

December 12, 2017 Board Meeting

Animal Industry



Personnel

- We have filled the Sparks Animal Disease Lab Microbiologist IV position. Katie Turner to us from a private lab located in Reno with a great deal of knowledge and experience in microbiology.
- We have filled the Sparks Animal Disease Lab Microbiologist III position. Patrick Schmitz interviewed for the position and was selected. Patrick was a current employee of our Plant Industry Division and recently helped our lab by working as an emergency fill for our vacant microbiologist position. Patrick has a degree in microbiology and has proven to be an enthusiastic and eager member of our team.
- We interviewed three candidates for the Sparks Animal Disease Lab Supervisor in November. Laura Morrow interviewed for the position and was selected. Laura has vast knowledge and experience in microbiology, molecular biology, and lab management. Laura comes to us from Renown Regional Medical Center where she was currently serving as their Microbiology Supervisor. Throughout Laura's career she has served as the Regional Quality Assurance Manager, Regional Operations Manager, and Director of Operations for LabCorp. Laura has also served as the Laboratory Operations Manager for Sutter Health Support Services. We are very excited to bring someone on board to oversee our laboratory operations with the knowledge, skills, and training that Laura brings with her.
- The 2017 Nevada Legislature approved transferring all Brand Inspector positions from state service to Manpower employees. As of November 3rd, 2017, all Brand Inspectors are now state contracted employees through Manpower.
- On November 1st, 2017, all enforcement officers and sworn staff completed their second phase of biannual POST mandated training and recertification sessions.
- Enforcement Officers either have or are currently conducting, orchestrating, or overseeing all incoming livestock to four major livestock events in southern Nevada.
- Enforcement Officer's 3rd quarter statistics tracking sheet has also been provided.
- Recruitment for the Elko Biologist position has started and we are hopeful to have the position filled in the next quarter.
- Enforcement Officer III, Chris Miller, attended a Glock armorer's school this quarter. Chris is now certified to perform armoring and inspections on our department side arms. This alleviates the department from having to contract with an outside business and their associated costs.
- Enforcement Officer I, James Linney, was moved to the Elko district a couple of months ago to assist with brand inspection scheduling and brand inspections until he attends the POST academy in January of 2018.
- On September 13th, Brand's Program Officer I, Billie Brazeal submitted her resignation with an effective date of February 23rd, 2018.

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Investigations

- We are still awaiting Elko County's determination on prosecuting the Mustang Monument case.
- One northeastern cattle herd that was previously placed under hold order because of entering Nevada without a valid CVI and has been inspected by the State Veterinarian and found to not be in compliance with import requirements. 194 adult cows were returned to the state of origin for failure to meet Nevada entry requirements.
- One case of animal neglect/abuse in eastern Nevada was submitted to the presiding justice court and the citation was dismissed. The case is continuing to be worked by Enforcement Officers and subsequent actions possible.
- Two premises having illegal cervidae were placed under hold and testing for tuberculosis and brucellosis has been ordered at the time of this report. The cervidae will be required to be removed from Nevada under current regulations unless administrative relief is granted.

Administration

- The electronic brand inspection program is nearing completion and we hope to have all Brand Inspectors transferred to the digital system soon.
- On November 2nd, 2017, Animal Industry staff attended the department All-Staff meeting in Sparks. We are pleased to report that Senior Enforcement Officer, Chris Miller, and State Veterinarian J.J. Goicoechea, were both recognized during presentations as receiving positive feedback from the industry and producers.
- Department staff are currently developing an updated and new computer generating and tracking system for movement permits that will replace the outdated and failing movement permit program.
- On October 25, 2017, the department gave 30 days notice of termination of the Virginia range cooperative agreement with American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign for failure to complete all aspects of the management plan.
- Brand Inspectors and Enforcement Officers combined have completed brand inspections on approximately 249,362 animals from January 1st, 2017 through October 31st, 2017.
- Our animal disease labs conducted 27,337 individual tests from January 1st, 2017 to October 30th, 2017. There were 5,250 tests conducted for Equine Infectious Anemia between the Sparks and Elko labs during this period, 5,617 tests for T. fetus including PCR and culture. We saw a dramatic increase in rabies testing this year and through October 30th, 2017 we had conducted 313 immunohistochemistry tests for rabies.
- In regards to arbovirus testing, our Sparks lab conducted 12,144 tests for Saint Louis Encephalitis, Western Equine Encephalitis, and West Nile Virus combined.