2012-2013 AFDO COMMITTEE CHARGES

Laboratory, Science & Technology Committee
*Chair: Yvonne Salfinger, Retired, Denver, CO
Chair: Daniel Rice, NY Dept. of Agriculture & Markets, Albany, NY

Charge 1: Serve as AFDO liaison with APHL and provide AFDO’s Board of Directors with a list of relevant activities of mutual interest.

Discussion: Dan Rice is the AFDO representative to the APHL. Dan Rice and Yvonne Salfinger serve as co-Chairs of the APHL Subcommittee for Food and Feed testing. Dan is also active on the APHL Food Safety Committee and Global Health Committee and is in his second year of a 3-year term on the APHL Board of Directors. The level of interaction between APHL and AFDO has increased in the past year due largely to the efforts involved in developing a collaborative proposal to the FDA that was recently awarded.

The following is Dan Rice’s report to the AFDO Board as the AFDO representative to the APHL.

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) has been actively working towards meeting the deliverables of the $1.5 Million/year 5-year cooperative agreement from the FDA to support food and feed programs in regulatory agencies. This cooperative agreement is a collaboration with AFDO and AAFCO and is strengthening the food and feed testing regulatory communities. The APHL created a Food and Feed Testing Subcommittee housed within the Food Safety Committee. Dan Rice and Yvonne Salfinger co-Chair this Subcommittee. The Food and Feed Subcommittee is charged with strengthening and building the food and feed laboratory community and assisting with meeting the deliverables of the recently awarded FDA cooperative agreement. The first in-person meeting of the APHL Food/Feed testing subcommittee is April 17 – 19, 2013 in Silver Springs, MD. Additional efforts include; developing informatics tools and resources, gathering information on accreditation related training and identifying training gaps, and gathering mentoring best practices from laboratories that are accredited to the ISO 17025 standard.

Recommendation: We recommend that this charge continue and that APHL and AFDO continue to strengthen the relationships between these two associations.

Executive Committee Action:

Approval ☒ Disapproval ☐ Date 5/22/13

Charge 2: Review Topical Index and identify possible scientific articles that could be imported into this portal.

Discussion: This charge has not been addressed during 2012. The Committee needs additional information on the goals and deliverables related to this charge. We suggest that this charge could be met through tutorials and/or educational material on how to conduct a literature search/review. There are several excellent searchable databases available that would provide up to date information on scientific articles by subject.

Recommendation: We recommend that this charge continue.

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Executive Committee Action: Additional guidance will be provided by Joe Corby during the Lab Session at the 2013 AFDO Annual Conference.

Charge 3: Identify possible Food Laboratory contact information or links that would be useful additions to the Directory of State & Local Officials.

Discussion: Dan Rice and Yvonne Salfinger are working with the APHL and AFDO to achieve this goal. In addition Dan Rice is the lead person for the AFDO Registry Workgroup that is charged with developing a database of subject matter experts. The membership of the Registry Workgroup is being developed at this time.

Recommendation: We recommend that this charge continue

Executive Committee Action:

Charge 4: Research and review the public health significance of betel nuts described in a 2012 proposed resolution from CASA and provide direction to the Board on an appropriate response.

Discussion: This charge was addressed by a revised resolution being sent to CASA by Joe Corby based on work of a Fellow.

Recommendation: Completed.

Executive Committee Action:

*Responsible for submission of reports*