforts by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture to address the issue.

**c. General Assembly update**

Sarah Simpson reported on:

- i. Ongoing discussions concerning the sale of dogs at pet stores and laws governing dog breeders and other dog related enterprises;
- ii. SB 104 – a BOAH agency bill to address issues for the Board of Veterinary Medicine.
- iii. HB 1203 – that would list the drug xylazine as a controlled substance and classify it as a schedule 2 controlled substance.

**Fifth Order of Business – Animal Programs**

Animal Programs Division report – (Exhibit 6)

Dr. Kyle Shipman updated the Board on:

- Changes in Animal Programs Division staff and current recruiting efforts.
- BOAH’s role in facilitating the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) through the United States Department of Agriculture. BOAH submits nominations for veterinary service shortage areas. USDA approved 5 shortage areas in Indiana for the current round and the window for individuals to submit applications opens in February.
- BOAH’s contribution to an Indiana Department of Health and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention investigation into a multi-state *E. Coli 0157* outbreak.
- BOAH’s participation in the Biowatch Advisory Committee.
- Progress in changing 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.

Board Member Virgil Bremer left the meeting.

Avian Health report (Exhibit 6):

Dr. Mike Kopp updated the Board on:

- The ongoing outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in domestic and wild birds throughout the United States, including a surge in new cases in the Fall of 2023.
- Ongoing HPAI challenges in other countries, and the World Organization for Animal Health’s efforts to reevaluate recommendations regarding vaccination policies.
- Progress in mitigating Egg Drop Syndrome virus (EDSV) in poultry in Northeast Indiana using an imported vaccine.

Dr. Maria Cooper updated the Board:

- The last detection of HPAI in an Indiana commercial poultry flock was December 13, 2022. The last detection of HPAI in an Indiana backyard poultry flock was May 5, 2023.
- BOAH's permitting activity in response to HPAI detections in other states, including cases near the Indiana border with Ohio.
- Changes in BOAH's role in cooperating with the Indiana State Poultry Association in implementing the National Poultry Improvement Plan in Indiana.

Swine Health report (Exhibit 6):

Dr. Kelli Werling updated the Board on the agency's participation in African Swine Fever preparedness exercises and progress implementing the swine health improvement plan (SHIP) in Indiana.

### **Sixth Order of Business – Food Safety**

- a. Dr. Kerri Suhr reported on Meat and Poultry Inspection program activities. Dr. Suhr reported that activity at state inspected meat plants continues to grow, new state-inspected plants have recently started and more are expected to start in 2024. Dr. Suhr reported that demand for inspection is outpacing agency resources, and the Division cannot accommodate every request for additional inspection time. (Exhibit 7)
- b. Patrick Hash reported on Dairy Division activity. (Exhibit 8). Mr. Hash discussed ratings by state and federal auditors and a decline in the number of re-ratings over the last several years.

### **Seventh Order of Business – Other Business**

#### **a. Executive Session Discussion**

Chairperson Doig stated the Board met in executive session earlier in the day and, as part of the annual state employe performance evaluation process, discussed the job performance of State Veterinarian Dr. Bret Marsh during 2023. Tim Rice stated Dr. Marsh is a good leader of the agency and leads on issues within the state and nationally. Ty Harweger stated that from the poultry industry perspective, his company operates in several states and the Indiana response to highly pathogenic avian influenza set the standard. David Hardin stated that the swine industry appreciates Dr. Marsh's participation and leadership in moving the Swine Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) from an idea to a working program over the last few years. Dr. Doig related that he has worked with several state veterinarians over the years and Dr. Marsh is the best state veterinarian he has been around.

David Hardin made a motion – MOTION – "I move that the Board issue an "Outstanding" rating for Dr. Marsh's job performance during 2023."

The motion was seconded by Dr. Tracey Gillespie. The Board approved the MOTION by a VOTE of 8-0.

b. State Veterinarian's report, Dr. Bret Marsh

Dr. Marsh thanked the Board members and expressed his appreciation for the BOAH team members. Dr. Marsh presented his Quarterly Report to the Board and discussed items in the report (Exhibit 9).

c. Date of Next Meeting

The Board set the date for the next regular meeting to be April 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 12:05 p.m.

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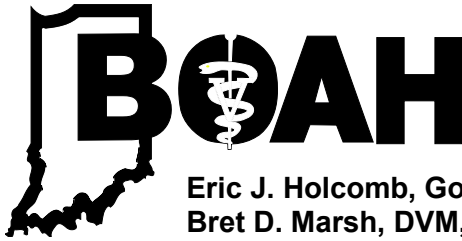
William Doig, D.V.M., Chairperson

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

**Report for the Board of Animal Health Quarterly Meeting – April 2024**

- Budget Summary (FY 2024 year to date compared to FY 2023)
  - Sales and Services: Up 45% from last year (\$802K)
  - Salary, Wages and Fringe: Up 7.5% from last year (\$258K)
  
- Updates
  - LIMS
  - Construction
  - Strategic Plan
  - Dog Genetics Testing
  
- New Tests:
  - Racehorse Necropsy (\$700)
    - Includes gross necropsy, histopathology, the legal/insurance fee, disposal fee, accessioning fee.
    - Updated protocol based on best practices for mandatory necropsies for racehorses following the Horse Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) regulations.
  
  - Various real-time PCR tests
    - Canine Respiratory PCR Panel offered with comprehensive necropsies (\$100): CDV, CHV, Influenza A, *Bordetella bronchiseptica*, *Mycoplasma* spp.
    - Feline Respiratory PCR Panel – targeted NGS (\$200): FHV, FCV, *Chalmydia felis*, *Mycoplasma felis*, *Bordetella bronchiseptica*
    - AMPV PCR (\$38.50)
  
- Open searches:
  - Histopathology S2 (1) – taking applications
  - Client Service Veterinarians (2) – interview stage
  - Faculty Microbiologist Position (1) – posting soon
  - Faculty Avian Research and Outreach Position (1) – posting soon



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### Media/Public Information Office Report

19 March 2024 for 9 April 2024 Board Meeting

Denise Derrer Spears, Public Information Director

#### Public Information:

- Attended an all-agencies PIO meeting, hosted by State Personnel Department. SPD is updating job titles and descriptions for positions in the communications/public affairs areas.
- Attended a meeting to learn about the replacement platform for GovDelivery (the state's email communication management software). The state will be moving to Sales Force Marketing Cloud by the end of June.
- Continued to represent BOAH within the Indiana Family of Farmers group, as well as the Indiana Environmental Health Association.
- Attended training sessions for AccessGov forms software. The additional training has given us the knowledge to apply that software to various solutions for online submissions. This will make us more efficient and allow faster response time for projects like granting continuing education credit for the quarterly lunch-and-learn sessions.
- Attended training on newly updated website analytics platform.
- Prepared content for partner newsletters, including: IVMA, IDEFA, ICAW, IBCA, IDP, ISA.
- Hosted a booth at the Crossroads Veterinary Conference.
- Coordinated a booth for the Indiana Grown Conference.

#### Animal Health & Care:

- Participated in the Regional African Swine Fever Permitting Tabletop Exercise.
- Toured the new Monroe Livestock Auction market in Adams County.
- Issued press release about the finding of a rabid skunk; assisted county health department and Indiana Department of Health with media inquiries.
- Assisted with revisions to the Animal Investigations Academy and supporting online content.
- Coordinated messaging with Indiana 4-H about swine tagging days and premIDs.
- Hosted a quarterly lunch-and-learn webinar about equine health and arboviruses.

#### Disaster Preparedness:

- Worked with IDHS to lead a crisis communication training course for PIOs of agencies with seats in the state's emergency operations center (EOC). This long-overdue training included an in-person welcome from Exec. Director Thacker.
- Participated in meetings for the upcoming solar eclipse.
- Continued work on an online version of *Animal Issues in Disaster*. We are in the editing stage.

#### Food Safety:

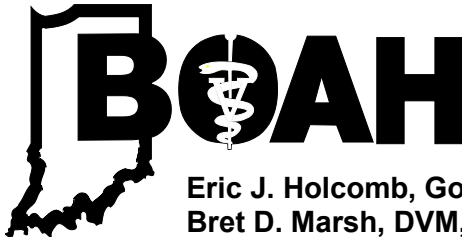
- Toured The Country Butcher Meats processing facility in Decatur, IN.

#### Website & Social Media Fun Facts:

- BOAH website traffic during the first quarter of 2024: 18,491 users had 46,637 pageviews. They spent an average of 2 min: 17 sec on the BOAH website.
- The [www.rabies.in.gov](http://www.rabies.in.gov) website had 9673 pageviews with a clear spike (573) the day we issued the advisory about skunk rabies.

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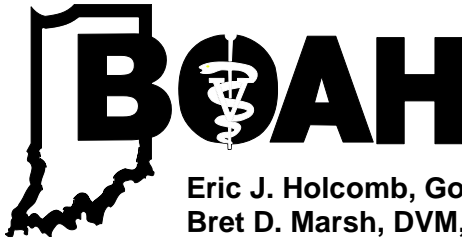
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### Chief of Staff Report April 9, 2024

#### Quarterly Highlights

- **Finance:**
  - Prepared expense projections for the meat and poultry projects for submission to the State Budget Agency. Communicated with the United States Department of Agriculture on projected spending for the remainder of FFY 2024.
  - Communicated with the Indiana Department of Agriculture and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture on funding needs for state meat and poultry inspection programs.
- **Cooperative Agreements:**
  - USDA approved the 2024 Swine Health Improvement Plan cooperative agreement.
  - USDA notified BOAH that the cooperative agreements for traceability and sheep and goats (scrapie) will be reduced 7.39% for 2024.
  - Began preparing the application for a cooperative agreement with USDA for highly pathogenic avian influenza response in 2024.
  - Received a Food and Drug Administration award for Dairy Division equipment.
- **Personnel:**
  - Created an Avian Division and moved Dr. Maria Cooper to the Avian Division Director role. Dr. Mike Kopp and Chelsea Leatherman report to Dr. Cooper.
  - All positions in the Meat and Poultry Division are filled.
  - Filled an Administrative Assistant position.
- **Policy:**
  - Assisted with discussions regarding BOAH-related bills in the 2024 General Assembly session and implementation of enrolled acts.
  - 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 create a draft rule to comply with new laws governing state agencies.
  - Participated in BOAH's working group to assess PFAS issues and related agency policies.
- **Technology**
  - Initiated the procurement process to purchase a replacement animal health database program. Began working with the Indiana Office of Technology to plan for implementing the new system.
  - Continued to monitor training for BOAH employees regarding technology security.



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### Animal Programs Division Board Report

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2024

#### Quarterly Highlights

- This quarter, the Animal Programs team welcomed two new members, Olivia Braun, who assumed the role of Cervid Programs Coordinator, and Emily Bloom, Animal Health Specialist for Northeast Indiana.
- On January 18, 2024, BOAH was notified of a skunk from Clark County which tested positive for the north central skunk variant of rabies. The skunk was euthanized following an interaction with a domestic animal (vaccinated dog) and submitted for testing. Following this initial diagnosis, two additional skunks have been found to be positive for rabies in neighboring Washington County. Prior to 2024, the last positive diagnosis of rabies in a terrestrial animal in Indiana was a skunk in 2004. The local health department, Indiana Department of Health (IDOH), BOAH, and Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) have made a collaborative effort to raise awareness. Several local veterinarians are working together to offer low-cost rabies vaccination clinics to reduce the number of unvaccinated domestic animals in the area. This spring, DNR, IDOH, and BOAH will be working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to increase surveillance of skunks in Clark and Washington counties to gain a better understanding of the prevalence of infected skunks in the area. This surveillance will be targeted toward skunks which are found dead on the roadway and those which are exhibiting clinical signs of illness.
- Indiana participated in the Regional African Swine Fever (ASF) Permitting Tabletop Exercise with Michigan, Ohio, and Illinois in January. This exercise brought together swine producers, veterinarians, industry representatives, and animal health officials in four states to discuss a regional approach to permitting during an ASF incident. In March, a designated group reconvened to discuss areas of strength, areas of improvement, and next steps moving forward. The group will continue to meet quarterly to further these discussions.
- H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) was diagnosed in an Indiana commercial poultry flock in Daviess County (Daviess 02) on January 23, 2024, and in a small backyard flock in Allen County (Allen 04) on February 23, 2024. This brings Indiana's H5N1 case count to 19 premises in eight counties. Indiana's expected self-declaration of HPAI freedom is April 5, 2024; however, the Indiana H5N1 HPAI event will not be considered closed until Allen 04 completes its 120-day fallow period on June 22, 2024.
- Equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHV-1, EHM) has been affecting horses in northern Indiana. Seven Indiana premises have been placed under quarantine for EHM in three northern Indiana counties: Elkhart, Kosciusko, and LaGrange. At least seven horses have been euthanized since the end of January due to EHM. Veterinarians in the area have been reporting suspected cases to BOAH. BOAH follows up by issuing official quarantines for the horses on these premises and provides information on biosecurity and disease monitoring.

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## **Programmatic Updates**

### **Animal Care & Welfare**

- BOAH received 90 animal welfare-related complaints or inquiries, leading to 38 animal care investigations this quarter. The complete Animal Programs Investigations Report is included at the end of this report.
- The Animal Programs Division is re-envisioning the Animal Investigations Academy into an online resource offering, and work is underway to prepare this training for interested parties asynchronously rather than as an in-person course. This quarter, work began to develop course content and design the delivery platform.
- An addendum for use in animal welfare investigations involving beef cattle is currently being developed. Addendums have already been developed for dogs, cats, and horses and allow for the standardization of discussion items in investigation reports.
- Dr. Lovejoy continues to serve as the at-large member of the American Veterinary Medical Association's (AVMA's) Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) and was recently voted to become an at-large member of the AVMA AWC's Management Subcommittee (AWCMS). The AWCMS reviews topics that may come before the AVMA AWC and responds to issues needing to be addressed in between AWC meetings.

### **Aquaculture**

- BOAH has received questions from Indiana fish producers requesting more oversight of the live fish markets within the state. There are five international grocery stores in the Indianapolis area that routinely stock live seafood. Dr. Strasser is collaborating with the Food Protection Division of IDOH.
- In the first quarter of 2024, fifteen pre-entry permits for fish have been issued, with thirteen of those being blanket permits.
- Dr. Strasser lectured on aquatic regulatory veterinary medicine for a regulatory medicine course at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

### **Avian**

- BOAH did not receive any reports of clinical signs nor laboratory diagnoses of egg drop syndrome (EDS) this quarter. The last reported case was in June 2023. Merck and Ceva Animal Health report that the vaccine currently being imported from abroad continues to remain in limited supply. USDA Veterinary Services is sharing EDS genetic sequence and an EDS isolate to encourage disease research and development. Dr. Isaac Traynor, BOAH Veterinary Epidemiologist, has put together an EDS follow-up surveillance study using boot cover environmental sampling for possible funding in the upcoming USDA cooperative agreement.
- This quarter, BOAH conducted National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) site visits and inspections at five processing plants, two hatcheries, one laboratory, and completed biosecurity audits and farm inspections for six participating poultry companies. As of early March, BOAH has officially taken on the role of reviewing and approving/denying NPIP VS 9-3 forms which are utilized like permits or health certificates for documenting interstate movements of birds and hatching eggs. On average, BOAH will process 1,800 of these movement certificates per quarter.
- Dr. Cooper and Chelsie Leatherman attended the USDA Live Bird Marketing System (LBMS) Working Group annual meeting in Florida this quarter. As part of the meeting, the LBMS Uniform Standards were reviewed and updated, a process that occurs every four years to incorporate proposed changes from stakeholders and reflect current science.

- HPAI continues to be reported in wild birds in 49 states except Hawaii. Indiana’s last HPAI detection in wild birds was in Vanderburgh County on March 3, 2024.
- Since mid-December, the U.S. has experienced an emerging outbreak of Avian Metapneumovirus Subtype B (AMPV-B) in poultry. This reportable disease, also known as Turkey Rhinotracheitis, has reached approximately a dozen states, affecting turkeys most severely. Other species confirmed to be affected in this outbreak include broilers/breeders and egg layers/breeders. Indiana diagnosed our first case of AMPV-B in mid-March at a Daviess County turkey operation. Clinical signs include coughing, sneezing, sinusitis, decreased egg production, and increased mortality. Secondary bacterial infections are common and often lead to the most severe clinical signs. Previous outbreaks have been caused by Subtype C, and at this time, no vaccine is available for use in the U.S.

### **Cattle Health**

- BOAH received a cattle trace investigation from a USDA inspector due to concerns found during post-mortem inspection. While no etiologic agent was observed within the skeletal muscle, Cysticercosis was the top differential. Due to zoonotic implications, BOAH reached out to the owner to advise them of the findings and provided them with information on transmission and prevention. The owner and their herdsman discussed sanitation protocols with their employees and are identifying and addressing areas for improvement.

### **Cervids**

- The first round of the USDA Cooperative Agreement funding to cover testing costs for obtaining Genomically Estimated Breeding Values (GEBVs) for farmed white-tailed deer was completed with \$148,575 spent toward producer tests. The second round of testing began with \$46,425 available to cover producer costs of GEBV testing.
- The chronic wasting disease (CWD) traceback herd plan for an Indiana deer producer was completed this quarter following a second round of rectal biopsy testing. The herd quarantine was released, and CWD certified status was reinstated.
- Currently, producers are experiencing a tuberculosis (TB) testing roadblock with the absence of Dual Path Platform (DPP) VetTB Assay reagent at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL). Producers are still expected to test within 9 to 15 months of their expiration date. Once BOAH receives the producer’s test results from NVSL, their status will be reinstated. Producers are not able to move deer until negative test results have been received by BOAH and their status restored.
- Recently, one deer tested positive during routine DPP testing. Per protocol, the deer was retested at least 30 days after the original sample collection date and was found to be negative.
- Dr. Chavis attended the Top 30 Whitetail Auction and provided updates on GEBV testing to the industry, and she represented BOAH at the North American Elk Breeders, the Reindeer Farmers Association, and the Owners and Breeders Association annual meetings.
- CWD Program Updates:
  - Total active cervid herds: 284
  - New cervid herds: 2
  - Out of business herds: 4
  - Hunting preserves: 15
  - Enforcement actions:
    - First notice of violation letter (missed CWD sample): 2
    - Suspension letter: 0
    - Warning letter: 0

## **Commercial Dog Breeder & Broker Program**

- As of March 15, 2024, there are 193 active commercial dog breeders and six active dog brokers in Indiana. Four new registrants were added this quarter.
- Indiana House Enrolled Act 1412 will bring changes to how the Commercial Dog Breeder & Broker program currently operates. At this time, BOAH is still discussing the changes that will take place and the new implementation that will come to the program.
- Three BOAH staff members attended the Kennel Management Assistance (KMA) crash course held March 9<sup>th</sup> in northern Indiana. The goal of the course is to discuss participants' viewpoints on assessing dog breeder facilities and come to a uniform consensus among BOAH, USDA, and KMA representatives.

## **Companion Animal**

- There were no new investigations for canine brucellosis this quarter.
- Since the influx of calls BOAH began receiving last fall, reported cases of respiratory illness of unknown etiology in canine patients appear to have subsided. Because it is not a reportable illness in Indiana, BOAH can't accurately enumerate the number of affected animals other than voluntarily reported cases.

## **Compliance**

- Eleven compliance cases were investigated this quarter involving alleged noncompliance with rules related to carcass disposal (5), commercial dog breeder/broker program (5), and dairy compliance (1). Case outcomes this quarter included: corrective action taken (4), unfounded complaint (7), and pending action (0). The full Animal Programs Investigations report is included at the end of this report.

## **Drug Residue Prevention**

- There were three milk drug residues this quarter. One was due to an unmarked dry cow accidentally getting back into the milking herd. The other two milk residue investigations are ongoing.
- In March, Dr. Boyd gave a presentation at Purdue's Small Farms Conference about drug regulations and the need for veterinarians on livestock farms.

## **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.
- The Animal Programs Division is rebranding and repurposing the PETS trailer to have a primary mission focus 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.
- BOAH collaborated with USDA to update the National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) Core Accreditation Orientation for Purdue 4th year students.
- BOAH participated in the Nuclear Energy Agency's Sixth International Nuclear Emergency Exercise (INEX-6), which exercises national and international arrangements for the recovery phase of a nuclear or radiological emergency. As part of the exercise, they explored food safety concerns 12 months after an initial radiological incident with widespread dispersion of radioactive contamination.

## **Equine**

- Indiana renewed its Memorandum of Understanding with the USDA as an approved state for Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM) testing and quarantine, although we currently have no active quarantine facilities in the state.
- In February, Dr. Solomon-Gabl and Dr. Strasser presented a BOAH Lunch and Learn webinar titled, “Equine Arbovirus Prevention, Surveillance, and One Health,” about the equine arboviruses commonly seen in Indiana and to promote the collaborative program between BOAH and IDOH for surveillance of Eastern equine encephalitis that allows reimbursement for testing costs on eligible equids.
- In early March, Dr. Heather Solomon-Gabl traveled to Kentucky to attend a USDA training session on CEM quarantine procedures and brought home valuable insights as she and Dr. Strasser work to update the Indiana protocols for CEM quarantine.
- During the first two months of 2024, 307 Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs) were issued for 456 horses coming to Indiana and 1,502 CVI’s were issued for 2,517 horses leaving Indiana or traveling intrastate. During those same two months, Indiana received 17 extended equine CVIs (EECVIs) for horses coming to Indiana and there were 17 EECVI inspections. On average over January and February, there were 65 active Indiana EECVIs.
- Dr. Solomon-Gabl and Dr. Strasser attended the Indiana Association of Equine Practitioners meeting in March and provided updates to Indiana equine practitioners on equine regulatory issues.

## **Foreign Animal Disease Investigations**

- In addition to HPAI-rule out testing, BOAH conducted three foreign animal disease investigations this quarter. These cases ruled out ASF/CSF in two show pig herds and rabbit hemorrhagic disease virus-2 in a pet rabbit.

## **Licensing**

- Indiana livestock market and dealer license renewals are under way. Licensees must submit a report of their most recent year’s business to BOAH by April 15<sup>th</sup> to keep their license active. There are currently 144 active individual livestock dealer licenses and 63 active livestock market facilities in Indiana.
- Twenty-five disposal operations that service Indiana will begin their renewals soon, as their license expiration date is May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- There are currently 503 active livestock brands registered in Indiana.
- As part of an internal review of Indiana’s licensing programs, BOAH is currently updating state forms to promote ease of obtaining and renewing all licenses.

## **One Health**

- As of late February 2024, Indiana identified its first SARS-CoV-2 presumptive positive wild white-tailed deer. This detection was a result of a USDA surveillance program in which Indiana DNR has participated over the past two deer seasons. The presumptive positive samples have been sent to NVSL for confirmatory testing, results are still pending, and the county of origin is not published yet. A total of 162 nasal swabs were collected during the 2023-2024 surveillance year. During the 2022-2023 surveillance year, SARS-CoV-2 antibodies were detected in 65 of 315 deer samples, which represented 20.6% of samples tested.

## Sheep & Goats

- As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, Indiana has credit for 149.5 sheep (61% of minimum) and 148.5 goats (123% of minimum) for the current Scrapie surveillance cycle which runs from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024.

## Swine

- BOAH continues to participate in 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.
- Dr. Werling attended the Indiana Pork Annual Meeting, Taste of Elegance event, and several regional meetings located throughout the state in January and February. General BOAH and U.S. Swine Health Improvement Plan (U.S. SHIP) updates were provided to attendees.
- The 2024 American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV) Annual Meeting was held in February. This year's meeting included information about disease elimination programs/strategies, lessons and updates in disease preparedness, a demonstration by the beagle brigade, leading AASV into the future, and driving pork demand. It was once again a great opportunity for education on relevant topics and networking with swine veterinarians.
- Indiana submitted its annual renewal application for Pseudorabies Virus (PRV) Stage V (Free) Status to USDA this quarter. This application summarizes the PRV surveillance data, PRV state regulations, and feral/transitional swine management plan for Indiana over the past year.
- The swine cull market exercise planning group reconvened in March to discuss next steps for this sector of the swine industry as it relates to ASF planning, preparedness, and response. Some of these next steps include hosting a webinar to address current industry gaps in foreign animal disease response and surveillance and further development of recommendations and policy related to the swine cull market sector.
- There were two swine brucellosis investigations initiated this quarter.
  - On January 31<sup>st</sup>, BOAH was notified of a non-negative test for swine brucellosis in a sow from Indiana. The sow was tested in early January as a requirement for international movement to Canada. The sow is part of a closed production system which had no signs of reproductive issues. The sample was forwarded to NVSL for confirmatory testing and was confirmed to be non-negative. Dr. Werling performed an epidemiologic investigation and blood was redrawn from the non-negative sow (approximately 1 month after the original sample was drawn) and submitted to the Indiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL). Test results were negative on the BAPA screening test, and the investigation was closed.
  - On March 15<sup>th</sup>, BOAH was notified of two cull sows from a farm in Indiana which were found to be non-negative when tested during routine slaughter surveillance at Purnell Sausage in Kentucky. This investigation has been assigned to a BOAH district veterinarian who will conduct an epidemiologic investigation and collect blood from 33 animals which would have had contact with the non-negative sows. These samples will be submitted to ADDL for BAPA testing.
- Indiana is participating in a traceability pilot project for the U.S. SHIP comparing data submitted by producers to a data repository (Ag View and/or RABapp) to data submitted in compliance with current regulatory requirements and protocols. The pilot project is anticipated to be completed in April, with results analyzed and summarized by the end of May and will help further inform traceability standards.
- Dr. Werling presented "*Preparing for ASF in Indiana: Implementing US SHIP in Exhibition Swine.*" during Delaware's *Protecting Your Pigs: Jump on the SHIP!* workshop in March.

- Indiana was approved for funding in the upcoming U.S. SHIP cooperative agreement funding cycle. The U.S. SHIP program is currently in the process of drafting language for program codification. The public comment period originally planned for Spring 2024 has been delayed to 2025. The program will continue in pilot phase until final rule making is accomplished. USDA’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 funding had a line item for SHIP which allows them to begin hiring some permanent program staff and reinforces Official State Agency (OSA) funding support through cooperative agreements. Additional SHIP funding has been proposed in the President’s FY 25 budget as well.
- As of March 15<sup>th</sup>, the current Indiana U.S. SHIP enrollment by site classification is below. This represents approximately 65% of Breeding Herds and 53% of Growing Pig Herds in Indiana. National enrollment represents approximately 73% of the U.S. breeding herd and 62% of U.S. growing pigs.

<i>Site Classification</i>	<i># Sites</i>	<i>Aggregate Capacity</i>
Boar Stud	1	165
Breeding	36	169,690
Farrow-to-Feeder/Finish	1	3,500
Growing Pig	366	2,129,864
Small Holding	27	16,993
Non-Commercial	3	~10
Packer	2	32,500
Live Animal Market Operations	0	
TOTAL SITES	436	

- One new swine Commuter Herd Agreement was established, and fourteen renewals performed this quarter. As of March 15<sup>th</sup>, Indiana has 73 active Commuter Herd Agreements (43 - Import, 30 - Export) with 13 states.

### **Traceability**

- Fifty-one rejected export CVIs were returned to Indiana veterinarians this quarter. The top three causes for rejection of these export CVIs were: 1) No permit number, 2) Vaccination requirements not met, and 3) Missing statement.
- BOAH continues to participate in discussions about the USAHERDS/Ag Enterprise database upgrade which is estimated to be available soon. BOAH is currently in the procurement process for the new database.
- BOAH continues to train veterinarians within the state of Indiana on the VET-CVI application. This application will replace the Indiana eCVI (fillable PDF) which is being phased out of use. Indiana will continue to accept this PDF version until January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. To help with the transition, the BOAH team hosts monthly training sessions on the VET-CVI platform to ensure that Indiana veterinarians are comfortable with the transition. This quarter, 31 clinics and 78 veterinarians were trained. To date, 394 veterinarians in Indiana across 155 veterinary clinics have been trained to use VET-CVI.
- Movement documents were processed this quarter from the following sources: Commuter Herd: 798; Paper & eCVI: 7,413; VET-CVI: 1,726; GVL & VSPS: 8,344. BOAH issued and reviewed a total of 88 swine import permits and 308 cattle import permits this quarter and allocated, transferred, and/or updated 5,444 Official Identification Tags.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kyle Shipman, DVM  
Animal Programs Division Director

**INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH - ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATIONS REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2024**

<b>Incident Number County</b>	<b>Species Involved</b>	<b>Primary Investigator</b>	<b>Requesting Agency</b>	<b>Reason for Request</b>	<b>Case Classification</b>
15691B0Q-02N Noble	Canine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Abandonment	Animal Care
156K1NWB-016 Hancock	Feline	Miller	Animal Control	Abandonment	Animal Care
156W10TJ-0B4 Tippecanoe	Canine	Boyd	Animal Control	Abandonment	Animal Care
154H1E10-01X Jasper	Bovine	Lovejoy/Strasser	Law Enforcement	Abuse	Animal Care
155Z1CQ1-0B4 Clinton	Porcine	Boyd	Animal Control	Abuse	Animal Care
156S1GDU-0AL Scott	Canine	Macy	Local Official	Abuse	Animal Care
15640YTD-02N Huntington	Canine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Aggressive Behavior	Animal Care
154V13CE-0CJ Vermillion	Canine, Feline	Solomon	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
1560182P-01X Jackson	Feline	Lovejoy	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
155N0XQU-04C Randolph	Canine	Justice	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
15691BUJ-02N Miami	Canine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
155Y0S41-0B4 Tippecanoe	Canine	Boyd	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
157J15MZ-04C Wayne	Canine	Justice	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
156R10PV-01X Lawrence	Canine	Lovejoy	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
15671EGL-0CJ Parke	Canine	Solomon	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care

**INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH - ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATIONS REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2024**

<b>Incident Number County</b>	<b>Species Involved</b>	<b>Primary Investigator</b>	<b>Requesting Agency</b>	<b>Reason for Request</b>	<b>Case Classification</b>
156C11L4-02N Whitley	Avian, Canine, Caprine, Porcine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
156C1AYT-02N Whitley	Avian, Canine, Porcine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
156T1GCB-04C Wayne	Canine	Justice	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
156K16JT-02N Huntington	Canine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
156R1039-02N Whitley	Canine	Chavis	Humane Organization	Neglect	Animal Care
156T10M0-02N Huntington	Canine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
15741JE4-0AL Ripley	Canine	Macy	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
157413EV-04C Rush	Bovine, Ovine	Justice	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
15771B2N-02N Huntington	Canine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
158117HR-04C Madison	Bovine	Justice	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
15821B4D-01Z Lake	Avian, Bovine, Caprine, Equine	Strasser	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
157T12Q3-01Y Kosciusko	Canine, Caprine, Equine, Feline, Porcine	Lamb	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
157K1ENU-02N Noble	Canine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
157V17L7-0CJ Owen	Canine	Solomon	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
157X0UY6-04C Madison	Canine	Justice	Humane Organization	Neglect	Animal Care

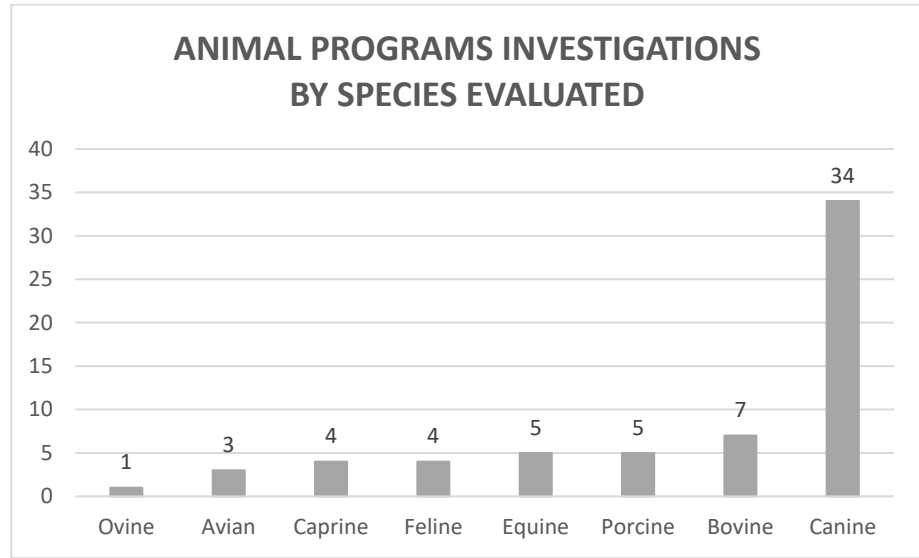
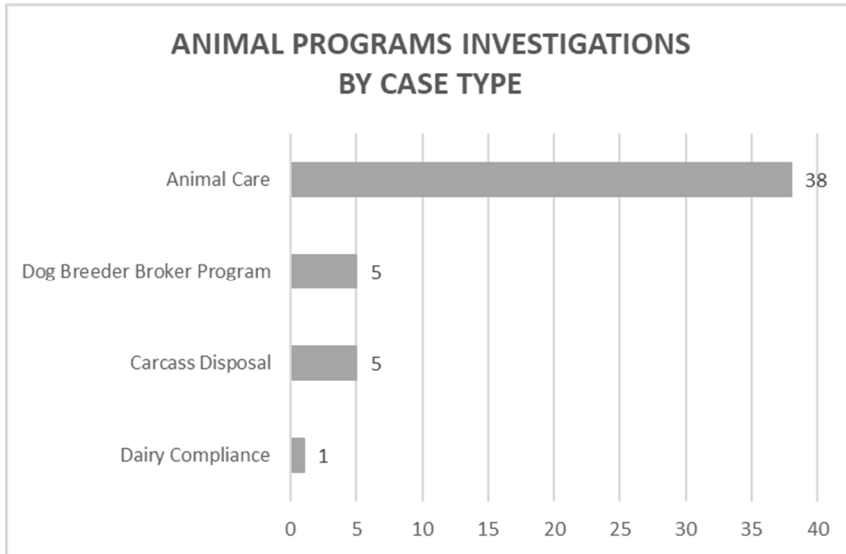
**INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH - ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATIONS REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2024**

<b>Incident Number County</b>	<b>Species Involved</b>	<b>Primary Investigator</b>	<b>Requesting Agency</b>	<b>Reason for Request</b>	<b>Case Classification</b>
157X0ZFW-04C Madison	Canine	Justice	Humane Organization	Neglect	Animal Care
157S18Y0-0CJ Owen	Equine	Solomon	Private Citizen	Neglect	Animal Care
157U11B2-02N Noble	Canine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
157Y16GQ-04C Wayne	Canine	Justice	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
157Z1RZJ-016 Morgan	Canine	Miller	Humane Organization	Neglect	Animal Care
15840ZKG-093 Knox	Canine	Renshaw	Animal Control	Neglect	Animal Care
1589152E-09 Knox	Canine	Renshaw	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
158B1FOJ-02N Huntington	Equine	Chavis	Law Enforcement	Neglect	Animal Care
156Y15WC-01Y Clay	Equine	Gunn	Private Citizen	Improper Carcass Disposal	Carcass Disposal
156L18KE-0BJ Elkhart	Bovine	Paul	BOAH Dairy Division	Improper Carcass Disposal	Carcass Disposal
157F18EP-0BJ St. Joseph	Bovine	Paul	Humane Organization	Improper Carcass Disposal	Carcass Disposal
157R1DFY-0BJ St. Joseph	Caprine	Paul	Private Citizen	Improper Carcass Disposal	Carcass Disposal
157R1G3H-0BJ Kosciusko	Avian, Porcine	Paul	Animal Control	Improper Carcass Disposal	Carcass Disposal
156Z165Y-01Y Boone	Bovine	Price	Dairy Organization	Sale of Raw Milk	Dairy Compliance
15661718-0BJ Lagrange	Canine	Paul	Private Citizen	Evaluate Registration Requirement	Dog Breeder/Broker

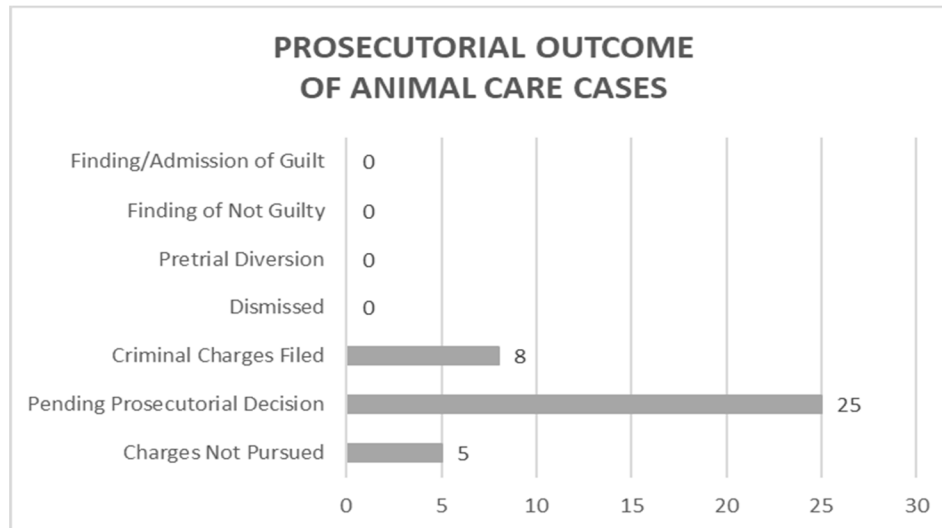
**INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH - ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATIONS REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2024**

<b>Incident Number County</b>	<b>Species Involved</b>	<b>Primary Investigator</b>	<b>Requesting Agency</b>	<b>Reason for Request</b>	<b>Case Classification</b>
155Y0RNY-0BJ Cass	Canine	Paul	Private Citizen	Evaluate Registration Requirement	Dog Breeder/Broker
156Y1BKR-01Y Franklin	Canine	Siedling	Private Citizen	Evaluate Registration Requirement	Dog Breeder/Broker
156Y1E1C-01Y Franklin	Canine	Siedling	Private Citizen	Evaluate Registration Requirement	Dog Breeder/Broker
157R1WKX-01X Jackson	Canine	Lovejoy	Humane Organization	Neglect	Dog Breeder/Broker

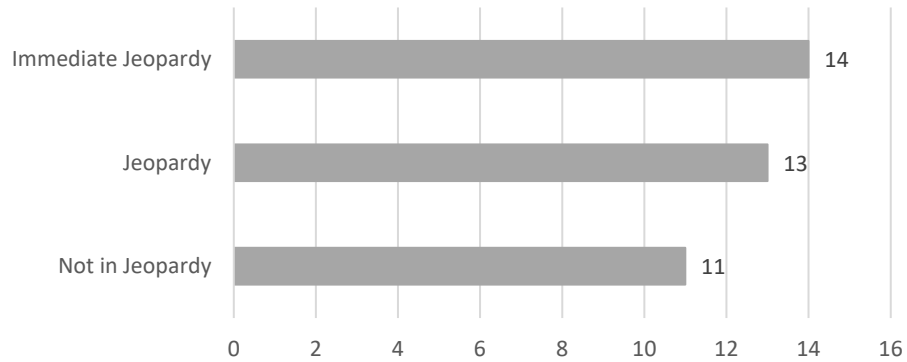
## ANIMAL PROGRAMS INVESTIGATION SUMMARY



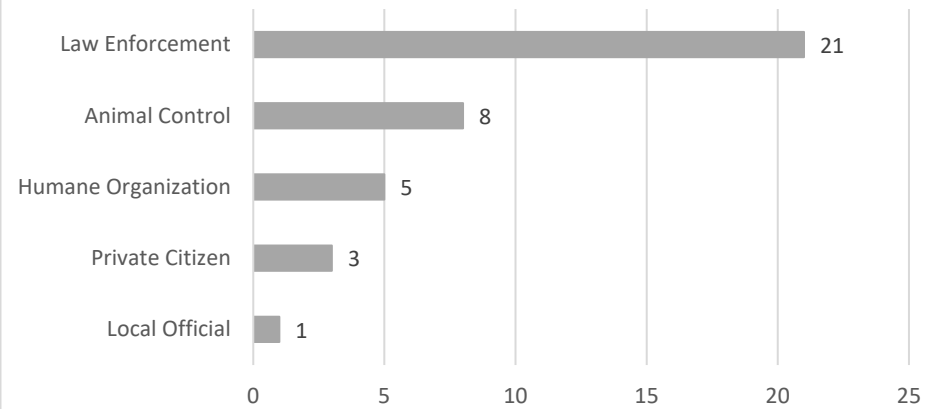
## ANIMAL CARE INVESTIGATIONS SUMMARY



### BOAH CASE FINDINGS FOR ANIMAL CARE INVESTIGATIONS

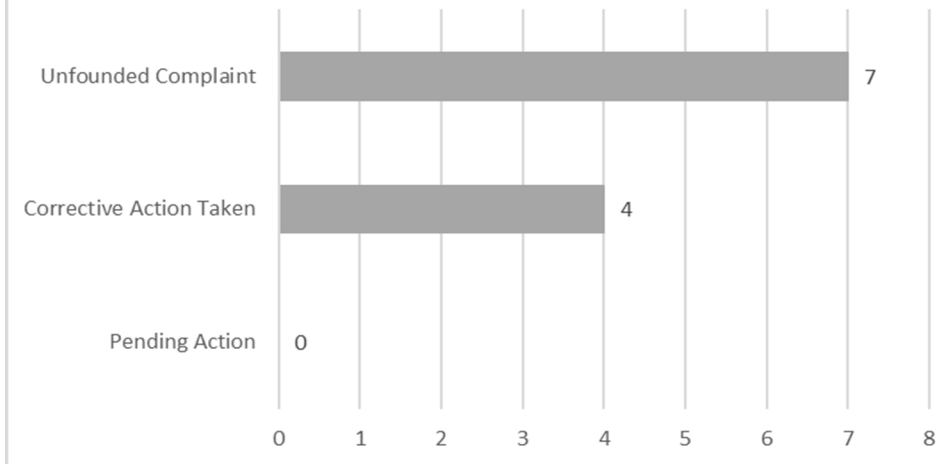


### SOURCE OF COMPLAINT FOR ANIMAL CARE INVESTIGATIONS



### COMPLIANCE INVESTIGATIONS SUMMARY

#### COMPLIANCE INVESTIGATION OUTCOMES



## REPORT TO THE BOARD, April 2024

### Quarterly Highlights

- 5 new facilities have joined the program this quarter. One is a Custom Exempt slaughter and processing facility (Union Center Meats) and 2 are new Inspected slaughter and processing facilities (Baraka Halal and Elstons Community Meats). 2 plants have increased their inspection from Custom Exempt to State inspection. (Beechy Custom Meats and Syracuse Custom Meats) We had 1 inspected facility close (Deborah Meats).
- Dan Doles, EIAO, held a HACCP training session on March 7, 2024, for 12 inspectors and supervisors.
- Dr. Suhr and Dr Swiatkowski attended and spoke at the Indiana Meat Packers and Processors Association Meeting on February 23rd and 24<sup>th</sup>.



### Fast Facts:

- Facilities by type:

Red meat harvest and processing	53
Poultry harvest and processing	1
Meat harvest, no further insp. processing	2
<u>Processing only facilities</u>	<u>28</u>
<b>Official establishments</b>	<b>84</b>
+	
Limited Permit Retail HRI	3
<u>Custom exempt establishments</u>	<u>56</u>
<b>Total program facilities</b>	<b>143</b>

- We received 4 complaints of illegal slaughter in the last quarter and 3 reports of illegal meat sales. Our 1 1/2 Compliance officers investigated these reports as well as performed their routine surveillance of retail stores and markets.
- We currently have two open inspector positions- one in the Northeast area and one in the East Central area. Both have been hired and are set to onboard in a week.
- BOAH MPI continues to take advantage of USDA/FSIS virtual training courses. We had 2 employees complete the Inspection Methods Course in March. They are now able to inspect in our CIS plants.

### 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.
- 2 plants are expected to join the CIS program in the next quarter.
- Trainings for the inspectors by the EIAOs will continue on a quarterly basis.
- Dr. Suhr and Dr. Swiatkowski are expected to attend the Association of State Meat Inspection Directors semi-annual meeting in May virtually to discuss state program funding and other topics.

### 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 monthly meetings to help support new and existing plants.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kerri Z. Suhr, DVM*



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

## INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

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

### Dairy Division

#### Quarterly Highlights

- For the first quarter of 2024 there were 16 state surveys and 3 Federal Check Ratings. Overall average farm sanitation score state surveys 91. The overall average enforcement score for state surveys was 94.
- These ratings included 4 Grade A plants, 2 aseptic plants, 2 single service plants and 11 farm BTU's.

#### Fast Facts

- Currently 677 Grade A farms
- Haulers 447
- 25 Grade A Dairy Plants
- 3 Pending Grade A Plant
- 4 Truck Wash / 2 Transfer Stations
- 33 farms with a total of 177 AMI's
- 10 Manufactured Grade Farms
- Milk Trucks 523
- 23 Manufactured Grade Plants
- 15 Single Service Manufactures
- 9 Distributors

#### Looking Ahead

- Patrick Hash will be traveling to Colorado for the Western Regional Milk Seminar 4/22-25.
- The Dairy Division will be sending a representative to Cornell University for a High Temperature Short Time (HTST) Pasteurizer Workshop. This course will help with the understanding of equipment and design, instrumentation, and sequence logic.

#### Partnerships and Outreach

- February 28 through March 1, the Dairy Division held a multi-day staff training at the Abe Martin Lodge in Brown County State Park. During these days the Division was able to revisit all debits for farm and plant inspections to better standardize interpretations across the state. The Division was also able to do pasteurization training to help create a better understanding of the functions of all parts involved in a system.
- Nathan Campbell, Matt Hauschild, and Patrick Hash presented for the Dairy Division at the Indiana Milk Quality Conference that was held March 12-13. This conference had over one hundred and twenty participants including dairy staff, industry partners, and State of Indiana dairy producers.

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

January 10, 2024 through April 9, 2024

### Highlights of the Quarter

1. We appreciate the actions of the 2024 Indiana General Assembly regarding the BOAH Agency bill (SB 104) authored by Senator Leising. This bill addressed key issues for the Board of Veterinary Medicine, and it will streamline several procedures important to the veterinary community. Additionally, after several draft versions, the Legislature passed HB 1412 which establishes new procedures for the sale of pups through Indiana pet stores. Under this new legislation, BOAH is required to register pet shops, animal care facilities and animal rescue operations. BOAH is currently registering commercial dog breeders and brokers. Other provisions of the bill establish approved origins for pups sold through pet shops, and will eventually require BOAH to conduct pet shop inspections if sufficient funds are provided.
2. Effective April 1, 2024, BOAH established a new program division lead by Dr. Maria Cooper. The newly minted Avian Health Division was established in response to the significant growth of the Indiana poultry industry, coupled with the new responsibilities BOAH has undertaken with the National Poultry Improvement Program (NPIP). Dr. Cooper will be joined by Dr. Michael Kopp and Chelsie Leatherman to round out the Avian Health Division team.
3. Although Indiana was struck with Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in a southern Indiana turkey flock on January 23, 2024, rapid response by the affected company kept the incident to one site. BOAH hosted an industry call that same evening, as is customary, to advise all stakeholders of the detection. A control area was established, and all commercial flocks were promptly tested. Additionally, backyard flocks were also tested in the area, and no further HPAI was detected. We appreciate the preparedness planning by our poultry industry partners to keep the disease contained. BOAH continues to provide teams to rapidly respond to these incidents. We also appreciate the prompt testing of samples by the Indiana ADDL. These results are essential to our rapid response.
4. Several members of the BOAH team toured the new beef harvesting facility in Decatur, IN. What was once a dairy processing plant is being converted into a state-of-the-art beef harvesting facility. Known as Country Butcher, the new plant features the newest technology and equipment largely imported from the Netherlands. Although not in operation at the time of our visit, an invitation has been extended to see the plant when it is fully functioning.
5. Indiana BOAH participated in a four-state African Swine Fever (ASF) permitting exercise with Michigan, Ohio, and Illinois. Indiana's participants included representatives of the Indiana Pork Producers Association, pork producers and swine veterinarians. The two-day event went very well, and BOAH is very appreciative of the producer and veterinary engagement. A follow-up meeting of the four states was held in Angola, IN, and there are several action items to improve the permitting process amongst our states.
6. Over the last year, BOAH has been an active participant in the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) traceability deliberations. After several meetings and discussions, the traceability package was taken to the National Pork Forum in early March, and it passed unanimously. The

traceability language will now be forwarded to USDA with the goal of codifying it into federal law.

7. A Poultry Health Advisory Council (PHAC) meeting was held on April 5, 2024. These meetings with poultry industry stakeholders have been very helpful in receiving feedback on critical issues affecting the poultry industry. HPAI, Egg Drop Syndrome virus (EDSv), *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* F strain vaccine use, and avian metapneumovirus subtype B were all discussed. We appreciate the active participation of the poultry industry in these discussions.
8. On March 25, 2024, USDA, Veterinary Services hosted a national call to report the detection of HPAI in milk samples from a Texas dairy. Dairies in the panhandle of Texas had previously reported cows that were off feed, and they were producing milk that was colostrum-like. The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) reported they first learned about the clinical findings about 10 days prior, but the industry and their veterinarians had been attempting to determine the cause since early February 2024. Although the entire epidemiologic investigation is underway, the HPAI detection may explain the unusual incident. BOAH advised the Indiana commodity partners, the veterinary community, as well as the State Department of Health and the Department of Natural Resources.
9. In anticipation of the April 8 total solar eclipse, BOAH sent advisory information to all employees. Several state agencies have been actively engaged in eclipse related activities, and we have shared their work with our team members.
10. The Board of Veterinary Medicine met on January 25. The seven-member Board presided over several personal appearances, renewals/reinstatements, and administrative hearings. Based on data gathered during the license and registration renewal process, it was reported that 2,678 veterinarians have an Indiana license, 2,034 (76%) of these veterinarians are in Indiana, and 1,210 (59.5%) of the Indiana veterinarians are Purdue graduates. Also, 1,947 veterinary technicians have an Indiana registration, and 1,799 (92%) of these technicians are in Indiana.
11. Skunk variant rabies was diagnosed in Clark and Washington counties this quarter. This is the first time skunk rabies has been diagnosed in Indiana in over 20 years. BOAH provided information to the veterinary community and encouraged vaccination of pets as per Indiana law. BOAH has continued to collaborate with other agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, State Department of Health, Department of Natural Resources, and local health departments.
12. I have had the honor of being invited to several meetings during the quarter, including, but not limited to, Indiana Veterinary Medical Association board meeting, Indiana Beef Cattle Association annual conference, Indiana Pork's Taste of Elegance, Crossroads Veterinary Conference, Indiana State Poultry Association's (ISPA) legislative event, Veterinary Medicine 102 lecture, American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) lecture at Purdue, Block and Bridle Club at Purdue, ISPA Board Meeting, ADDL Advisory Committee and the Board of Veterinary Medicine.

## **Looking Forward**

1. Since HB 1412 has been signed by the Governor, BOAH has already hosted an internal discussion regarding the implementation of the canine care standards bill. BOAH was already providing a voluntary registration program for animal care facilities, so with some enhancements, the

required registration of pet shops, animal care facilities and animal rescue operations can be accomplished by July 1, 2024, the effective date of the legislation.

2. The data accumulated during the last license/registration renewals cycles for veterinarians and technicians is being analyzed by the State of Indiana's Management Performance Hub. This data will provide valuable information about the location of veterinary practices, their practice activities, and their plans for the next two years. The agency bill signed into law by Governor Holcomb last month now requires a set of questions be asked every two years as veterinarians and technicians renew their licenses/registrations. Therefore, there will now be an ongoing set of important data to better inform the Indiana Center for Animal Policy.
3. Although the 2024 legislative session just ended, plans are already underway for the 2025 session. The budget will be considered during the next session, therefore BOAH will be actively developing the agency budget over the next several months.
4. There are several meetings scheduled over the next quarter, including the Board of Veterinary Medicine, the USDA Core Accreditation Course for graduating Purdue veterinarians, North Central USAHA meeting in Lincoln, NE, and the Canine Welfare Science Forum at Purdue.
5. More to come...

Bret D. Marsh, DVM

State Veterinarian