

Nevada Board of Agriculture
Meeting minutes
Wednesday, March 9, 2022 9:00am



Meeting Location: Nevada Department of Agriculture
405 S. 21st Street
Sparks, NV 89431
775-353-3601

Video Conference: Nevada Department of Agriculture Nevada Department of Agriculture
2300 East St. Louis Avenue 4780 East Idaho Street
Las Vegas, NV 89104 Elko, NV 89801
702-668-4590 775-778-0270

Virtual Meeting Information: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86236841306>
Meeting ID: 862 3684 1306
Phone: +1-669-900-9128
Phone Access Code: 862 3684 1306

Public notice

Below is an agenda of all items to be considered. Action may be taken on items preceded by an asterisk (*). Two asterisks denote possible closed session (**). Items on the agenda may be taken out of the posted order, items may be combined for consideration, and items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time at the discretion of the chairperson. Unless noted as an action item, discussion of any item raised during a report or public comment is limited to that necessary for clarification or necessary to decide whether to place the item on a future agenda.

Public comment may be presented in-person (if there is a physical meeting location), by computer, phone, or written comment. Written comments may be submitted by completing a public comment form available online at

http://agri.nv.gov/Administration/Board_of_Agriculture/Board_of_Agriculture_Public_Comment/.

Written comments can also be submitted via fax to 775-353-3661, email to sbellwood@agri.nv.gov or to any of our offices listed below.

- a. Nevada Department of Agriculture: 405 S. 21st Street, Sparks, NV 89431
- b. Nevada Department of Agriculture: 4780 E. Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801
- c. Nevada Department of Agriculture: 2300 E. St. Louis Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104

The chairperson may limit public comment that is repetitious, does not relate to a matter within the board's jurisdiction or prevents the meeting from continuing in an orderly manner. All public comment should be addressed to the Board of Agriculture and not an individual member. The board asks that your comments are expressed in a courteous manner. All public comment is limited to three minutes per person. Unused time may not be reserved by the speaker nor allocated to another speaker.

Reasonable efforts will be made for members of the public who have disabilities and require special accommodations for assistance at the meeting. Please call Samantha Bellwood at 775-432-4263.

Notice of this meeting was posted on or before 9 a.m. on the third working day before the meeting at the following locations: Nevada Department of Agriculture, 405 S. 21st Street, Sparks, NV 89431, Nevada Department of Agriculture, 4780 E. Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801, Nevada Department of Agriculture, 2300 St. Louis Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104. Copies of the agenda, supporting documentation and meeting minutes are available, at no charge, at the Nevada Department of Agriculture website at agri.nv.gov or www.notice.nv.gov or by visiting the Nevada Department of Agriculture, 405 S. 21st Street, Sparks, NV 89431.

Agenda

1. Open meeting-call meeting to order by Chair Woody Worthington

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Moment of Silent Reflection
- C. Roll call

Members in attendance: Woody Worthington, Valerie Drake, Dave Coon, Paul Noe, Pete Paris, Charlie Frey, Varlin Higbee, Heather Lackey, Jim Snyder, Bernard Petersen

NDA staff in attendance: Jennifer Ott, Samantha Bellwood, Doug Farris, Homa Anooshehpour, Amber Smyer, Ciara Ressel, Mikayla Jones, Ashley Jeppson, Cadence Matijevich, Bill Striejewske, Dillon Davidson, Richard Yien, Dr. Amy Mitchell, Alexa Johnson, Ruscilla Twyford, Valerie Hoffman, Patricia Hoppe

The meeting was called to order at 9:04am.

2. Public Comment

Greg Hendricks, representing the American Wild Horse Campaign provided public comment outlining the status of their cooperative agreement with the NDA to provide fertility control to the feral/stray horses located on the Virginia Range. The cooperative agreement is set to end in April, and he will work with the NDA on the renewal.

Jennifer Garrett provided public comment in opposition to the proposed regulation changes to NAC 571 that would require annual testing for Trichomoniasis.

Jeff Fontaine, representing the Lincoln County Development Authority, provided public comment supportive of the NDA's efforts to increase and support emerging meat slaughtering and processing facilities in Nevada.

3. Minutes

- A. *Approve December 8, 2021 minutes (*for possible action*)

Charlie Frey motioned to approve the December 8, 2021 meeting minutes. Heather Lackey seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

4. Discussion and approval of Board of Agriculture Bylaws

- A. *Discuss and approve updated board bylaws – Woody Worthington, Chair (*for possible action*)

Due to legal reasons, Chairman Worthington pulled the item from consideration until further review by the Deputy Attorney General's office.

5. Discuss Demar Dahl Resolution

- A. *Discuss resolution brought forward by Demar Dahl at the December 8, 2021 meeting during public comment regarding brand inspections – Woody Worthington, Chair (*for possible action*)

Upon discussion, Chairman Worthington assigned Vice Chair Higbee to conduct further research and the resolution will be further discussed at the June Board of Agriculture meeting.

6. Reno Rodeo Presentation

- A. Presentation of Reno Livestock Event Center renovation plans – Perry DiLoreto and Mike Torvinen (*for information only*)

7. Board Member Updates on Represented Industries

- A. Industry updates – Board Members (*for information only*)

8. Director's Report

- A. Report – Jennifer Ott, Director (*for information only*)

9. Animal Industry

- A. Board update – Doug Farris, Administrator (*for information only*)

10. Plant Industry

- A. Board update – Ashley Jeppson, Administrator (*for information only*)

11. Measurement Standards

- A. Board update – Cadence Matijevich, Administrator (*for information only*)

12. Administration

- A. Board update – Jerri Conrad, Deputy Director (*for information only*)

13. Food and Nutrition

A. Board update – Homa Anooshehpoor, Administrator (*for information only*)

14. Public Comment

Pete Paris provided public comment encouraging Chairman Worthington to have a private discussion with the Deputy Attorney General regarding the bylaws and then scheduling an executive session for the board to discuss them before bringing them to a regular meeting.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:51am.

3/17/22

To; The State of Nevada Department of Agriculture Director, Members of the Nevada Board of Agriculture, and The Nevada State Veterinarian,

Hello,

We are writing this letter to voice our opposition to mandatory yearly Trichomoniasis testing of bulls in Nevada for the following reasons;

First; The current regulations are sufficient and if properly enforced can ensure that problem Trich areas in Nevada can be cleaned up.

Years ago, there was a similar proposal to require mandatory testing. Because the proposal was not well received, ranchers and agency personnel got together and developed the current Trich regulations. The existing regulations require that when a bull tests positive, then all the neighboring herds are to be notified and their bulls tested and cleaned up and if another bull is found positive, then those neighboring herds will have to Trich test and clean up any positive bulls, etc. This regulation enables the State Vet to clean up problem Trich areas and ensures that producers won't be re-infected continually from a neighbor's bull. It is a good compromise between no regulations and mandatory annual bull testing. We have heard that enforcement of the current regulations may be difficult because the wording may not be strong enough. Modifying the existing regulations to ensure enforcement may be needed and would be the wiser, more realistic path to take versus requiring yearly Trich testing.

Second; Yearly mandatory Trich testing will put a financial and logistical burden on ranchers. Current costs to Trich test range from \$25 to \$50/bull for the culture test. The more accurate PCR test costs between \$50 and \$80/bull. This cost is only for the vet and testing. It doesn't include the day of labor and maintenance of the facilities to test the bulls. We all know bulls are difficult to handle and very hard on equipment and corrals and the logistics of gathering and testing the bulls

can be very problematic especially on producers that don't ever gather all their bulls at once. I know that, for us, yearly testing will be a real burden. Our bulls are usually in a couple of different spots so that means moving the chute, and scheduling a vet twice or 3 times to test bulls that were lost and found later causing increased costs for vet travel and days lost to testing. This adds another yearly mandatory cost to an industry that cannot raise its prices to pay for these extra costs.

Third; Mandatory testing does not eradicate Trich. The states that do have mandatory testing still have positive bulls. Yes, less than they did before mandatory testing but they haven't been able to eradicate Trich and won't be able to because bulls are only half of the problem, open dry cows are the other. If clean bulls are put with open dry cows that have Trich, the bulls will get re-infected and go on to infect the cows that they are breeding.

Fourth; Nevada does not have a statewide Trich problem so there is no need to force producers that do not have a Trich problem in their area to test for Trich yearly. Data provided from the NV Dept of Ag showed that from 2014 to 2019, 99.2% of the Nevada bulls tested were not infected. We currently have placed a State of Nevada Public Records Request to the Dept. of Ag. to get more current testing rate results. This low incidence of positive bulls in Nevada proves that producers are already taking steps to prevent Trich through their own voluntary testing and management. Producers that are controlling Trich by taking all the correct steps to stop Trich should not be penalized with government mandated testing.

The Nevada Dept. of Agriculture forcing mandatory yearly Trich testing is an unnecessary excessive government intrusion especially when ranchers are already stressed both economically and physically by low prices and drought.

Therefore, we want to voice our opposition to these proposed changes and make you aware that there are many other producers against it also. This issue was discussed in 2019, so at that time we distributed a petition against changing the current regulations. One hundred and eighty ranchers signed this petition,

demonstrating their opposition to mandatory yearly Trich testing. We have included a copy of this petition and their signatures with this letter.

These proposed changes are unnecessary and would be costly and burdensome for producers to comply with and for the state to enforce. Enforcement of the current regulations will achieve the same goal.

Please call me at (775) 934-5528 with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Garrett

Hooper Ranch

For Nevada Livestock Owners and Producers 2019

We, as Nevada cattle producers are opposed to mandatory yearly Trichomoniasis testing in Nevada. A regulation for mandatory yearly Trich testing of bulls is being proposed with possible fines of \$1000 per bull and/ or not providing brand inspection for producers who do not comply. Testing will cost from \$25 to \$80 per bull per year. In the last six years, 99.2% of the Nevada bulls tested have not been infected (data provided by the NV Dept. of Ag). NV currently has Trich regulations that are not being enforced. Infected areas can be cleaned up with the enforcement and possible modification of the existing Trich regulations. Therefore, there is no need for burdening producers with another costly government regulation.

Print Name:	Signature:
1. <u>Craig Spratling</u>	<u>Craig Spratling</u>
2. <u>Jean Spratling</u>	<u>Jean Spratling</u>
3. <u>Amelia Wakley</u>	<u>Amelia Wakley</u>
4. <u>Taylor Wakley</u>	<u>Taylor Wakley</u>
5. <u>Shane Ritchie</u>	<u>Shane Ritchie</u>
6. <u>Jennette Ritchie</u>	<u>Jennette Ritchie</u>
7. <u>Travis Myers</u>	<u>Travis Myers</u>
8. <u>McCrae Myers</u>	<u>McCrae Myers</u>
9. <u>Dale Lotspeich</u>	<u>Dale Lotspeich</u>
10. <u>Jammy Myers</u>	<u>Jammy Myers</u>
11. <u>Daniel Lotspeich</u>	<u>Daniel Lotspeich</u>
12. <u>DUSTY ZGRAGGEN</u>	<u>Dusty Zgraggen</u>
13. <u>MARtha P. Hoofs</u>	<u>Martha P. Hoofs</u>
14. <u>Mike Morrison</u>	<u>Mike Morrison</u>
15. <u>Wyatt Hooper</u>	<u>Wyatt Hooper</u>
16. <u>Jim Wachtel</u>	<u>Jim Wachtel</u>
17. <u>Jonathan Dahl</u>	<u>Jonathan Dahl</u>
18. <u>Tami Dahl</u>	<u>Tami P. Dahl</u>
19. <u>Stan Wright</u> Stan Wright	<u>Stan Wright</u>
20. <u>Jana S. Wright</u> Jana Wright	<u>Jana S. Wright</u>

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- Print Name:**
1. Wyllie Wolf
 2. Lili A Wolf
 3. Kevin Tomera
 4. Kristi Tomera
 5. Chuck R Leveille
 6. CHUCK WOLF
 7. BARBARA WOLF
 8. Justin Wolf
 9. Andrew Hougard
 10. Sudnee Hougard
 11. Jared Swensen
 12. Marge Prunty
 13. Jonathan Botta
 14. Edgardo Filippini
 15. Dan Filippini
 16. Shawn Goemmen
 17. Mindy Goemmer
 18. Alvin Pattani
 19. Stefanie Pattani
 20. John Ross

- Signature:**
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 4. Kristi Tomera
 5. Chuck R Leveille
 6. Chuck Wolf
 7. Barbara A. Wolf
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Print Name:	Signature:
1. <u>Pat Wines</u>	<u>Pat Wines</u>
2. <u>Rachel Wines</u>	<u>Rachel Wines</u>
3. <u>Gary Wines</u>	<u>Gary Wines</u>
4. <u>Cardace Wines</u>	<u>Cardace Wines</u>
5. <u>KLJU JACKSON</u>	<u>KLJU JACKSON</u>
6. <u>Clark Jones</u>	<u>Clark Jones</u>
7. <u>William M. Bowers</u>	<u>Will Bowers</u>
8. <u>Joe Wines</u>	<u>Joe Wines</u>
9. <u>Zane Wines</u>	<u>Zane Wines</u>
10. <u>Ben Patterson</u>	<u>Ben Patterson</u>
11. <u>Steve Wines</u>	<u>Steve Wines</u>
12. <u>Lytle Wines</u>	<u>Lytle Wines</u>
13. <u>Neil McQueary</u>	<u>Neil McQueary</u>
14. <u>Clint Riggins</u>	<u>Clint Riggins</u>
15. <u>FRA J. Wines</u>	<u>FRA J. Wines</u>
16. <u>Madson Bowers</u>	<u>Madson Bowers</u>
17. <u>Lachlan McQueary</u>	<u>Lachlan McQueary</u>
18. <u>Marva Smith</u>	<u>Marva Smith</u>
19. <u>Josh Smith</u>	<u>Josh A. Smith</u>
20. <u>Tracie S. Fitzgerald</u>	<u>Tracie S. Fitzgerald</u>

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Print Name:

Signature:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>KENNETH G. JONES</u> | <u>Kenneth Jones</u> |
| 2. <u>LORNA S. JONES</u> | <u>Lorna S. Jones</u> |
| 3. <u>MARLOW DAHL</u> | <u>Marlow Dahl</u> |
| 4. <u>STEPHANIE DAHL</u> | <u>Stephanie Dahl</u> |
| 5. <u>Paul Ness</u> | <u>Paul Ness</u> |
| 6. <u>Logan Sampson</u> | <u>Logan Sampson</u> |
| 7. <u>Neil McQuary</u> | <u>Neil McQuary</u> |
| 8. <u>NICHOL RISH</u> | <u>Nichol Rish</u> |
| 9. <u>Jason Jones</u> | <u>Jason Jones</u> |
| 10. <u>Stine McQuinn</u> | <u>Stine McQuinn</u> |
| 11. <u>Gene Buzzetti</u> | <u>Gene Buzzetti</u> |
| 12. <u>Linda Sarman</u> | <u>Linda Sarman</u> |
| 13. <u>Ed Sarman</u> | <u>Ed Sarman</u> |
| 14. <u>Mary Tomera</u> | <u>Mary Tomera</u> |
| 15. <u>Paul Baseck</u> | <u>Paul Baseck</u> |
| 16. <u>Michael Gallagher</u> | <u>Michael Gallagher</u> |
| 17. <u>Tara Gallagher</u> | <u>Tara Gallagher</u> |
| 18. <u>CASEY GILGHER</u> | <u>Casey Gilgher</u> |
| 19. <u>MERILYN SUSTACHA</u> | <u>Meryllyn Sustacha</u> |
| 20. <u>Chelsea Baulch</u> | <u>Chelsea Baulch</u> |

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Print Name:	Signature:
1. <u>Carl Slagowski</u>	<u>Carl Slagowski</u>
2. <u>Carl Babin</u>	<u>Carl Babin</u>
3. <u>LeRoy Sestonovich</u>	<u>LeRoy Sestonovich</u>
4. <u>Stanley Sestonovich</u>	<u>Stanley Sestonovich</u>
5. <u>Shaen Slagowski</u>	<u>Shaen Slagowski</u>
6. <u>Jed Brown</u>	<u>Jed B</u>
7. <u>Lance Knudsen</u>	<u>Lance Knudsen</u>
8. <u>Sierra Knudsen</u>	<u>By Sierra Knudsen</u>
9. <u>Ira Slagowski</u>	<u>Ira Slagowski</u>
10. <u>Jaime Slagowski</u>	<u>Jaime Slagowski</u>
11. <u>Dan Slagowski</u>	<u>Dan Slagowski</u>
12. <u>Billie Sue Slagowski</u>	<u>Billie Sue Slagowski</u>
13. <u>Sabrina Reed</u>	<u>Sabrina Reed</u>
14. <u>John Reed</u>	<u>John Reed</u>
15. <u>Audrey Spratling</u>	<u>Audrey Spratling</u>
16. _____	_____
17. _____	_____
18. <u>Susan Tomera</u>	<u>Susan Tomera</u>
19. <u>Thomas Tomera</u>	<u>Thomas Tomera</u>
20. <u>Patsy Tomera</u>	<u>Patsy Tomera</u>

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- Print Name:**
1. Robert Steele
 2. Sherri Steele
 3. Tom Steele
 4. Rebekah Steele
 5. Kariene Christian
 6. Mike Steward
 7. Asel Felton
 8. Steve Medlin
 9. Glenda Medlin
 10. MA STARD
 11. Julianne Lamb
 12. Marden C Spencer J.
 13. Levi Spencer
 14. Kyaa Nelson
 15. Michael Nelson
 16. Michael D Nelson
 17. Mark Steward
 18. Derek Farmaster
 19. Floyd Summers
 20. _____

- Signature:**
1. [Signature]
 2. Sherri Steele
 3. [Signature]
 4. [Signature]
 5. Kariene Christian
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 8. Steve Medlin
 9. Glenda Medlin
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- Print Name:**
1. James F Ellison
 2. Joyce Ellison
 3. IARED Ellison
 4. Daniel & Beitia
 5. Gerri Beitia
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- Signatures:**
1. James F Ellison
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Print Name:

1. Bruce Jensen
2. Roberta Jensen
3. ~~Pat~~ Karen Jensen
4. Hal Jensen
5. Jacob Carter
6. Dillon Matheson
7. Garen Kester
8. TERRY SOUZA
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Signature:

1. [Signature]
2. Roberta Jensen
3. [Signature]
4. Hal Jensen
5. Jacob Carter
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Print Name:

Signature:

1. E Edwin Higbee Jr
2. Guy Davis
3. Brandon Heber
4. Andy J. Hatch
5. JD Ryan Hatch
6. Bekah Hatch
7. Vaughan Higbee
8. Adrian Higbee
9. Trish Summers
10. Katie Steele
11. Chal Steele
12. Kian Hooper
13. _____
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1. [Signature]
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