

Minutes of the Milk Sanitation Board

Thursday August 4, 2011

The meeting of the Milk Sanitation Board was called to order at 10:00 A.M. on August 4, 2011 at the Ohio State Fair complex Chaired by Mr. Roger Tedrick, Chief of the Dairy Division. The following board members were present at roll call:

Mr. William (Chuck) Ellis	Mr. Tim Shipley
Mr. Thomas Fleming	Mr. Chad Hollon
Mr. Amos Miller	Mr. Rocky Volpp
Mr. Gene Phillips	

Others in attendance:

Frank Danalewich, OSU/FIC,	Lewis Jones, OSMHA,
Sandy Kuhn, Ohio Farm Bureau	Tom Jackson, Ohio Grocers Assoc.
Nevin Byler, Middlefield Original Cheese, Inc.	Jeanine Shipley, Shipley Farms

and with the Ohio Department of Agriculture; Director James Zehringer, Asst. Director Fred Shimp, Deputy Director Rocky Black, Chief of Legal Bill Hopper, Assistant Attorney General Jim Patterson, Dairy Plant Section Supervisor David Mengel, Dairy Farm Section Head Brian Wise, Dairy Division Secretary Bonita Cordi, Communications Public Information Officer Erica Pitchford and Administrative Legislative Liaison Nathan Aichelle.

Approval of Minutes;

Mr. Ellis moved to accept the minutes from the April 2011 meeting. Seconded by, Mr. Fleming. Passed by voice vote

Director Zehringer and Other (Department and Division) Information:

Chief Tedrick introduces Director Zehringer and Assistant Director Shimp. Chief Tedrick asked for some comments from the Director with an emphasis on the Governor's trip to Dannon.

Director Zehringer thanked the Board for joining in the fun at the Ohio State Fair. He pointed out that today is a very big day for the fair as First Lady Karen Kasich is here to kick off a new program called "Women in Agriculture-Hall of Fame" The Ohio Farm Bureau with input from Ohio's Commodity Groups chose a group of 50 women to meet and discuss women in agriculture issues. The Director went on to say that attendance at the fair has been a little lower than normal due to the heat and the economy, but overall it's been a very good fair.

The Director talked about the Governor's visit to Dannon at the end of June. The Governor was impressed with all of the things they are doing. Dannon recently introduced a new line of Greek-style yogurt and are talking expansion of business and a growth in the workforce at that plant. The Governor seized on the fact that Dannon was having problems filling key engineer positions and was able to contact immediately President Gee of The Ohio State University. Dannon management was able to discuss with Dr. Gee and an arrangement was agreed upon. Later in the day the Director pointed out the Governor met with some farmers in Shelby County. The Governor expressed the need of Dannon for an increase in local milk supply. The Producers in attendance pointed out that dairying is a very difficult job which includes finding workers and feeding cows while the price of feed is very high. The Director talked about food safety being job one and the Dairy Division is critical in that effort. There were no questions for the Director and he told those assembled to enjoy the fair and keep up the good work.

Raw Milk Sales

Mr. Tedrick welcomes everyone and thanks them for coming. We're in the Solar House today, due to a weeklong training in 4-H building. The sale of raw milk continues to be a hot issue. It is not an easy issue. Cities such as Kansas City and Chicago were fighting over raw milk sales at that turn of the century. The Dairy Division at one time wrestled with what to do and obviously was a political problem because there was a 1965 "Grandfather Clause" that exists in our Statute even today. We have discussed raw milk sales with the new administration and have a set of rules based on herdshares. It simply provides for improved sanitary conditions and quality standards. We will move forward in a very judicious manner.

Recent Cheese Quality Issues

Chief Tedrick pointed out the fact that we instituted new finished cheese coliform standards within the last year. Recently there have been a couple of violations of those standards. Mr. Mengel will discuss.

Mr. Mengel explained that we've always honed in on 0157, it's the one that's illegal. The problem we saw in Europe was that these other e-coli organisms, non 0157's, mutated and evolved. They also produce *Shigatoxin*, and that's what our lab found! Two more samples went to two different labs and we got the same results two more times on this farm's cheese. The bottom line is that our sampling protocol worked. We found it, stopped it, and it did not get out to consumers. This was a raw milk cheese. If it had been pasteurized, it may not have been a problem?

Mr. Tedrick emphasizes pasteurized would have made it better, but we still might have a problem. We want to thank everyone for helping us and allowing us to have this standard.

Mr. Ellis asked if the sanitarian had found the source?

Mr. Mengel replies that we think they were not washing the cows.

Mr. Ellis asks how did you trace it back to the farm?

Mr. Mengel stated the cheese was processed at the farm.

Mr. Patterson interjects from a legal stand point the Dairy standards that apply to cheese and other dairy products exist side by side with broader food safety laws which ODA also enforces through the Food Safety Division, (3715). So, this particular cheese, although meeting standard in Dairy rule, we could embargo and order destroyed under our Food Safety rule 3715.

rBST Labeling

Mr. Patterson was called upon to update the Board on the Dairy Labeling Rule. Mr. Patterson explained the Department is still engaged in the middle of litigation. Neither the Department nor I know how this will work out. The District Trial judge has held this case for half a year. We've engaged in extensive discussions with the plaintiff and their attorneys to conclude this case during in-person meetings to reach a tentative settlement. Unfortunately one issue being considered is legally impending based on what the Department can agree to under Ohio's Constitution.

Within two weeks we'll receive a scheduling order from (trial) Judge Graham to set deadlines for a conclusion. Regarding two portions of the rule and any claims (plaintiff's attorney's fees) they convinced the 6th circuit they're unacceptable. Everything is unknown, due to pending litigation. When we reach an agreement, the Department will communicate the findings quickly to all interested parties, the board, and industry on what's going to happen next. Hopefully this will be over by the next board meeting and I can provide final information.

ODA and Dairy Division Budget Update

Mr. Tedrick explained that the Dairy Division's budget totals about \$2.8 million. It is made up of 63% industry fund called 4R2 and 37% GRF. At the last Board meeting it was pointed out the Department was looking at a budget reduction of 8.5% and the corresponding Dairy Division GRF reduction is 6%. Historically, the Dairy Division has preferred the 4R2 fund to have a balance of ~\$250,000. At the end of June, 2011, the industry fund was around \$98,000. Mr. Tedrick also made the point that at any given time the industry fund balance will be affected to a large degree by the timing of receipts and billing.

NCIMS Conference

Mr. Tedrick talked about issues that were addressed at the NCIMS Conference held in Baltimore. The biggest, most hotly discussed issue was the somatic cell proposals. The debate was passionate and lengthy but the final vote was 26 to 25 to not change the Grade A standard. A proposal to accept a new Charm test that will catch Beta Lactams and Flunixon gained approval from the delegates. There were a number of other proposals accepted but there were none that were too newsworthy.

Mr. Tedrick introduces a recorded televised news story "What's in your Milk", investigated by Kevin Landers, a local TV reporter. ODA's response was not published, since there were no calls or complaints.

All present viewing the Channel 10 news story. Outcome from this story; there has not been any drug residue found in any finished Milk product in Ohio for at least 15 years).

Mr. Fleming says that he did not care for the last part, what are they going after next? (A final comment in the news clip endorsed organic milk).

ODA's taped response of answers of 10 questions asked of Dr. Beverly Byrum, Director of Consumer Analytical Laboratory were shown to the Board.

We've not found any positives in finished products for antibiotic residue for over 15 years, in the state of Ohio. This completes Dr. Beverly Byrum's comments counter to the channel 10-WBNS news story.

Mr. Tedrick states fortunately we did not have to respond or post this because it aired just one day (July 20, 2011 and no calls came in as a result.

Mr. Hollon asked if this station is in Ohio? Yes, this is a Columbus station.

Mr. Shipley comments the news team came up to his place a month earlier and they were rather reluctant to do this but they did.

Mr. Wise advises this can be found on the Consumer 10 Investigation website. It was not on the (front), you'll need to search for it. It may have not have generated much publicity, as there was no link to it.

Mr. Tedrick thanks Mr. Shipley for allowing his farm to represent the Producers in the news.

Sandy asked, if Dr. Byrum's ODA response is on the website?

Mr. Tedrick answers I don't believe so, it is on disc.

Ms. Kuhn states that ODA's response needs to be publicized somewhere, so when people need information, they'll be getting the right information.

Mr. Tedrick replies that he'll carry your message back to Andy (Ware, Chief) of Communications.

Mr. Jones asks why did ODA decide not to publish it on the website?

Mr. Tedrick comments that we were not getting calls or any response to the news program and did not want to keep it in the news cycle.

Ms. Pitchford comments there was a link to the video on You-Tube, and of the videos showing up some were counter-productive to ODA mission message. And we never got the 1st phone call, email or response to this news story.

Mr. Mengel asks was it broadcasted several times or just one shot, (adding he did not see this)?

Mr. Tedrick replies it was televised at 11:00 PM, and it never showed up the next day.

Mr. Wise indicates this was on their website for a week, but must specifically search for drugs in milk or "No Chemicals" is the title of the segment.

Next Issue, Animal Care Standards Update

Mr. Tedrick commented that although the Dairy Division is not the lead Division, our sanitarians will not turn a blind eye to any mistreatment. We will simply notify our Animal Health Division for follow up.

Mr. Hopper comments the Livestock Care Standards has passed through the public hearing phase, through the J-CARR stage of the 119 Rules process. The final stage of the implementation of a Rule is what's called the Final File. Once Final Filed, it becomes effective 10 days thereafter. One of the Rules has some minor changes so that added some time to that Rule, before it was Final Filed. Our plan is to wait until all of the Rules can be Final Filed, doing all at the same time, then all for the Livestock Care Standard Rules will be effective at the same time. And this should happen sometime in September. We are now at the process point, its' up to the Department to do the Final File then 10 days after, the Rules become effective. The Department has also engaged Erica's Communication's group to develop an on-going educational process, putting together materials, etcetera over the next several months after the rules are effective.

Mr. Wise points out that is not much of a difference between animal abuse and animal care but these are two completely different scenarios.

Mr. Hopper addressed the difference between animal care and animal abuse and the Department's response. The Livestock Care Standards are standards for livestock farmers to adhere to. Animal abuse issues are the jurisdiction of the local humane societies and officials. These are standards apply to livestock and their care. They are not specific to animal abuse that is where the difference is.

Mr. Tedrick announces that our staff will be meeting August 17th and Dr. Forshey is going to speak to us and (provide) informational training and how we are to operate. We've had a couple of animal abuse cases within the last four years. When we saw things we could not just turn a blind eye to. We went to Dr. Forshey and the Human Society of that county. One county did not have a Human Society so we actually worked directly with the Sheriff's office.

New Hauler Rule – Item 12

Mr. Tedrick is asking for the boards blessing on a new Hauler Rule.

Mr. Mengel addresses the details of Cleaning and Sanitizing Bulk Milk Tank trucks, and equipment. This issue was presented at the Ohio State Milk Haulers meeting in Western Ohio with positive feedback from industry and actually no negative impact. Industry is indorsing this. The proposed change is how the

information is stated on the wash tags on second loads, and to be uniform across the state. (Mr. Mengel refers to Mr. Hollon), as you know wash tags can be a problem as you get to a plant, possibly a misunderstanding of the process.

Mr. Mengel pointed out two key provisions of the proposed hauler rule:

1) **Identify the Tanker by the State ID number.** (Inconsistencies include using a license number, or the tanker/owners number. Everyone has a unique, individual State ID number, so let's use it. Also, we can track the load back if needed. We get numerous phone calls inquiring "when was this truck washed?", so we go to the plant and spend hours shuffling through the wash tags trying to make sense about the information on them.

2) **Identifying the tanker on the wash tag for the second load is critical, as when did the first milk enter the tank?** Guidelines are that; a) tanks need to be washed every 24-hours of use. b) Cleaned tankers must begin filling within 96 hours. Scenario; a plant receives a tanker's wash tag that was washed 14 hours ago. Does the clock start the (24 hours) time frame? No. The tanker driver must write on the wash tag the exact time when the milk first hits the tank. **THIS is when the clock starts, when the first milk hits the tank, (this time needs to be written on the wash tag).**

Mr. Tedrick explains there have been several times when a tanker was on its' second load, the load was dumped at a plant then tanker left without being washed and/or sanitized within 24-hours. In some cases this may be acceptable. Wash tags must remain with and stay on the tankers. Plants make a copy for the records, then put the original back on the tanker.

Scenario; what if the wash tag information is old, or there is no information? When full tanker gets to the next plant, they look at the wash tag, and at least twice, milk has been rejected. Our consensus is that, it's legal to pick-up and haul multiple loads of milk within a 24-hour period.

We simply need to know **1)** when the tanker was last washed & sanitized, and **2)** what time the milk hit that tank, with the date and time on it. So when the tanker gets to the next plant, they know, we're still legal, and within the 24-hour time period. With this documentation, we know where (and when) this tanker was last washed and sanitized.

Mr. Hollon asks if this can be written on the back of the tag?

Mr. Tedrick replies yes. First loads must be date and time stamped with the time the milk hit that tank. That starts the 24-hour clock.

Mr. Mengel comments that we know of several loads that have been rejected because the processor couldn't read the information on wash tag. Even though, the tanks were washed properly.

Mr. Hollon does not have issues with second loads.

Mr. Mengel comments that many haulers pick-up second loads in Eastern Ohio.

Mr. Ellis asks does the (new) rule indicate a standardized multiple copy wash ticket? I heard talk of this.

Mr. Tedrick replies no. We discussed it, but didn't want create (new) standardized tickets because of the cost, just use tags available and document load information on the back.

Mr. Hollon comments that milk should be in the tankers within 96 hours after being washed. What if you're hauling one load, how many hours do you have to release the first load?

Mr. Mengel answers 72 hours to unload, after the milk hits the tank.

Mr. Tedrick explains that 96 (hours) refers to your tank being washed, sanitized and sitting.

Mr. Hollon comments a situation with industry is they read the wash tag and this load is within three days or 72 hours, the plant won't take the milk whether it's been in there that long or not.

Mr. Mengel offers if you put the time you start loading milk on the tag that might help!

Mr. Hollon agrees that putting the time on the wash tag may be the answer.

Mr. Ellis remarks he unloads milk and this is the first time he's seen this, (information) and is perplexed. There is a 24-hour, a 72-hour and a 96-hour rule, and I don't understand what this means. If you want me to vote, I can't vote on this today. I need further discussion. I've unloaded milk, and tagged double washes, plus seen tankers carry another load as they're going out.

Mr. Tedrick asks Mr. Ellis, do you release loads/trucks not washed?

Mr. Ellis, Yes.

Mr. Tedrick asks within that 24-hour period and are they coming back to you?

Mr. Ellis replies that they are going somewhere else.

Mr. Mengel asks Mr. Ellis - then you're giving them a wash tag that says second load? If someone brings in a second load and says they're not washing it, are you giving him another wash tag that says second load?

Mr. Ellis answers no. We make a notation on the tag and send it with the tanker.

Mr. Tedrick asks what are you putting on that tag.

Mr. Ellis replies, not sure?

Mr. Mengel adds what we need to write the time that you start filling the milk tanker. So the next plant knows that the tanker is within the 24-hour time period.

Mr. Ellis comments I don't know when he started filling it?

Mr. Tedrick explains when you get a load in, the tankers going to have a wash ticket on it, (as stated in the PMO). If you release that load, you must keep a copy of the original Wash Tag for your records. Put the original tag back on the tanker, and write "2nd Load" & what "time" the first pick-up was on the weigh ticket. You're finished with the tanker, they can move on.

Mr. Hopper mentions the changes are underlined, and this whole thing is not new. And asks if this reflects the most current changes?

Mr. Wise pulls up the Rule as it stands now, from the internet

Mr. Hopper asks what are the specific changes?

Mr. Tedrick replies there are only two changes 1) denotes documenting the second load on the ticket. 2) Puts the time that the first milk hit the tank.

Mr. Hollon also adds another change is to 3) use the tanker ID.

Mr. Hopper comments the entire rule is **not** new. There are only three changes being made to the rule.

Mr. Wise explains that the Rule changes start on section E and below E-1 & E-2, D-1.

Mr. Ellis asks; the new responsibility for these notations on the wash tag falls on to whom?

Mr. Mengel replies the receiver. The receiver at the plant on the first load, and we're talking about the second load, and this doesn't affect that many loads.

Mr. Ellis asks if they, (plants), have or have not seen this yet?

Mr. Mengel answers for the most part everyone has, industry has.

Mr. Ellis asks if the processing plants have seen this new proposed rule?

Mr. Mengel replies some of them have.

Mr. Ellis states but if the plants are ultimately responsible, they ought to have a chance to see this.

Mr. Tedrick adds we can do that.

Mr. Ellis asks you spoke to the milk haulers, but they're not ultimately responsible, it's the processors.

Mr. Mengel comments you've brought up a good point.

Mr. Fleming adds they're the ones who have the burden.

Mr. Ellis comments, I see a re-occurring issue when tags are not properly marked and a load of milk is sitting. This is a big deal that industry needs to look at.

Mr. Tedrick responds to Mr. Ellis's comment that "he's being held responsible" and we get that.

Mr. Mengel remarks “this is already happening.” Trucks are being rejected from plants because the plants can’t decipher the wash tags, hence the reason for these revisions.

Mr. Wise asked if making a standardized wash tag would help? Would there be a cost involved?

Mr. Ellis adds the only difference is the 2nd load, which many plants have their own policies.

Mr. Volpp comments that most (plants) wash after every load.

Mr. Hollon adds the plants near him, won’t release the haulers without first washing the tankers.

Mr. Ellis states we know there will be haulers, who load, repeatedly then continue on somewhere else by a certain time, (while not getting washed and sanitized).

Mr. Wise states a similar proposal was presented at the NCIMS conference and it was shot down. It was to make every truck that comes in, get washed and sanitized, regardless!

Mr. Tedrick adds this same idea was submitted by the International Milk Haulers. We hear you.

Mr. Ellis remarks if Industry is responsible for tag notations, they must be informed of this responsibility.

Mr. Hopper advises when past rules were questioned a sub-committee examined them and reported back.

Mr. Tedrick comments this is in the “Haulers” Rule.

Mr. Ellis states but you’re holding Industry responsible.

Mr. Hopper asks Mr. Ellis is your question; is this in the Hauler area? is this the issue? I don’t think its the issue. The issue is that you have the authority to provide detail(s) that you need in order to insure that there is no confusion.

Mr. Tedrick asks Mr. Hopper if this resides in the Hauler Rule, is the processor ultimately responsible for the hauler, if they are not a licensed hauler?

Mr. Hopper comments, I don’t see a problem putting it with this rule, but is industry’s question, how is the rule going to work? Then both groups need to exam this together or allow a sub-committee to review it and report back with some recommendations, this has been done with past Rules.

Mr. Tedrick remarks this is a hauler rule, but we hear industry-processors saying we don’t want it biting us.

Mr. Hopper adds if there is a sub-committee, industry and haulers could both discuss their involvement.

Mr. Ellis comments that a sub-committee would not be necessary, we can possibly handle this. However anyone who receives milk or washes tankers must be notified of this rule change.

Mr. Tedrick replies yes, that we’ll canvas milk receiving facilities and see what comments come in and maybe consider a subcommittee?

Mr. Ellis adds that he’ll talk to fellow associates, but there are many he doesn’t know.

Mr. Lewis adds the Board of Directors Ohio State Milk Haulers Association meeting is August 17, in Westerville. Asking is there a schedule on this rule filing?

Mr. Tedrick states no schedule. We worked with Legal to present and address this with the board, and we hear the concerns and will put this on hold until we do it right!

Mr. Hollon asks as a milk hauler, if we don’t have a wash tag, are we in trouble, then why are we putting this burden on the processors?

Mr. Tedrick comments our intent was not to put the burden on processors. This is a Haulers Rule that you need to have your tankers washed and sanitized. Ultimately a clean tank is your responsibility with a wash tag as proof.

Mr. Wise adds the farm side enforces drug requirements on the producer, though they’re not the licensed veterinarian. But the producer must work with their veterinarians to administer drugs the right way. It’s similar, where the licensed hauler has the right information on the wash tag.

Mr. Tedrick confirms the idea for the wash tag is for the processor to protect the industry. The wash tag is the proof that tankers are released cleaned and sanitized to the industry. We’ll move forward and inform those and milk haulers and receiving facilities this is what we’re considering and continue this topic open for future discussion.

Tanker Accident

Mr. Tedrick tells that Mr. Dale Shively sold his business then was involved in an accident w/his tanker. Fortunately, Jon Moran, (our inspector) was there and stopped as milk was pumping into another tank. Ironically this worked out for the good.

Mr. Hollon adds that he'd heard that Mr. Shively was driving and had to be air-flighted to Columbus, with possible serious injuries. A pick-up pulled out in front of the milk truck.

FDA Training

Mr. Mengel announces six Dairy staff took FDA required training for aseptic processing plants, potentially two coming to Ohio, not sure when they'll be ready. An "on-farm milk processing" plant started bottling milk in Columbiana County. We gave instruction on set-up, cleaning, etcetera to get them running. Changes in marketing to some out of state Kroger facilities led to us needing to inspect around 20 new tankers.

Mr. Tedrick adds this had to do with Continental Milk taking those Kroger Plants supplying the milk, McCluskey's, FairOaks and Indiana. They sold Kroger Corporate on a Green idea using the Methane from the farms to create a compressed Natural Gas to fuel their trucks which impacted Kroger, but created a ripple effect on Murfreesboro, TN, Winchester, KY and Crossroads, IN. Now that DFA, (Dairy Farmers of America), is a licensed Hauler they will move milk further south to address any needs. The Dairy Division was called upon to make sure those trucks, were washed, sanitized, inspected, licensed, and permitted so milk is not rejected.

Mr. Hollon asks do they have or is there a washing facility?

Mr. Tedrick replies they are using Freedom Enterprises as a drop station. This may push a hundred million pounds a month between three facilities.

Mr. Hollon adds the original proposal was 40 tankers a day, now down to 20.

Mr. Mengel says he heard 60.

Farm Review

Mr. Tedrick announces that Mr. Brian Wise will present the Farm Side; we also had a rule change regarding the Drug Residue regulations. Previously when a drug residue showed up, the standard procedure would be a follow-up with the sanitarian. The Rule books distributed to Producers references "The Milk and Dairy Beef Drug Residue Prevention Protocol's" 10 points of quality assurance program. The National Dairy Farm Program stopped making this book in 2010, but replaced it with "The Milk Dairy Beef Residue Prevention Manual". Basically it's similar, except changes to the Grade A Rule and Manufacturer Grade Rule, 901:11-1-04 and 901:11-2-05 to reflect this book instead of the 10 point program.

The producer records all drugs including hold times, when administered to the herd, in their book. The producer and their Veterinarian both complete and sign the certificate. The certificate endorses that the veterinarian goes to the farm, sees the herd & the producer isn't just using a mail order pharmacy. The Veterinarian's signature indicates that they have a working vet client/patient relationship" with this producer. Similar to the Oath Veterinarian's takes to conduct a valid client/patient relationship. The rules state this certificate is to be submitted to the Director of The Ohio Department of Agriculture. This information is available free off National Farm Program's website at: <http://www.nationaldairyfarm.com/> click on Residue Prevention tab to find all the materials available to download. Any drug residues we've had from July are referenced here, as well as the Rule change. A public hearing will be held August 23, 2011, and rules go into effect shortly after.

Mr. Hopper explains that a 65 day JCARR jurisdiction begins when you initially file a rule. Then within 30-40 days you have to have a public hearing, then the JCARR hearing and then after the 65 days are over, ODA can Final File the Rule and its effective 10 days after that. From the initial filing through the effective date is 75 days.

Mr. Wise comments that we are encouraging all producers to participate with the 10 points program. Next, looking at some farm numbers, it's been a very tough year, and the numbers are showing this with a high exodus of producers this year. As of August 1, we are down to 3167 total farms in the State, 2329 Grade A, 815 Manufacturer Grade Farms; 23 of which are goat or sheep. The one sheep farm has shut down for the summer concentrating on vegetables and resuming with sheep this fall. Since the first of the year we've lost a total of 60 farms, in the state. A year ago, we lost 109 farms.

Mr. Ellis asked if the warmer weather has led to more bacteria or scc problems?

Mr. Wise pointed out that a year or two ago we enacted a new bacteria suspension standard through this board, and I think this has helped farmers be more attentive and not get suspended. For June, there were 9 bacteria warnings, and 9 somatic cell warnings. Warnings mean that they've had 2 out of 4 high counts, and 4 counts are in excess of violation. We had only 1 suspension for bacteria, and 2 suspensions for Somatic Cell. July; 17 bacteria warnings, 34 somatic cell warnings, with 1 bacteria suspension and 7 somatic cell suspensions. As with every summer, August and September we'll see an elevation in suspension levels that would be 3 out of 5 high counts. May was not bad, June & July were miserable, the heat is hard on the Amish producers keep the milk cold and its' paramount to keep milk cold and cans clean. Strengthening the bacteria standards has helped reduce suspensions. I've received complaints from producers, but once they learned that their peers changed this, they then change their tune.

The annual Dairy Quality Conference is October 11 at the ODA Campus starts at 9:00 am concluding by 3:30 pm. One key conference topic will be Animal Care. Several presenters are; Dr. Tony Forshey, Ohio's State Veterinarian, Dr. Leah Dorman, Ohio Farm Bureau, Scott Higgins, ODPa discussing what we can do as an Industry to help in situations where there could be animal care problems and animal abuse. What we can do, what resources are available, and how we can help, if we see a problem. Conference afternoon sessions presenting the USDA discussing the Somatic Cell situation. As Roger mentioned earlier about the NCIMS conference that the USDA discussed pushing a Senate Bill through, this would affect ALL fluid milk, not only Grade A,. This brings up concerns that the USDA would want Grade A & Manufactured Grade to 400,000. Rounding out the Conference will be follow-up from the USDA, update from the NCIMS conference, on-farm processing updates, and any general updates.

Mr. Ellis states a report he viewed indicates that Milk production is off by 3%, and asked if we know what the processing numbers are?

Roger states he feels that processing numbers are up, Dannon, Superior and Reiter are all up.

Mr. Ellis comments that Ohio is more dependent on outside milk.

Mr. Jones adds that it is down, 2.7 (billion), for this year, last month down by 1%. For 2 years we had 5 billion pounds in production, and we should be close to 5 billion by the end of 2011. In 2009 we were close to 5 billion, in 2010 we were @ 5.2 billion.

Mr. Tedrick comments that for the past 20 years we were at 4.6 billion.

Mr. Wise adds there's been a drop in farms, but several installations in Western Ohio have started back up. Currently, there may be only one facility, (a 2500 cow dairy) that is still vacant. Before there were 3-4 2000+ cow dairies sitting empty, these are now filled. Some of the farms that were lost were only 50-100

cow dairies, so when a 2000+ cow dairy opens up it takes up a lot with one farm. Overall cow numbers, not sure.

Mr. Mengel comments that a lot of processed and regular milk is going out of the state.

Mr. Ellis adds that Ohio imports raw milk and export finished milk products.

Mr. Tedrick notifies the group that the time is 11:30 and opens the floor for any public comments.

There were none.

Mr. Byler comments that it is interesting to learn about the (somatic cell) numbers, and is unsure about the hauler rule changes and requests to receive more information on this topic.

Mr. Wise states the somatic cell counts show in the number of suspensions.

Mr. Tedrick asks members to select the date for the next meeting will be December 8.

Mr. Jones asks commissioner Tom Jackson to speak about the new things at the fair and the sale of Champions.

Mr. Jackson announces that the Sale of Champions commence the sale with 3 new items; a meat goat, 100 pound block of Swiss cheese from Guggisberg, and a turkey. The livestock competition is outstanding, expecting to be a great sale with new bidders. Sale starts at 2:00 pm on Sunday. Today is First Ladies Day where first lady, Karen Kasich leads a reception with Ladies in Agriculture. Last Friday, the fair hosted a canned good drive and raised 8600 pounds of food for the Mid-Ohio Food Bank.

Wednesday was our 3rd best and biggest opening day ever with a sold-out concert headlining “Big Time Rush.” I’ll be retiring November 1 from the Grocers Association after 25 years. My successor Nate Tiller will be taking over September 6, I’m handing over to him an absolutely wonderful staff. Kristen Mullins has been with me for 22 years and I have all the faith and confidence in her. She’s worked on a lot of Government Relations for the Dairy Industry that I’m very proud of. And if you want some help on the Raw Milk issue, we’ll help you, we’ve been shoulder to shoulder with you on this. And we will continue to be there for you, we will be there!

Mr. Tedrick replies we appreciate all of your support to the Dairy Industry though the years.

Mr. Jackson, Fair Commissioner says “Have a wonderful day at the Fair and thank you so much for having your meeting here, we appreciate your coming.” All applaud.

Mr. Jackson comments on a partnership between the Grocers Association and the Farm Bureau in March. Both Associations worked together on an impact study and presentation called “Coming to the Table Together”. The presentation was a miniature grocery baskets containing a block of Pearl Valley Cheese, (Ohio being the #1 cheese producer in the country), and a sleeve of Keebler Townhouse crackers, (baked in Cincinnati), with our impact (study) statement, that they personally delivered to every single Legislature’s office. (The message conveyed to the legislatures’ was Ohio’s combined food industry is almost \$100 billion. Of which \$18.5 billion comes from both the Grocers Association and the Restaurant Association, and the majority \$91.5 billion from Agriculture.) So your cheese was part of this and we put a sticker “Ohio is the #1 Swiss Cheese Producer in the Country” on the basket.

Mr. Tedrick suggest a motion to adjourn, Mr. Hollon makes the motion. Mr. Shipley seconds the motion to adjourn. Voice vote for motion to adjourn.

_____Approved

_____Attested

_____Date

_____Date