



**RHODE ISLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767

TDD 401-831-5508

**Rabies Control Board Minutes Filing**

**Meeting Date: November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Location: 235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908  
Room 370**

**Attendees:** Scott Marshall, DVM (DEM, Chairman), Utpala Bandy, MD (DOH Designee), Cathy Cordy (Chief of Pharmacy Board), C.H. Hannafin, DVM (Veterinarian), Charles Brown (DEM Designee), Dave Holden (RISPCA), Betsy Hanson (ACO).

**Meeting Agenda:** Filed electronically on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 with the Secretary of State and posted on the bulletin board at both DEM Headquarters and DOH Headquarters on that same date.

**Meeting Called to Order:** Meeting called to order at 9:35 am by Dr. Marshall, this was followed by roll call of the attendees. A quorum was present.

**Old Business:**

- 1. Acceptance of the Agenda.** Motion to accept the agenda without change made by Betsy Hanson, second by Charles Brown. Unanimous vote to accept the agenda.
- 2. Acceptance of the meeting minutes of the RCB for the 08/12/2009 meeting:** Betsy Hanson, ACO motioned to accept the minutes. Motion seconded by Dr. Chris Hannafin. This motion was then approved by a unanimous vote.
- 3. Unfilled Seat:** Mr. Al Bettencourt from the RI Farm Bureau has suggested Kevin Breene as a farmer that would be interested in the open seat on the Rabies Control Board. Kevin Breene has accepted to serve in this position. Dr. Marshall made a motion to accept Kevin Breene, seconded by Dave Holden. This motion was then approved by a unanimous vote.
- 4. Evaluation of Revisions Made to the DRAFT "Rules and Regulations Governing the Prevention, Control, and Suppression of Rabies Within the State of Rhode Island":** Feedback was provided by Dr Bandy, Charles Brown, and Dr Hannafin. The discussion was all based on clarification of the format and the language of the document, and did not result in substantive changes to the content. Changes to the language were made as acceptable to the Board. Dr Marshall motioned to accept all changes and to move toward promulgation of the draft regulations. Dr Hannafin seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**New Business:**

- 1. Discussion of Distribution of Rabies Vaccine to Farmers:** Cathy Cordy was invited to discuss this matter for the information and education of the Board in

procedural matters regarding distribution of veterinary biologics. The question was raised whether HEALTH or DEM has the statutory authority to authorize distribution of veterinary biologics. The distribution of animal vaccines to farmers in the absence of a veterinarian/client/patient relationship is contrary to the existing paradigm that HEALTH works in, however, there was discussion of whether that paradigm exists for veterinary biologics since they are not licensed by the FDA as are veterinary drugs. It was resolved that the Board seeks a legal opinion from the DEM legal staff.

- 2. Discussion Relative to the New "Manual":** Dr Marshall provided a Draft Manual for discussion. Dr Bandy suggested that this version was still too cumbersome and wished it to be simpler. Board resolved to continue to work on Manual with the goal of removing all extraneous material. Will table further discussion until next meeting with the understanding that an accepted Manual must be in place at the time the new Regulations are adopted...

**Next Meeting:** A date was not set for the next meeting but it was determined that the Board would meet again at some time before the new Regulations would be in effect. The main purpose of the next meeting is to accept the new Manual.

**Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting adjourned at 11:25am

**Prepared By:** Scott N. Marshall DVM (Chair, Rabies Control Board)  
235 Promenade St.  
Providence, RI 02908