

Meeting Minutes – North Carolina Food Safety and Defense Task Force

Wednesday, January 9th, 2019

NC Emergency Management Operations Center – Media Room

1636 Gold Star Drive

Raleigh, NC 27607

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 am by Steve Tracey.

I. Agenda

- A. The meeting opened with each member introducing themselves. A sign-up sheet was circulated so current and new members could provide contact information.
- B. The minutes from the November 2018 Task Force Meeting were reviewed. One correction under Academic Reports, to change “Safe Plant to “Safe Plates” was suggested. A motion was made to accept the minutes, a second was heard and then the minutes were approved by vote, with this correction.
- C. Food borne Illness Outbreak Update
No update.
- D. Federal Government Shutdown Impact
Our federal members of our TF were not at our meeting to discuss the impact of the shutdown, but Wilson County and Cumberland County Environmental Health Departments were impacted with the shutdown as their federal partners are not able to complete training and validation for them. Ben Chapman informed the TF that the USDA Hotline has been affected by the shutdown.

II. Business

- A. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee – Steve Tracey
 - i. The executive committee met in December. The 2019 Conference speakers for traceability were discussed and working on getting the new website up and running. Rachel McDowell has volunteered to work on getting speakers for our bi-monthly meetings.
 - b. FERC – Sean Silva discussed the Del Monte Corn Recall that has impacted NC due to under processing and that the product has been found on shelves of small grocery stores and was embargoed. The Adams Brothers recall that initially involved Romaine Lettuce has now included Cauliflower and other greens. Daniel Gaines added that the system in place for notification for recalls needs to be improved for the smaller companies. The committee continues to meet by phone weekly on Mondays at 10am, if you would like to be added see Sean Silva.
 - c. Crop/Produce – Chip Simmons – the focus is on PSAs. There are nine regional scheduled training. Chris Harris has spearheaded the On Farm Readiness Reviews (OFRR) and eight have been conducted. FDA has released the guidance for the OFRRs.

- d. Dairy/Egg/Poultry – no report, Daniel Gaines brought up restructuring this committee and will discuss with other members of the Executive Committee.
- e. Conference Planning Committee – Steve Tracey
 - i. Dates for the 2019 Conference have been set – Tuesday & Wednesday May 7 & 8th, 2019
 - ii. We currently do not have any guest speakers lined up. If you know of a possible guest speaker, please contact Steve or Veronica. We are looking to host a panel discussion on the Country Ham Recall.
 - iii. Steve will contact Andy Kennedy to see if he will be available to speak on Block Chain. A Risk Communication speaker was mentioned and Steve & Veronica Bryant will be among those who will be inviting speakers.
 - iv. If you would like to assist with the Annual Conference contact Steve. This can include checking in the attendees at the venue.
 - v. Veronica brought up additional funding for training opportunities) Rebecca from Cumberland County brought up CBD oil recall as a possible topic. Ben Chapman mentioned Thuy Bu is a consultant in Denver Colorado on the contaminants of cannabis.
- f. Education and Exercise Committee – Rachel McDowell
 - i. Rachel McDowell is working on our bi-monthly guest speakers as well as our annual conference. If you have any suggestions for guest speakers, please contact her.
- g. Web site upgrade – The website domain name will change and the anticipated time frame is March/May 2019 and Veronica will let us know. A number of ideas was brought up to add to the website to include our agenda, meeting minutes, links to On Farm Readiness Reviews, member contact list and the executive order.

B. Other Reports:

- a. Academic Reports – Candace Christian reported the Safe Plate handout which addressed Hurricane Florence was a success. In a seven-week period blog post on food safety for holiday meals reached 82,000 people.
Chip Simmons mentioned that the Southern Regional Center worked with academia on training programs as not to duplicate. Steve Tracey mentioned Chip Simmons and other of his colleagues at NCSU held a class on the Foreign Supplier Verification Rule in Salisbury, NC in early January 2019. Associates & managers of Food Lion and Retail Business Services attended the 2 day class.
- b. Industry Reports – No updates
- c. Agency Reports - Veronica – Melissa Ham retired January 31, 2019 from the Program Standards Division. The cold holding requirement from 45 degrees to 41 has been implemented for County Environmental Health Department Inspected Facilities. If you need assistance or further guidance contact your Regional Staff or Shane Smith.
Steve – The annual FSDF report was submitted to the Governor for approval.

- III. Speaker Presentations – Dr. Ben Chapman, NC State University, gave a presentation on Consumer Food Handling Behavior Research – Where We Are and Where We’re Going.
- IV. The next task force meeting will be Wednesday, March 13th at the Emergency Operations Center - Raleigh
- V. Adjournment: 12:06 pm