

MN FOOD SAFETY AND DEFENSE TASK FORCE
Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2017

Ruth Petran called the meeting to order at 1:33 PM.

Members present included: Chris Gindorff, Lorrene (Lolly) Occhino, Cecilia Coulter, Courtney Bidney, Brent Kobielush, and Ruth Petran

Visitors present included: Myah Walker, Jessica Laurent, Lisa Hensel, Ed Ehlinger, Kumar Mallikarjunan, Jennifer van de Ligt, Mary O'Meara, Dave Read, Cheryl Eia, Alida Sorenson, Carrie Rigdon, Jane Jewett, Rima Kapadia, and Purnendu C. Vasavada

1. Dates and Links

- a) Next Food Safety and Defense Task Force Meeting: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at the Freeman Building.
- b) [Position opening for an Extension Educator in Farm Food Safety](#) at the University of Minnesota Extension. 75% time.
- c) [Competency-Based Learning Systems](#) being developed by IFPTI

2. The minutes from the May 16, 2017 meeting were approved with the following correction.

Member and Visitor Update for Chris Gindorff (Lunds and Byerlys) will be corrected to state "Looking at listeria monocytogenes prevention in produce." The original minutes stated "delis" instead of "produce".

3. Member and Visitor Updates:

Ed Ehlinger (MDH, Commissioner of Health): Food safety very important, including farm to school and nutritional efforts, and community-building efforts. Suggest that someone from SHIP should be a regular attendee to Task Force meetings now that the previous representative, Tim Jenkins, is with MDA). We are also working on preparation activities around the Super Bowl.

Jane Jewett (Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture - MISA): Will collaborate with Renewing the Countryside and MN Farmers Market Association on a Specialty Crop Block Grant - funded project starting this fall to establish several farmers' markets as low-cost, low-infrastructure aggregation & distribution points for farmers' produce. Working on a local food procurement toolkit based on farm-to-school program experiences in two small school districts; this should be out in September. Continuing coordination of the Local Food Advisory Committee; quarterly meetings that include MDA, MDH and delegated authorities.

Lolly Occhino (AURI): We are continuing to see a need for more support/help to food entrepreneurs in the area of food safety and process verification. However, we are working with the University of MN Food Science Department to see if we can "re-initiate" some classes and training.

Kumar Mallikarjunan (Univ. of Minnesota-Food Science and Nutrition Dept.): There is a new Food Nutrition Innovation Institute initiative, merging food safety, food quality, and nutrition. Schwan's is interested in funding an endowment. We are hiring new food safety position; let me know if you are interested in joining the interviews either on campus or participating remotely.

Chris Gindorff (Lunds & Byerlys): Rolled out supplier document management system – over 200 suppliers for food and food packaging as part of the pilot; hoping to roll out to all soon.

Rima Kapadia (Supervalu): Acquired Unified Grocers (West coast) and working on integrating the companies.

Carrie Rigdon (MDA-Food and Feed Safety Division): Participated in the first meeting of FDA’s Coalition of Food Protection Task Forces’ Steering Committee. The Coalition seeks to support and share resources and lessons learned across the nation’s Task Forces.

Ruth Petran (Ecolab): Ecolab finalized and submitted comments on FDA’s Draft Guidance on Control of *Listeria monocytogenes* in RTE Foods. Attended IAFP meeting in July. Ecolab is supporting customers with FSMA needs.

Courtney Bidney (General Mills): Attended the NCIMS in May. Adding comments to FDA’s Control of *Listeria monocytogenes* in Ready-to-Eat Foods

Cecilia Coulter (Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture - MISA): Innovation Team ideas are moving along. Continuing to meet with MDA and MDH and helping entrepreneurs start a food business. The University of Minnesota will be co-hosting 2 PSA grower trainings next year in Jan and March in St Cloud and Monticello, MN. These courses are for farmers that need to be in compliance with FSMA. Registration link and more info coming soon. We continue to work with MDA to set up their Produce Safety Program and develop a system for providing education to growers in the state around produce safety. There is a position opening for an Extension Educator in Farm Food Safety open at the University of Minnesota Extension - 75% time.

Jennifer van de Ligt (FPDI): FPDI had an active training and outreach month. We provided a full day food defense intentional adulteration training at the Food Integrity Conference in Auckland, New Zealand. This was followed by a 3 day food defense training program customized for the FBI Weapons of Mass Destruction agents. These agents respond in the event of a food defense related incident. Task force companies were encouraged to reach out to familiarize themselves with their local FBI WMD agent. FPDI can provide introductions if needed. FPDI participated in the Food Defense and new Food Fraud PDG groups at the IAFP Annual meeting and will be proposing sessions for next year in collaboration with FDA. FPDI also attended the ILSI Food, Nutrition and Safety Program mid-year meeting as a member of the advisory board. In addition, FPDI is launching a partnership program focused on helping companies prepare their food defense plans. FPDI has also launched new tools related to food fraud and is actively seeking beta-testers and early adopters for tools related to supply chain defense and predictive horizon scanning to proactively detect conditions for food safety and food fraud incidents. And finally, we wished John Larkin the best as he leaves FPDI for the next stage in his career.

Alida Sorenson (MDA-Food and Feed Safety Division): Response has been quiet up until about a week ago when we are now working on several outbreaks, including *S. Kiambu*, *S. Newport*, and *Cyclospora*.

Brent Kobielush (Cargill): FDA looking to perform 300 FSVP inspections by the end of the year.

Dave Read (IFPTI): Developing competency-based learning systems. Also working with CFIA to develop similar regulatory framework for their inspections group.

4. Presentations

- a) Brian Bedard and Weiyi Zhao, GMA Science and Education Foundation - gave a presentation on the education and training resources provided by the Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit

foundation that provides significant and meaningful scientific and educational contributions to the food and consumer products industry.

- b) Carrie Rigdon, Response and Outreach Supervisor, MDA – gave a presentation on the results from an MDA survey on FSMA readiness and needs.
- c) Alida Sorenson, Rapid Response Team Coordinator, MDA – gave a presentation on response updates and 2016 RRT year in review.

5. Discussion: Task Force-sponsored PCQI Training

- a) PCQI Training:
 - i. The next PCQI Training will be the week of August 15 in the Pomeroy Center at the Univ. of Minnesota. There is interest in holding more of these, but we need trainers. Each training needs one lead instructor. To become a lead instructor, you need to take a course and demonstrate knowledge.
 - ii. Discussed the idea of whether we could we have graduate students to round out the training needs. Likely best to have a mini course with the students to make them familiar with the preventive controls or to take one of the courses and then be available as instructors for future classes.
 - iii. Timeframe for another PCQI training would be in the fall, perhaps in October
 - iv. Discussed an Online option. The lead instructor can submit an alternate (online) plan that needs to be vetted and approved.
 - v. The Task Force also wants to sponsor a PC for Animal Food course. Carrie will reach out to Feed Program to ask about lead instructor training.
- b) Other training ideas:
 - i. Produce Safety training/grower training. There are different requirements for becoming a lead trainer. The Cornell Univ. Produce Safety Alliance is responsible for the grower training and maintains a list of upcoming grower trainings. IFPTI is national coordination center with a regional center is at Iowa State headed up by Angela Shaw.
 - ii. 1-day briefing on FSVP
 - iii. Intentional Adulteration training. FPDl has an education coordinator working on the training. FPDl is looking at offering additional food defense training
 - iv. Environmental monitoring

Next meeting will be held on September 19th, 2017, 1:30-4:30 PM,
at the Freeman Building, Saint Paul, MN

2017 Task Force Meeting Schedule

November 14, 2017