



The Roslin Institute Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Monday 27th June 2022 Boardroom and Microsoft teams Hybrid
Minutes

1. Attendance and apologies.

Apologies: [REDACTED]

2. Minutes of last meeting:

The AWERB committee minutes were accepted as true record of the previous meeting that took place on the 23rd May 2022

3. Matters arising/Action points

Statistics: the agenda has been revised to remove statistics as a standing item with updates given as required.

AWERB away day: noted that the AWERB away day held on the 21st June was a successful event with members from both AWERBs attending, it is anticipated that this will become an annual event.

4. NVS update:

- [REDACTED] Two reports were submitted to the home office. No welfare issues were encountered and the matters are resolved.
- **New NVS:** the new NVS post will commence on the 1st August.
- **Poultry:** No major issues to report of concern, facilities have been relatively quiet.

5. NTCO update: apologies given.

6. **PEL Holder update:** A date for the agreed meeting between PEL holders and [REDACTED] is still pending. The meeting is expected to facilitate communication of the recent issues raised by establishments following the implementation of the ASRU change program. A full update to the committee will be given once this meeting has been held.

7. Reports from Facilities

- **Farms [REDACTED]** no issues at the present time.
- **LARIF [REDACTED]:** Building works almost complete. As in previous months a number of studies are ongoing and the facility is busy.
- **Poultry [REDACTED]:** As discussed previously plans are in place to mitigate the consequences of worldwide problems with grain supply. Facilities are aware of ordering downtime with the PAM system.
- **Chick Embryo room:** no issues raised .
- **Aquaculture Facility [REDACTED]:** discussions are ongoing to resolve the issues surrounding the transfer of fish for [REDACTED] studies. An amendment to a licence held at another establishment may offer a partial solution. Future discussions will be held in August about the renewal of the current PPL and who will hold this.
- **Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care:** Culture of care has been at the forefront this year and the preliminary results of the survey were presented at the AWERB away day. A date will be found for the CoC symposium to be held either this year or next.

8. Licences submitted to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting

PL16-22
PL20-22

9. New PPL applications under consideration by the AWERB

PL22-22:

This new application was approved subject to minor revision as detailed below. The application will investigate the use of a new, non-invasive device to prevent issues with [REDACTED]. It was noted that initial work would involve the use of cadavers with studies then progressing. The committee had previously heard a very interesting presentation (23/5/2022) and noted the importance of this work.

Minor points for clarification

- Some typographical errors require to be addressed.
- Clarify that in the event of a power failure that the single remaining battery will be able to provide enough power for the duration of the study.
- Revise the text mentioning the [REDACTED] opening as this is now out of date.

10. Amendments:

A38-22: approved for submission

A40-22: This application includes a request for the inclusion of additional availability. In addition amendments are proposed to make available the option to transfer fish to another organization, to allow [REDACTED] and to permit challenge studies with [REDACTED] (protocol 4)

1. Clarify the anticipated mortality rate (protocol 4) in fish as the stated rate is higher than anticipated, and would need specific justification.
2. It was agreed that a copy of a similar PPL would be obtained from another institute and discussions convened to ask about experience with mortality rates with similar studies.
3. A revised amendment will be re-circulated to the committee for consideration on 22/8/22

11. Overseas research: OS7-22

The committee were happy to approve this overseas research application looking at the [REDACTED]. No aspects would be considered a risk to the reputation of the University of Edinburgh. The clear welfare impacts of this study were noted by the committee. The only comment for consideration was that advice on further optimizing the sedation protocol should be sought prior to commencement of the study: **update: advice provided to applicant**

The AWERB were happy to approve this study subject to the provision of advice on sedation.

12. Overseas research: OS8-22

The aims of this project involving [REDACTED] were to look at the use of analgesia for specific husbandry practices within the poultry industry, currently analgesia is not used in [REDACTED]. There were a number of comments in relation to this application, a summary of which are detailed below and it was agreed to organize a meeting with the supervisor of the project to discuss this matter further.

1. Animal welfare benefits of this study have not been emphasized in this proposal.
2. Group sizes have not been clearly defined and it is unclear what procedures (or a combination of which) animals will undergo.
3. There is no clear justification for the analgesic regime proposed.
4. Further consideration should be given to the design of the pilot studies.
5. Action: meeting to be organised and the proposal returned to AWERB for 22/8/22 meeting.

13. Report from Central AWERB: noted that the central AWERB is still very busy with licensing applications and amendments, noted that license turnaround times however are generally good. The central AWERB has added an additional AWERB meeting for the 9th August to cope with volume of licences. The away day held on the 21st June was deemed a success with a good attendance from both AWERBs.

14. Date of next meeting: August 22nd 2pm, [REDACTED]