

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE MEETING

Zoom Teleconference

June 16, 2021

2:00pm

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Karen Jones
Dr. Lydia Arbogast
Ms. Liz Gersbacher
Dr. Agustín Jiménez
Dr. Erin Perry
Dr. Greg Whittedge
Dr. Jim Lovvorn
Ms. Leslie Korando
Ms. Carolyn Skouby
Dr. Joseph Cheatwood
Dr. Nancy Henry

VISITORS

Dr. Jennifer Harris – Meeting Minutes
Dr. Ami Ruffing
Ms. Amanda Ingram

1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Jones called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm by welcoming everyone to the meeting and wishing them a productive summer. She then introduced Dr. Nancy Henry as the acting attending veterinarian, replacing Dr. Scimeca during the search for his permanent replacement.

Dr. Jones then explained that there would be an added item to the agenda pertaining to who the committee would want to hold the position of committee chair for the next fiscal year.

1. REPORT OF ANIMAL ILLNESSES/ISSUES – DR. HENRY

Dr. Henry reported that some mice had been received from another institution with a past history of possible contact with pinworms. Their records were evaluated and a quarantine and testing program was instituted. Testing of tape preps, fecal floats and PCR were all negative, so the mice were released from quarantine.

A neonatal guinea pig had died unexpectedly and was necropsied to determine possible cause. Fecal impaction of the cecum was noted and an embryological defect was the suspected cause.

A mare was noted to be behaving differently and was determined to be injured. The equine vet was summoned and the mare is being treated and monitored.

There was a power outage in LSII on May 28 for approximately 3 hours. Temperatures and humidity were monitored and did not exceed the accepted limits. Animals were in the dark during this time. There were no issues noted after the outage and systems returned to normal function (they were checked to assure this).

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING ON April 21, 2021

Dr. Jones asked for comments on or corrections of the April meeting minutes.

Dr. Lovvorn moved to approve the meeting minutes as written. Dr. Jiménez seconded the motion.

Total Voting = 10; Vote: For = 7, Opposed = 0, Abstained = 3

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. REVIEW OF NEW PROTOCOLS BY FULL COMMITTEE

1. 21-020, *Wild Gibbon and Macaque Socioecology* by **Ulrich Reichard**

Discussion: Some concern was expressed regarding the handling of non-human primate feces, personal protective equipment, and zoonosis transmission. As this is a renewal protocol for a study that has been ongoing for about a decade, the protocol for handling the feces has been implemented successfully for that time, presumably. It was suggested that, due to field conditions, hand sanitizer be used after the removal of gloves used for fecal collection.

[Dr. Perry arrives]

There was additional concern expressed over the possible transport of feces back to the U.S. It is not clear in the protocol if the feces are processed solely overseas or brought back to the U.S. The committee agreed that clarification of this issue, and any regulatory considerations, needs to be made.

Dr. Jimenez moved that revisions be reviewed by Designated Member Review. Ms. Skouby seconded the motion.

Total Voting = 11; Vote: For = 11, Opposed = 0, Abstained = 0

2. 21-021, *Galapagos Tortoise Movement and Reproductive Ecology* by **Guillaume Bastille-Rousseau**

Discussion: Dr. Ruffing led by stating that this is a new protocol for Dr. Bastille-Rousseau at SIUC, but that he has been working with this population of animals for quite a few years. Some concern was expressed at the lack of gloves being worn with animal handling, as it is typically required by the committee. Additionally, the use of euthanasia was agreed to be unlikely, but the protocol does not state specifically who is authorized to perform it, nor who holds the licensure to possess and use the euthanasia solution. It was pointed out that one of the other investigators listed is a licensed veterinarian who likely has the authorization.

Dr. Lovvorn moved that the application be approved as written. Dr. Arbogast seconded the motion.

Total Voting = 11; Vote: For = 10, Opposed = 0, Abstained = 1

3. 21-022, *Determining Environmental History of Fishes Using Otolith Chemistry* by **Greg Whitledge**

Discussion: Dr. Whitledge explained that this protocol is to help add data to a study he has already begun that involved other agencies sending him otoliths from fish from a general location. This part of the study is for him to collect otoliths from fish collected from known and specific locations so that their chemistries can be used as a baseline for the other data.

[Dr. Whitledge departure]

Dr. Lovvorn moved that the application be approved as written. Dr. Henry seconded the motion.

Total Voting = 10; Vote: For = 10, Opposed = 0, Abstained = 0

[Dr. Whitledge return, Ms. Ingram departure]

B. Review of Resubmitted Protocols by Full Committee

1. 21-014, *An Investigation of Decontamination Kits for Military Working Dogs* by **Erin Perry**

Discussion: Dr Perry briefly explained the nature of her study then answered questions from the committee. The committee wondered about the method and quantity of substances that would be administered/applied nasally and ocularly. There was also some concern that, though euthanasia would be considered extremely unlikely, the person authorized to perform euthanasia was not listed.

[Dr. Perry departure]

Further discussion occurred that the level of pain and distress noted was incorrect. Additionally, there was discussion about the necessity of pharmaceutical grade substances in light of their testing by veterinarians for safety prior to use.

Ms. Gersbacher moved that revisions be reviewed by Designated Member Review. Dr. Whitledge seconded the motion.

Total Voting = 10; Vote: For = 8, Opposed = 0, Abstained = 2

[Dr. Perry return, Ms. Ingram return]

3. OTHER BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING AAALAC INSPECTION AND MEMBER TRAINING

Discussion: Dr. Jones reminded everyone that the AAALAC inspection is coming soon and that member training was noted as an area in need of attention. She asked that everyone catch up on training, if they weren't already. The training required is: Every three years following initial training, the refresher course must be

completed (Working with Animals in Biomedical Research – Refresher Course) and the “Semiannual Evaluations in Depth” course should be repeated.

B. 19-030, *Impact to Waterfowl of Activities from Non-Consumptive Users* by Mike Eichholz

Discussion: This protocol was reviewed by the full committee in November 2019. The committee voted to require a protocol for this work and decided to send a one-comment request for revision to Dr. Eichholz: please provide the permit from IDNR to use their facilities to survey waterfowl. The reply was to go to designated member review, but no reply was received until June 11, 2021, (in response to notification of lack of protocol approval required for funding to be released). The reply included an attached permit from IDNR for 2019. When asked for a more recent permit, he replied that the field work had been completed “six months ago,” which would have been December 2020. He did not have any more recent permit from IDNR. The designated members have requested that the protocol be brought back to the full committee for consideration and discussion of methods to proceed to enable the release of the funding. The committee agreed that it cannot approve work already completed and decided that a memo would be sent to Vice Chancellor for Research Kinsel for guidance.

C. DISCUSSION OF ESTABLISHING DEADLINES FOR REVISION RETURN

Discussion: Dr. Jones pointed out that the preceding discussion underscores the need for time limits of some sort to help prevent issues that seem to just slip away. Dr. Ruffing stated that it seems that many investigators forget to respond, or worse, assume incorrectly that their protocol was approved when it was not. She feels that establishing some guidelines for response would help prevent misunderstandings and loose ends. It was generally agreed that 90 days is sufficient as a reasonable deadline that can be flexible if communication is ongoing with the investigator. This will be communicated on revision request memos, as well.

D. DISCUSSION OF CEPHALOPOD RESEARCH AND IACUC OVERSIGHT

Discussion: Dr. Ruffing related a recent issue that arose for some SIUC investigators using cephalopods. They approached the IACUC prior to starting work with cephalopods, but were told that this class of animals is not included in the scope of IACUC and protocols would not be reviewed. Since, the investigators have tried to submit to a journal and were rejected due to lack of IACUC oversight and the journal would not relent when presented with refusal of IACUC support. The committee felt that there were enough species to manage under the current guidelines and that taking on species not required by the regulatory authorities was not in the best interest of the IACUC.

[Dr. Jones departure, Dr. Cheatwood departure, Dr. Jiménez acting as Chair]

E. DISCUSSION OF NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE CHAIR

Discussion: The committee asked if Dr. Jones had offered to continue as chair. This was confirmed by Dr. Ruffing. The committee agreed that Dr. Jones has shown great leadership in her tenure.

Ms. Gersbacher moved that we approve Dr. Jones as chair for another year. Dr. Henry seconded the motion.

Total Voting = 9; Vote: For = 9, Opposed = 0, Abstained = 0

Dr. Whitley was thanked for his contributions to the committee over the past 13 years.

Dr. Perry moved to adjourn. Dr. Lovvorn seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:12 pm.