

Animal Care Council Report

2018 NIAA Annual Conference

Tuesday, April 10, 2018



The Animal Care Council met on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. during the 2018 NIAA Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado, with approximately 41 people present. Drs. Jim Logan and Peter Mundschenk served as Co-Chairs.

The Animal Care Council session focused on the use of electronic logging devices on animal care and the use of animal ID during an emergency response. The following speakers presented:

Ms. Jara Settles –General Counsel, Livestock Marketing Association, presented “ELD Mandate” Livestock transportation matters to all of us, not just truckers. What is needed for ELD compliance for moving animals ie commercial vehicles over 10,000GVW. What truck requires an ELD. Exemptions to the ELD requirement, vehicles older than 1999, only operating 8 days of every 30, covered farm vehicles within 150 airmile exemption and recreational haulers even if over 26,000. How the 150 airmiles is beneficial for increasing time as needed. What defines a recreational exemption for ELD on hauling. Agriculture is the only industry that has had any exemptions and this is due to industry coalition to lobby for animal care. This rule incentivizes the driver to push through fatigue rather than stop for a rest as this is counted into hours of service. Probably a lot of people not aware of the rule.

“The Importance of Individual Animal ID in Natural Disaster Response”

- Moderator: Jim Logan, DVM– Wyoming Livestock Board, Co-Chair
- Michael Short, DVM - State Veterinarian, Florida State Dept. of Ag
- T.R. Lansford, III, DVM – Assistant Executive Director Animal Health Programs, Texas Animal Health Commission

Dr. Short went over the preparedness in Florida due to multiple emergencies from fire to hurricanes including IRMA. They utilize a lot of public awareness and have a plan for families. Identification is important even for household pets. Livestock need to have ahead of time plan and testing done. During response have daily calls to get industry input as to what needs to be done to minimize impact. Working with the NARSC partners to help move animals out of shelters to make room for impacted animals. How the Incident Command worked in Florida to respond and animal rescue. Feed and fuel logistics to keep agriculture moving forward.

Lessons learned included:

Communication is vital. Donation management is always problematic. FEMA pays very little under public assistance for animal/ agriculture issues. Counties will always need help with pet sheltering. Need many cooperating agencies and organizations. When to stop providing assistance when local industry is recovered and able to provide services it is time to pull out of response.

Dr. Langsford went over Hurricane Harvey response. It was a large rain event with surge so trapped a lot of animals quickly. Develop relationships prior to response. Utilize partners such as USDA APHIS WS and Air National Guard that might not have been used yet have resources. This helped with air surveillance and feeding as needed.

Lessons learned included:

Public information to have a plan and livestock plan for evacuation. Incorporated 211 to add the public with messaging. Biosecurity at shelter to make sure have isolation pens for animals that might get sick during response. Without ID and not a brand state who owns the livestock? How do you make sure animals go back to right owner? Reiterated that donation management is always a challenge. Coordination and communication with stake holders/ agencies/ NGO's is vital. Develop relationships ahead of time.

Old Business:

- Reviewed mission statement and found it to be appropriate for council.
- Went over resolutions and accepted new resolutions to council from committees as listed. Motion to accept new resolutions into Animal Care Council was moved by Carl Heckendorf and seconded by Leah Dorman. Motion passed unanimously.
- We had no resolutions dated 2013 or earlier. No changes were suggested to any resolution.

New Business: No new business was presented.

General Discussion:

Animal Care Council Session adjourned at 3:05PM.