



## **SD ANIMAL INDUSTRY BOARD**

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### **SD ANIMAL INDUSTRY BOARD MINUTES OF ANNUAL BOARD MEETING**

**TUESDAY JULY 14, 2026**

8:30 a.m. Bryan Nagel called the meeting to order. Board members were Bryan Nagel, Kevin Larson, Dr. Stephanie Stevens, Nick Jopson and Shane Odegaard. Absent were Scot Eisenbraun, Josh Kitzen and Zacky Waldner. AIB staff members present were Drs. Mendel Miller, Tammy Anderson, Marc Hammrich, Jessie Christensen and Janice Hallstrom; Terry Johnson, John Eilertson and Kara Anderson. Others present were Jim Stangle/Golden Vet Service, Mario Tarango/Murdo-RCALF, Kenny Fox/SD Stockgrowers, Roxie Fox/Belvidere, Tom Costello/SD Stockgrowers, Meghan O'Brien/Reporter SD Searchlight, Emily Greco/Attorney General's Office and Megan Visger/USDA-APHIS.

President Nagel determined that a quorum was present and asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. There were none. Dr. Stephanie Stevens moved to approve the agenda. Kevin Larson seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion passed.

President Nagel verified that all board members had received the minutes for the January 20, 2026, board meeting. Kevin Larson moved to approve the minutes. Shane Odegaard seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion passed.

Introductions were made for the benefit of all present and new board members Shane Odegaard and Nick Jopson.

Emily Greco from the South Dakota Attorney General's Office reviewed South Dakota Codified Law Chapter 1-25 Meetings of Public Agencies with the board. The discussion was an explanation of SD's Open Meetings Laws and outlined sections relating to how a quorum is established, what constitutes an official meeting, how to ensure the public is notified and provided with appropriate access to official meetings. The Board had questions on best practices for emails and dining. The Board Members thanked Emily for her time and the refresher.

Dr. Miller reviewed the 2026 Annual Report with the Board and explained the past year's activities documented in the report. Kevin Larson moved to approve the Annual Report. Shane Odegaard seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion passed.

9:30 a.m. Bryan Nagel Bryan Nagel called for a 15-minute break.

Kenny Fox, ID coordinator for the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association, requested time to speak with the board on opposing the EID mandate. Mr. Fox asked the board to consider the

use of USDA metal tags as acceptable forms of ID/ Bangs Verification within the state. Dr. Miller advised USDA metal tags are recognized as an official form of ID for bangs vaccination within the state currently. An 840 EID tag is required by the USDA only if the cattle will be crossing state lines. Metal tags can be purchased from approved suppliers authorized by USDA. Tom Costello asked the minutes reflect the metal tags were still usable in South Dakota for brucellosis vaccination.

10:00 a.m. A public rules hearing was held to consider the adoption and amendment of the rules pertaining to 12:68 inclusive. The effect of the rules will update definitions to more accurately reflect current terminology and to modernize language of reference material. 12:68:03:05 is being updated to add municipal or other permitted solid waste landfills to the rule to reflect current practice. The reason for adopting the proposed rules is to make definitions more consistent with national health programs and to allow for carcass disposal in a safe and secure method. The hearing is audio recorded and on file. There were no opponents or proponents present for the hearing, or written testimony. President Nagel opened the meeting for public comment. Kenny Fox asked if we were correcting grammar regarding approved backtag by deleting item (20) on page 3. Dr. Miller responded that this precise term does not appear to be used in article 12:68 and noted its similarity to the definition for “official identification” on the same page. Jim Stangle asked if the maximum age for bangs vaccination has gone back to 12 months. Dr. Miller responded yes. Public comment closed. Stephanie Stevens moved that the rule be adopted as presented. Nick Jopson seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion passed. The rules hearing adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Dr. Hammrich provided an update on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in poultry. The poultry industry in South Dakota has been significantly impacted by HPAI. Since 2022 a total of 182 premises were affected (153 commercial poultry businesses and 29 backyard flocks). April 23, 2026, was the last detection in South Dakota. AIB Field Veterinarians continue to test and monitor outbreaks in the state. The best way to combat the spread is biosecurity efforts. USDA offers 2 free biosecurity assessments for producers in order to hopefully identify potential concerns before an outbreak occurs. Questions were posed on whether producers are reimbursed for any animals that must be depopulated. Dr. Hammrich advised there is an indemnity program for those with affected flocks, but it does not make the producers whole. Discussion was had on viability of potential vaccinations for flocks; none are currently available within the United States.

Dr. Miller updated the board on HPAI in dairy cattle. So far in 2026, 72 cases have been detected in California, Idaho, Utah, and Texas. South Dakota’s last case was detected on July 31, 2024. South Dakota continues to participate in the national milk testing strategy. Through the continued milk silo testing South Dakota has been able to achieve the “unaffected status” (Stage IV). In May 2026 South Dakota updated requirements for lactating dairy cows to come to SD. There is no longer a test requirement for importing these lactating dairy cattle provided they come from a state other than CA, FL, ID, NC, ND or OR. This is because all other states are also Stage IV “unaffected”.

Dr. Miller gave an update on Bovine tuberculosis (TB) in South Dakota. In May of 2025, Texas notified South Dakota that a 3-dairy complex in TX had tested positive for TB. South Dakota received shipments of animals from this dairy network in Texas between 2020-2023 to 4 dairies in South Dakota. All Texas origin animals have been removed and are no longer at the receiving

dairy for three premises. One dairy still has Texas origin cows and will continue to test those animals until they are out of the herd.

Dr. Anderson advised the board on current monitoring for Vesicular Stomatitis. It is a viral disease that affects most livestock but mainly affects equine. The virus circulates annually in Southern Mexico occasionally resulting in incursion into the US and is currently affecting areas in Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico. Additional restrictions on equine moving from these states have been put into effect. It is spread primarily through biting insects though it can be spread through contaminated needles. The disease presents similarly to foot and mouth disease so all instances must be quarantined and investigated thoroughly.

Dr. Miller provided an update on New World Screwworm (NWS). New World Screwworm has reemerged in the US with multiple cases in Texas and an isolated case in New Mexico. The fly will lay its eggs in any open wound, and the larva will then eat the healthy flesh of the host as it grows. After nearly 60 years with only sporadic domestic cases, USDA confirmed the first US detection of NWS in Texas on June 3, 2026, and 35 animals, mostly cattle, have had confirmed cases of NWS across Texas and New Mexico. While the recent US cases have heightened concern among animal health officials and livestock producers, it is important to emphasize that NWS does not threaten the safety of the US food supply. NWS was first documented as a significant problem in the Southeastern United States in 1933, though it had been present long before that. In 1958, Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) was implemented to combat NWS in the Southeast and NWS was effectively eradicated in 1966. Texas has set up infected zones and is restricting the movement of animals within those zones and the surrounding areas. They are also releasing sterile flies and using traps to find wild flies. They have also been tracking movement of wildlife through drones and game cameras. They have not been able to capture a wild fly or seen signs of NWS on wildlife. This seems to indicate there is not a large population in the state yet.

Dr. Hammrich gave information on Tularemia. Tularemia is a highly infectious disease caused by bacteria that spreads from bites and ingestion. It cannot be passed from person to person. Primary carriers are rabbits in the winter and ticks in the spring. Symptoms are similar to influenza. Five verified cases have been reported in South Dakota. Educational warnings were sent to South Dakota veterinarians on how to identify the disease and mitigate exposure.

Dr. Miller discussed Pseudorabies (PRV) outbreak in Iowa. In April a boar stud facility in Iowa found 4 boars positive for PRV. These boars were traced back to a Texas transitional herd. All animals have been removed and the herd tested. Surrounding facilities were also tested and no additional reactors were found. As of now, Iowa has regained their PRV free status.

11:46 a.m. Bryan Nagel called for a 15-minute break.

Dr. Anderson introduced John Eilertson to the Board. Mr. Eilertson is the new Program Manager for the state meat inspection program. He gave a brief update on inspection staff and SD's Cooperative Interstate Shipment (CIS) Program. A new establishment has become CIS certified. There are a total of 3 CIS establishments and 18 inspectors trained to perform inspection at CIS establishments. The board discussed the likelihood that more establishments will pursue CIS inspection due to the USDA SPUR grant opportunity announced on June 30, 2026.

Bryan Nagel discussed the 2026 USAHA Annual meeting in October in Madison, WI. Kevin Larson moved to approve stipend and travel for board members interested in attending USAHA. Nick Jopson seconded. A voice vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Dr. Miller reviewed the Joint Powers Agreement between the SDAIB and the Veterinary Medical Exam Board. Dr. Stephanie Stevens moved to approve the Joint Powers Agreement. Shane Odegaard seconded. A voice vote was taken, and the motion passed.

President Bryan Nagel opened the floor for appointment of the State Veterinarian. Shane Odegaard moved to reappoint Dr. Mendel Miller as State Veterinarian. Nick Jopson seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion passed.

Dr Hammrich discussed the use of NADPRP funds AIB received to help pay for foam equipment to response to an Animal Health Emergency. The equipment purchased was stored at the DOH warehouse but due to space needed by DOH, AIB was asked to move their equipment. The SD Pork Producers agreed to supply a storage unit for half of the equipment. The equipment is a sustainable means for euthanasia.

Dr. Miller noted that the annual meeting is the time for board elections and opened the floor for nominations for President. Kevin Larson moved to nominate Bryan Nagel as President. Dr. Stephanie Stevens seconded. Bryan Nagel accepted the nomination. Shane Odegaard moved to cease nominations. Kevin Larson seconded. A voice vote was taken. Bryan Nagel was elected.

President Bryan Nagel opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President. Nick Jopson moved to nominate Kevin Larson as Vice-President. Shane Odegaard seconded and moved to cease nominations. Kevin Larson accepted the nomination. A voice vote was taken. Kevin Larson was elected.

The Board took a moment to recognize Dr. Megan Visger, the USDA SD/ND Area Veterinarian in Charge. Dr. Miller advised the board that the AIB works closely with Dr. Megan Visger's office and expressed gratitude for their advocacy and support for the state of South Dakota at the federal level.

12:33 pm Shane Odegaard, moved to enter executive session. Kevin Larson seconded. A voice vote was taken. Executive session ended at 1:35 p.m.

The board approved the Boards staff veterinary salary policy.

President Nagel adjourned the meeting.

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Bryan Nagel, President  
Animal Industry Board

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Mendel Miller, DVM  
State Veterinarian and Executive Secretary