

Meat and Poultry Safety and Quality PDG

Attendees: Matt Taylor (Chair), Melvin Carter (Vice Chair), Ana Lucia Lemos, Andrea Etter, Andy Hwang, Barbara Masters, Byron Chaves, Cindy Austin, Dianna Bourassa, Gina Geornaras, Isabel Walls, James Dickson, Jeremy Adler, John Jarosh, John Marcy, Jonathan Basha, Jordan Nehls, Kara Baldus, Kathleen O'Donnell, Kathy Glass, Kesha Booth, Kis Hale, Kristin Schill, Lei Zhang, Lynn McMullen, Mandy Carr, Mark Muldoon, Mary Anne Amalaradjou, Mindy Brashears, Morgan Wallace, Pamela Wilger, Robert Roe, Rachel Edelstein, Renata Bromberg, Subash Shrestha, Sam Annor, Stefan Wright, Stevie Hretz, Wendy Bedale, Wendy White, and Yuhuan Chen.

Board/Staff Present: Emilio Esteban, David Tharp, and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 44.

Meeting Called to Order: 11:05 a.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Wendy White.

Old Business: Dr. Matt Taylor, PDG Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. Eastern. He began the meeting by presenting the 2020 Meat and Poultry Safety and Quality PDG meeting minutes from the Oct. 1, 2020 virtual meeting; there were no changes or amendments. Mary Ann Amalaradjou made a motion to approve the 2020 minutes as is, and John Marcy seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Matt introduced the Vice Chair nominee, Dr. Melvin Carter, Director Risk Management and Innovations Staff, Office of Policy and Program Development, USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service. There were no objections, and the PDG will make recommendations to the IAFP Board for approval. Matt shared the IAFP Executive Board announcements with the membership. Dr. Emilio Esteban later shared greetings from the Board.

New Business: Dr. Carter introduced the first speaker, Dr. Rachel Edelstein, Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy and Program Development, USDA FSIS to give the membership an USDA FSIS update. She shared updated *Salmonella* Performance Standards for beef trim and ground beef, 2 positives out of 48 samples for establishments > 50k lbs./day. The agency is currently reviewing comments and do not yet have a publication date. *Campylobacter* standards for poultry (chicken and turkey) carcasses and parts are currently being updated and testing methods are being revised. Proposed standards for comminuted chicken or turkey products are 5 positives of 52 samples or 9.6% positive. *Salmonella* Standards for pork products showed a total *Salmonella* prevalence of 13.6% for total pork products (comminuted, intact, and non-intact cuts).

Expansion of non-O157 STEC Verification Sampling Program to all raw beef product that are also tested for O157:H7. She also shared regulatory updates for egg product facilities. New Swine Slaughter Inspection System update, which will implement new line speeds on June 30, 2021. Few new Guidelines for Industry that are being developed, which involve updates to FSIS Appendix A (*Salmonella* lethality), Appendix B (Stabilization) and will shortly release these revisions. Recently posted various HACCP and Sanitation guidelines and models.

Melvin then introduced the second speaker, Dr. Kis Robertson Hale, Assistant Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service, Deputy Assistant Administrator, FSIS Office Public Health. She discussed USDA's actions during the pandemic. Verification testing was not significantly affected and USDA FSIS was able to maintain meat and poultry inspection through inter-agency collaboration efforts. She gave an update on recalls; there was a significant decrease in recalls and public health alerts in 2020. This decrease was attributed to a decrease in incident reporting to FSIS and was reflected in few reported foodborne outbreaks (n = 6).

Matt introduced the final speaker, Dr. Mindy Brashears, Professor of Food Microbiology and

Director of the International Center for Food Industry Excellence at Texas Tech to discuss her previous role at former Under-Secretary of Agriculture, USDA.

Lastly, Matt called for ideas for the IAFP 2022 Symposia, Roundtable, or Webinar ideas. The deadline for proposal submitting is Oct. 5, 2021; there is no deadline for webinar proposals. Matt also reviewed the 2021 symposia that are supported by the Meat and Poultry PDG.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. The PDG recommends approval Dr. Melvin Carter as Vice Chair of the Meat and Poultry PDG.

Next Meeting Date: July 31–August 3, 2022, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Dr. Matt Taylor.