



RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
235 Promenade Street, Room 370
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Rabies Control Board Meeting

Meeting Date: March 16, 2016

Board Member Attendees: Scott Marshall, DVM, C.H. Hannafin, DVM, Charles Brown, Tom Gulluscio, Utpala Bandy, MD, Kevin Breene

Board Member Absent: Scott Scofield

Non-Board Attendees: Sara Hart Shuford, (RIDOH), Daniela Quilliam, (RIDOH), Kurt Blanchard, (DEM Enforcement), Henry Leibowitz, (RIDOH Lab), Marisa Coates, (DEM Animal Health)

Meeting called to order at 10:30 AM by Dr. Marshall followed by roll call of all in attendance. A quorum was met.

NEW BUSINESS: - Topics that were discussed and conclusions that were drawn regarding The Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control 2016 and amendments of State of Rhode Island Manual for Rabies Management and Protocols, 2013.

The Board recommended making the following changes to the Manual:

1. Page 7 section 3A (Health will assess rabies risk) to say RIDOH will assess all potential human rabies exposures.
2. Page 7 section 3B change (all cases) to all potentially human rabies exposure
3. Page 7 section 5A should include ACO's with all physicians.
4. Page 7 section 4B notation should say if domestic animal has interaction with the wild animal in the home the ACO of that town should be notified also.
5. Page 7 section 5C should be changed by removing (will administer pre-exposure) to physicians administering post-exposure prophylaxis should be in consultation with RIDOH.
6. Page 8 section C –veterinarians should consider reporting should be made to say must report.
7. Page 9 section 8D (bats of any age is prohibited) should be changed to subject to restrictions.
8. Page 11 – Rabies Contact Information – remove alternate number 401 222 7906 and change Health to RIDOH. Also suggested to add contact links to animal control and police and add contact links for the below listings on the page then move this page to the back of the manual.
9. Page 12 5th Box #3 should be a collaboration with state veterinarian, ACO, and RIDOH instead of RIDOH making the final determination.
10. Suggested was to decrease the size of the logos and increase the size of the lettering on the front page of manual.
11. Page 12 1st column 2nd (box not appear to be **healthy**)
12. Page 13 last box. Change strict confinement to 6 months on the bottom #2.
13. Henry Leibowitz requested change Part 3 section D (en-route) to during transport and submission. He also asked if in section 3 page 7 add a D that makes effort to decapitate species

before they are brought to the lab then discussion of what types of animals were allowed to be dropped off at the state lab and larger animals such as horses be sent to UCONN. Dr. Marshall stated in the manual Page 8 sections 6J notes veterinarians may be asked to assist in obtaining samples for submission meaning that we do request and make an effort to decapitate before submission for testing.

14. Dr. Hannifin referenced Section B-1 of the compendium where a discussion took place regarding technicians who give rabies vaccinations under the strict supervision of a licensed veterinarian on the premises and how this is referenced in 4-13 of the State of Rhode Island law.
15. Kevin Breene referred to page 8 section 6C regarding animals not vaccinated for rabies and who maintained the responsibility if any to inform these people with unvaccinated animals. Veterinarians should document clients who refuse to vaccinate their pets and make notation in their files.
16. Charlie Brown Page 9 section 8H – and if included human contact to notify RIDOH.
17. Page 13 under no proof of vaccination change strict confinement from 4 to 6 months.
18. Dr. Hannifin offered to brief RIVMA on the changes being made to the rabies manual

Motion to make changes – Charlie Brown motion to approve changes in the manual, and to adopt the changes upon the CDC endorsing the new Compendium; seconded by Dr. Hannifin. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: Motion made to address the absence and replacement of Providence ACO Scott Scofield by Kevin Breene and seconded by Tom Gulluscio. Dr. Marshall sent a letter to ACO Scofield to find out the situation and if he plans on returning. A response was never received. A request for change in the requirement laws for a replacement of this position was requested. Make a change in this position to require municipality ACO and remove RI Animal Control Association. If the change is made then ask the city of league and towns to send out a notice looking to replace the appointment of a RI Municipal pound ACO to sit on the Rabies Control Board.

Motion to Amend: Laws 4-13 by Kevin Breene and second by Tom Gulluscio. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn: Dr. Marshall motion to adjourn - Dr. Hannifin second the motion

NEXT MEETING: June 8th, 2016 @ 10:30 AM – Conference Room 370A