

**MINUTES OF THE 385<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Texas Animal Health Commission**  
**January 15, 2013**

The TAHC Commissioners met in the agency's headquarters in Austin on Tuesday, January 15, 2013. Chairman Ernie Morales began the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

**Item 1 – Welcome and Call to order by Chairman Morales**

Commissioner Brandon Bouma – not present at meeting

**Item 2 – Approval of the minutes of the 384<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

A motion to APPROVE the minutes of the 384<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting held on September 18, 2012 was made by Commissioner Real and seconded by Commissioner Simmons. The motion carried.

**Item 3 – Report of the Executive Director, Field Animal Health Program Activities and Approval of Waiver Requests for the Period 9/19/2012 – 1/15/2013**

Dr. Dee Ellis, Executive Director of TAHC discussed the following issues in his report:

**1. Agency Overview**

- Legislative Session
  - Budget issues – LAR & LBB
  - Meet with Rep. Hilderbran
  - Statutory needs
    - Texas Approved Personnel
    - E-CVI authority
    - Fever Tick Language
    - Class C Misdemeanor
    - Poultry Depopulation/Indemnity
    - CWD Surveillance
- Unable to find qualified candidate for Asst. Exec. Director
- Government liaison filled – Mary Luedeker

**2. Texas Disease Traceability update**

- Commission passed rule at June meeting – effective January 1, 2013
- Process for distribution of free eartags developed –partnering with USDA, private veterinarians and Texas A&M Agrilife Extension
- Approximately 1 million tags have been distributed to producers
- Currently 60 of 95 markets in full compliance
- Next steps – informational warning letters and then progressive compliance

### **3. Public Information update**

- Social Media – Facebook and Twitter examples in book
- Press releases – Texas Traceability rule and Vet Loan Repayment
- Print media releases – numerous related to Texas Traceability
- Working on national H3N2v messaging initiative for fairs
- Informational Exhibits planned
  - Texas Emergency Management conference
  - TSCRA in Fort Worth

### **4. Trichomoniasis**

- Will hold Trich working group meeting in May
- Evaluating new transport media possibility

### **5. Equine Piroplasmiasis**

- Cartel compliance action may help with future cases
- Kleberg county wide test planned

### **6. Brucellosis**

- National Surveillance Plan – under review – appointed co-lead with state vet from Idaho by National Assembly to work with USDA to refine proposed national testing protocols – issues – Yellowstone, swine brucellosis, US free trade status surveillance, slaughter testing
- Yellowstone brucellosis concerns – USDA review recently released report – epi review underway – post-entry rules likely at next meeting

### **7. Border Port Issues**

- Continue to work closely with Texas cattle industry and USDA to ensure safe and healthy trade continues at the Texas Border – watching numbers closely – crossing projections are down for 2013
- Horse crossing process at Del Rio used – Laredo under evaluation
- Dr. Varner will have more information

### **8. Cattle Fever Ticks**

- Statutory need for permanent Id in systematic and routine penning
- 32 total infested premises – 26 in Systematic zone, 6 free
- All blankets released except part of Starr County – partial release soon
- Texas tick vaccine chute trials will begin in Sept. at ARS, field trials in Feb, and utilization by late summer of 2013 hopefully
- Dr. Varner will have more information on the tick program

## 9. Swine Health

- Completed Lab PIN tag project with USDA in fall
- Spoke at National Pork Board meeting in San Antonio in Jan
- New initiative to reinvigorate swine risk surveys by field staff
- Continue to find new cases in small operators

## 10. Tuberculosis

- Calf ranch high risk survey process underway
- Working with USDA and New Mexico on roping steers crossing there and entering Texas
- Dr. Schwartz will provide update – still investigating source and traces from infected herd in San Angelo – numerous herds to test

## 11. CWD

- No new cases outside of known infected area to date
- Thanks to hard work of all interested stakeholders, TP&W staff and TAHC staff - untold hours spent in discussion/development of rules
- Proposed new rules for exotic cervids are compromise between business continuity needs and stringent surveillance efforts
- TAHC is willing to undertake more CWD responsibilities as needed but is not funded for significant new work
- Dr. Schwartz will have more information in his report

## 12. Waiver Report

- 2 waivers requests and approved;
  - Scrapie – **Approved** – allowed 8 research sheep to enter terminal facility in Irving without genotype testing
  - Brucellosis – **Approved** – Allowed antelope from San Diego zoo to enter on a negative 50 day test to high fence operation in Boerne

## Next Meeting – possible rules?

- Microchip Piro reactors
- Yellowstone state post entry test
- Fever tick rules – deer hides from infested premises
- Deer TB blood test
- Allow Processed food to be fed to hogs
- Id Mexican origin animals on CVI

A motion to APPROVE the actions of the Executive Director for the period from September 19, 2012 – January 15, 2013 was made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner Wheelis. The motion carried.

#### **Item 4 – Presentation of Animal Health Program activities and Epidemiological Actions Report**

Dr. Andy Schwartz, Assistant Executive Director/State Epidemiologist discussed the following issues:

##### **Cattle**

- **Tuberculosis:**
  - 1). **Coke County Beef Herd:** Routine meat inspection detected TB in a cull cow sent to San Angelo Pack in mid-February 2012. Herd depopulated to slaughter with federal indemnity.
    - adjacent herds: 418 head of cattle in 7 herds tested, with negative results. Some will be tested a second time this spring
    - herd sales: 936 head of cattle being traced. Many lack permanent identification, making tracing difficult
  - 2). **Lone Star Pack trace:** TB confirmed in a domestic cow at Lone Star Beef Processors in mid-March 2012.
    - no identification was recorded for the affected animal
    - Testing of possible source herds in Texas complete (13 herds tested)
    - Oklahoma still working on testing herds
- **Brucellosis:** Conducted 113 investigations of suspect and reactor animals in CY 2012.
- **Trichomoniasis:** In CY 2012, a total of 433 bulls of 24,374 tested were found to be positive. Owners of adjacent property notified where positive bulls are found.
- **Fever Ticks:** 36 infested premises, down from 60 last year. Only 8 in Free Area.
- **FAD Investigations:** 19 investigations conducted, primarily vesicular conditions.

##### **Swine**

- **First Point Testing:** Approximately 2700 animals tested by agency personnel at markets. Surveys being conducted and high risk herds are tested.
- **PRV:** Surveillance efforts detected 5 infected herds in CY2012, each leading to a full epidemiological investigation.
- **FAD Investigations:** 2 conducted involving swine
- **Feral Swine Holding Facilities:** 129 permitted

- **Hunting Preserves:** 17 permitted
- **Waste Feeders:** 152 permitted

### Equine

- **Equine piroplasmosis (EP):**
  - A total of 13,500 horses tested in CY2012, with 13 positives.
  - High risk testing:  
Testing of all horses in Kenedy County is complete. A total of 182 horses were tested, 17 of which were positive for *T. equi*.
  - Considering a test of horses in Kleberg County, beginning with the southern portion. Estimate 400-500 equine in this part of the county.

### Sheep and Goats

- **Scrapie:** Continue to meet tagging requirements, and exceed slaughter surveillance goals
- **FAD Investigations:** 2 investigations conducted involving sheep or goats

### Poultry

- **Influenza:** Monitoring AI outbreak in Jalisco, Mexico
- **AI samples collected in Live Bird Market System:** 4,474 in CY2012
- **Poultry Facility Inspections:** 2,559 conducted in CY2012
- **Fowl Registration:** 635 flocks registered

### Cervids

- **Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD):**
  - federal interstate rule published
  - Red Deer – first known case in this species, in Minnesota. Herd of 30 breeding animals in Texas from affected herd – all tested negative
  - 5 CWD positive mule deer in trans-Pecos
  - very active year for industry, TAHC, and TPWD CWD Taskforce met once, then jointly three times with Cervid Health Issues Working Group to develop response plan, establish containment zones, and develop rules

**Item 5 – Presentation of USDA Veterinary Services Update**

Dr. Kevin Varner – Texas’ Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC) with USDA discussed the following:

1. Fever Ticks – overall the number of infested premises have been on a decline.  
Aug 2009 = 157 premises  
Aug 2010 = 107 premises  
Aug 2011 = 109 premises  
Aug 2012 = 64 premises - 51 in the permanent quarantine zone and 13 in the free zone.

The object of the fever tick program is to push the tick back to the river and fight it there. The Ivermectin tub trials have started and are available to producers in the infested pastures, the adjacent pastures and in the exposed pastures. The only down side is there is a 48 day withdrawal period that has to be followed. If there are no ticks found then the quarantine zone premises are put on a 60 day scratching schedule and adjacent zone premises are put on a 90 day scratching schedule. Next year, Dr. Varner stated he believed there would be a vaccine available to use for ticks. The problem with finding a company to make the vaccine is that there is such a small population of cattle in the fever tick zone that it does not make good business sense to most companies. One has been found that is in the process of creating the vaccine for Texas use.

2. Ports – there are 5 Ports on the United States side of the border. Veterinarians will only go back into Mexico when it is safe to do so. He also has a plan to address the issues from his own veterinarian personnel about doing inspections on the Mexican side of the border while that country is still under such turmoil.
3. Re-organization of USDA – Dr. John Clifford has always had a vision of the USDA with more flexibility moving forward so has come up with a 4 pillar plan:
  - 1) Science and Technology
  - 2) Administration
  - 3) Movement and Marketability
  - 4) Surveillance, Preparedness and Response (fever tick program and ports)This will all be put into place by January 1, 2013. Texas industry groups as well as internal employees will probably not see much of a change in the way USDA conducts business. The only problem is figuring out how to share resources between pillars – especially when employees are on vacation or away from the duty stations.

## **Item 6 – Presentation of Laboratory Update**

Dr. Holly Hughes-Garza – TAHC Staff Veterinarian and Director of Laboratories discussed the following:

- Preparing to implement an online payment option for veterinarians to pay for their lab services electronically, as well as a web portal where veterinarians can view their lab results online
- 3 lab employees completed a 25-hour self-paced course in Quality Management, and others are progressing through the course. The goal is to ensure every employee understands their critical role in ensuring reliability of results from our laboratories. Topics include customer service, records management, process improvement, problem-solving, and equipment maintenance
- Preparing for an on-site audit of the Austin lab by the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) which we expect this summer
- Performing comprehensive review of Materials Safety Data Sheets to comply with new requirements for 2013
- Austin lab isolated *Brucella suis* from 3 samples in November
- Sample volume update
  - Winter brought an increase in submissions from private practitioners – includes testing for a large out-of-state dairy that submitted approx. 8,000 samples for brucellosis and TB gamma interferon tests
  - Slaughter volume has also been relatively high
  - Finished testing required number of high-risk samples for pseudorabies cooperative agreement with USDA for this year

## **Item 7 – Presentation of Emergency Management Program Activities**

Ms. Amanda Bernhard, Emergency Management Coordinator discussed the following issues:

While the Texas hurricane season passed quietly, the Emergency Management Department used events such as Hurricane Sandy, which affected a large portion of the east coast, to evaluate Texas preparedness to a catastrophic incident. While TAHC and Texas are better prepared than many of the Sandy affected states, work still remains to ensure that Texas is fully prepared to protect the livestock industry in any disaster. The following items are highlights of agency emergency management efforts that continue to address and improve the preparedness and response capabilities of the agency:

- Continued leadership of the Southern Animal and Agriculture Disaster Response Alliance (SAADRA) in multi-state coastal region preparation and collaboration on disaster planning. A recent highlight of this work is a multi-state exercise participation in which the all states involved practiced communications and sharing resources across state lines during an event the size of Hurricane Sandy. Also, work began on a regional carcass disposal grant project exploring disposal options, available resources, and transport parameters during a foreign animal disease outbreak, both as a Texas project in conjunction with West A&M University and as a part of a related regional SAADRA project.
- Participation in the pilot project for the state-wide credentialing system supported by the state of Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM). This is an ongoing project that at its conclusion will provide TAHC personnel with enhanced response capacity to serve the livestock industry during disasters.
- As further development of the TAHC Horseback Responder Team, in November, the Emergency Management Department conducted a joint functional training with the USDA focused on sharpening the response skills and improving communication between team members. The event was highly successful, and garnered additional volunteers for the team. By working with the TAHC Communications department, response partners and media as observers attended in order to better educate those groups on TAHC response capabilities. A portion of the presentation highlighting the exercise is included in the commission book. To see the entire show, please, contact Bonnie Ramirez, Director of Communications for a copy of the presentation. The second round of training for the remaining half of the response team will be held in early spring.
- Partnered with the Texas Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) Disaster Preparedness Committee to develop and provide trainings to local veterinarians throughout the state focusing on the role of a veterinarian in local disaster response. These one day training events are delivered in part by TAHC personnel and educate the attendees on the state emergency management system and actions they can take in their communities to assist in disaster planning as well as clinic preparedness.

### **Item 8 – Administration/Budget Status Report**

Mr. Sami Chadli, Director of Financial Services discussed the following issues:

#### **Administration/Budget Status**

- FY 12 collected revenues were approximately \$198,000.
- FY 13 collected revenues as of 1/7/13 total approximately \$140,000. If this revenue trend collection continues, estimated collected revenues for the year could be in the range of \$320,000 to \$340,000.



- Budget status for FY 13 as of December reflects an approximate balance of \$500,000 for the year. This balance does not include an additional \$170,000 in capital funds; which is dedicated to vehicles and information systems items.
- The \$500,000 balance accounts for lower federal funds receipts.

**Item 9 – Consideration of and Possible Action on Agency Contracts and Purchases**

Mr. Sami Chadli, Director of Financial Services discussed the following issues:

For the commission consideration and approval, there are five items over \$10,000:

- Mapping software.
- New email system for the agency. This item has been approved previously through a communication with the Chairman and Dr. Ellis.
- Portable corral.
- Mt. Pleasant lease renewal.
- Austin lab lease renewal.

Except for the new agency email system, these items reflect routine agency operations.

A motion to APPROVE the Contracts and Purchases Requests for the period from September 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012 was made by Commissioner Edmiston and seconded by Commissioner Wheelis. The motion carried.

**Item 10 – Consideration of Agreed order for Violations of Commission Rules**

Mr. Gene Snelson gave the following report on violations of TAHC rules:

1. Mr. Billy Hoover violated rules of the Commission by failing to comply with the dairy identification requirements. It was recommended that he be assessed an administrative penalty of \$500 for violating these requirements.
2. Mr. Anthony “Bubba” Parrish violated rules of the Commission by failing to comply with the Trich testing requirements. It was recommended that he be assessed an administrative penalty of \$1,000 for violating these requirements.
3. Mr. Stephen Smeal violated rules of the Commission by failing to comply with the Trich testing requirements. It was recommended that he be assessed an administrative penalty of \$3,000 for violating these requirements.

A motion to APPROVE the Agreed Orders was made by Commissioner Wheelis and seconded by Commissioner Real. The motion carried.

Chairman Morales then recognized each of the following individuals to speak before the Commission. A full audio of their comments and the complete discussion that followed is available on the Texas Animal Health Commission website.

<http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/agency/meetings.html>

1. Michael Domel – Meridian Livestock
2. Greg Goudeau – Navasota Livestock
3. Billy Schwertner – Livestock Market Association
4. Tim Von Dublin – Livestock Market Association and Lockhart Livestock
5. Bill Hyman – Independent Cattleman’s Association

Mr. Bill Hughes and Mr. Troy Moore passed even though they submitted cards requesting the opportunity to speak before the Commission.

**Item 11 – Consideration of and Possible Action on Regulation Proposals Regarding:**

Gene Snelson discussed the following REGULATION PROPOSALS:

(a) The Texas Animal Health Commission proposes new §40.5, Movement Requirements for CWD Susceptible Species, in Chapter 40, which is entitled “Chronic Wasting Disease”. The new rule is for the purpose of revising the current surveillance requirements for the state’s intrastate movement of elk to include exotic livestock which are susceptible to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). The commission is also proposing the repeal of the existing §40.5, Testing Requirements for Elk, since the new proposed section replaces the old section in its entirety.

Commissioner Locke moved and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion to PROPOSE the repeal of and amendments to Chapter 40, Chronic Wasting Disease, located in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code. The motion to approve the proposed amendments and to publish them in the Texas Register with a 30 day comment period passed.

(b) The Texas Animal Health Commission proposes amendments to §41.9, concerning Vacation and Inspection of a Premise, in Chapter 41, Fever Ticks. The amendment is adding a requirement that all cattle maintained in the Permanent Quarantine Zone, as defined in §§41.14-41.22 of this Chapter, must be identified with permanent official identification and they must be presented annually for inspection.

Commissioner Vickers moved and Commissioner Locke seconded a motion to PROPOSE the amendments to Chapter 41, Fever Ticks, located in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code. The motion to approve the proposed amendments and to publish them in the Texas Register with a 30 day comment period passed.

(c) The Texas Animal Health Commission proposes amendments to §55.5, concerning Pseudorabies, in Chapter 55, Swine. The amendment is updating the test timeframe for releasing swine which were quarantined for being exposed to Pseudorabies (PRV). This is in accordance with the Uniform Methods and Rules issued by USDA Veterinary Services regarding the national PRV eradication program.

Commissioner Real moved and Commissioner Simmons seconded a motion to PROPOSE the amendments to Chapter 55, Swine, located in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code. The motion to approve the proposed amendments and to publish them in the Texas Register with a 30 day comment period passed.

**Item 12 – Consideration of and Possible Action on Regulation Adoptions Regarding:**

Gene Snelson discussed the following REGULATION ADOPTIONS:

Each Chapter was reviewed and voted on individually.

(a) The TAHC proposed amendments to Chapter 33 entitled “Fees” by moving §59.11 into Chapter 33 and creating a new §33.2 entitled “Certificate of Veterinary Inspection”. The Commission has had a fee for CVI’s that is found in Chapter 59. Since the CVI fee was instituted, the agency has created a chapter for fees and this proposed amendment is merely relocating the CVI fee into the fee chapter. The move does not change the fee process, structure or amount as there are no substantive changes.

A motion to ADOPT the amendments to Chapter 33, Fees, located in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code was made by Commissioner Wheelis and seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion carried.

(b) The TAHC proposes amendments to Chapter 35 entitled “Brucellosis”. The Commission is proposing to add an exception to the identification requirement for adult cattle going to slaughter. The Commission recently adopted identification requirements that all sexually intact cattle that are parturient or post parturient or 18 months of age and older, changing ownership within Texas, shall be officially identified with Commission approved permanent identification. The Commission is considering an exception to this requirement. Basically, Commission personnel may exempt from the permanent identification requirement beef cattle presented for sale at a livestock market if, upon consultation with market ownership or management, it is determined that the animal’s physical condition makes the handling required to apply permanent identification unsafe or injurious in nature. Also, beef cattle exempted from the permanent identification requirement under this subsection must be sold and consigned to a state or federally approved slaughter establishment and movement may be permitted by Commission representatives.

Chairman Morales recognized the following individuals who spoke in front of the Commission regarding the amendments to Chapter 35. This is only a summation of their comments, a full

audio of the comments and the complete discussion that followed is available on the Texas Animal Health Commission website. <http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/agency/meetings.html>

1. Jason Skaggs - TSCRA – does support the amendment but feels industry needs more time to digest the new rules before TAHC takes action against the markets which are not in compliance.
2. Judith McGeary – Farm & Ranch Freedom Alliance - spoke against passing the rule.
3. Elizabeth Choate - TVMA – spoke in support of this amendment and stated that Texas Veterinarians were in support as well.
4. Don Ward – does support the amendment as well and further stated this amendment was an improvement on the original rule that was passed in 2012.

A motion to ADOPT the amendments to Chapter 35, Brucellosis, located in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code was made by Commissioner Winters and seconded by Commissioner Edmiston. After much discussion, the motion carried.

(c) The TAHC proposes amendments to Chapter 38 entitled “Trichomoniasis”. These amendments are for the purpose of making changes to the Trichomoniasis Control Program based on recommendations made by the Trichomoniasis Working Group (TWG) composed of veterinarians, cattle producers and other stakeholders which met on May 15, 2012. The TAHC will now accept tests for Trich where samples have been pooled at an approved laboratory, with up to 5 individual samples allowed to count as one test. Veterinarians will still need to collect and incubate samples from all animals individually, according to current protocol. This change in approved laboratory handling of samples was made in an effort to help minimize the costs of sampling. Lab-pooled samples will now be recognized as an official test for quarantine release and change of ownership in Texas. Out-of-state bulls will also be allowed to enter Texas using the 5:1 lab-pooled sample method. Diagnostic samples will now be accepted if submitted up to 120 hours (increased from 96 hours) from the time the sample is collected to arrival at the laboratory. The vet must still confirm on the test chart that he/she incubated the sample for 48 hours at 37 C as per protocol. In addition, the definition of a positive diagnosis has been clarified to include diagnosis in a cow or fetus. TAHC will quarantine herds when a positive diagnosis is made, and require all breeding bulls to be tested.

A motion to ADOPT the amendments to Chapter 38, Trichomoniasis, located in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code was made by Commissioner Locke and seconded by Commissioner Jordan. The motion carried.

(d) The TAHC proposes amendments to Chapter 40, entitled “Chronic Wasting Disease” (CWD). The proposed amendments are for the purpose of revising a number of the current requirements to address a variety of recent actions involving CWD including the Federal CWD final interim rule that will take effect December 13, 2012. A brief summary of all the proposed amendments are:

1. The commission currently provides a voluntary herd monitored status program for species that are susceptible to CWD. Currently, all breeders of white-tailed deer participate in a CWD monitoring program through either TPWD or the Commission. The Commission is proposing to require additional cervid species to participate in surveillance for CWD.

2. Mandatory reporting of all CWD suspicious animals and all death losses in animal 12 months of age or older (changed from 16 months). And CWD exposed animals (changed from High risk) must be removed from the herd and; either humanely destroyed, tested for CWD and disposed of or the herd will be maintained under hold order/quarantine for 60 months (changed from 48 months).
3. Provides the enrollment requirements for the TAHC Complete Monitored Herd Program for CWD and stipulates that herd owners who enroll must agree to maintain their herds in accordance with these requirements.
4. Requirements are applicable to include North American elk or wapiti, red deer, Sika deer, moose and any associated subspecies and hybrids.
5. Adds a new section to delegate to the Executive Director the authority to issue an order to declare a CWD high risk area or county based on sound epidemiological principles for disease detection, control and eradication.

Chairman Morales recognized Mr. Charly Seale – Director, Exotic Wildlife Association. Mr. Seale spoke in favor of passing the CWD rules being proposed today.

A motion to ADOPT the amendments to Chapter 40, Chronic Wasting Disease, located in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code was made by Commissioner Vickers and seconded by Commissioner Locke. The motion carried.

(e) The TAHC proposes amendments to Chapter 51, entitled “Entry Requirements”. The purpose of these amendments is to change the Bovine Trichomoniasis (Trich) testing requirements and the Cervidae entry requirements. There were 2 recommendations for rule changes for the interstate movement of breeding bulls into TX that the Commission is proposing to consider. The first is to allow a bull to enter TX on a laboratory pooled negative test sample (no greater than 5 total in sample). The second is to lengthen the time which a test result is valid from 30 days to 60 days to coincide with the existing intrastate time limit for a valid negative test. The Commission announced in June it had been determined that red deer and Sika deer are susceptible species for CWD and therefore must meet the same entry requirements as other cervid species regulated by the agency such as Elk and Moose. The new entry rules for red deer and Sika deer will require they originate from herds with at least 5 years of participation in an approved CWD status program. The Commission is amending the entry requirements to remove the three year standard for cervid originating from states that had not detected CWD within their borders.

A motion to ADOPT the amendments to Chapter 51, Entry Requirements, located in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code was made by Commissioner Vickers and seconded by Commissioner Winters. The motion carried.

(f) The TAHC proposes amendments to Chapter 59 entitled “General Practices and Procedures” by adding a new section. This proposal creates a new §59.11 entitled “Executive Director Declaration of a High Risk Disease Movement Restriction Zone”. The new section authorizes the Executive Director to issue an order which will classify an area or a county as being high risk for animals to be infected with or exposed to a disease based on sound epidemiological principles.

A motion to ADOPT the amendments to Chapter 59, General Practices and Procedures, located in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code was made by Commissioner Wheelis and seconded by Commissioner Real. The motion carried.

**Item 13 – Recognition of Public Comment**

All public comment was heard earlier in the commission meeting. No additional public comment was heard during this section of the agenda.

**Item 14 – Set date for the 386<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

The date for the next Commission meeting was not set during the meeting but may be sometime in May, 2013. Notice will be posted on the agency's website when the date for the 386<sup>th</sup> meeting has been set.

**Item 15 – Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 am.