The Antibiotics Council met on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. during the 2015 NIAA Annual Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana, with approximately 25 people present. Drs. Brian Lubbers and Eric Moore served as Co-Chairs.

The Antibiotics Council session focused on continuing the momentum from the dialogue created by the previous antimicrobial resistance symposiums. The following speakers presented relevant information pertaining to antibiotic resistance and antibiotic usage.

Eric Moore, DVM, Director of Technical Services, Ruminant Business Unit at Norbrook, Inc. and Brian Lubbers, DVM, PhD, DACVCP, Director of Clinical Microbiology at Kansas State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, presented "2014 Antibiotics Symposium Review & Survey Evaluation" Dr. Lubbers reviewed the results of the post symposium survey. The results were then used to plan the next symposium.

Dave Dargatz, DVM – U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health, Larry Granger, DVM, Senior Leader, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services and Craig Lewis, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, VMO, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, presented "Metrics: What are the agencies thinking of as their benchmark for success?" Dr. Lewis discussed the timeline for Guidance for industry #213 and the progress that has been made thus far. Dr. Granger covered the various efforts to develop metrics and programs that are currently in place recording antibiotic resistance in the livestock industry. Dr. Dargatz continued with a discussion of how we can develop metrics and what information was available and what we should collect. The discussion was centered around the presentation by Dr. Booker on the Canadian work that has been done.

Calvin Booker, DVM, MVetSc, Managing Partner at Feedlot Health Management Services, Ltd., presented "Antimicrobial Resistance - You Can't Manage What You Can’t Measure" Drs. Booker and Fenton reviewed three studies that have been done and are currently being ran in four Canadian feedlots examining the relationship between antibiotic use and antibiotic resistance.

Eric Moore and Brian Lubbers presented "2015 Antibiotics Symposium" The council session ended with a discussion of the future symposium.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business:
The following Resolution was amended
AB1 Development of Antibiotic Symposium
Background: Increasingly, consumers are intensely interested in how their food is grown and raised, including how antibiotics are used in farm animals. Often this conversation is polarized between animal
health, public health, environmental health and consumers. Animal agriculture must continue to strive to:

- work together across species and health disciplines;
- identify common goals and shared solutions;
- reach out to all stakeholders with factual, science-based information;
- continually improve;
- build trust.

Resolution: NIAA shall support planning of the 2015 antibiotic symposium to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, (date to be determined) that will engage participants from the human and veterinary medical and retail communities in an interactive format to cover a variety of perspectives and continue the conversation about antibiotic therapy and resistance dynamics in human and animal health.

- Rick Sibbel moved to accept the amended resolution. Gatz Riddell Seconded. Motion passed.

- Consensus Points for NIAA White Paper Development
  1) Antimicrobial resistance is a very complex issue with far reaching implications.
  2) The issues based Antibiotic symposiums have made great strides in connecting the human, veterinary and regulatory medicine communities. It is important to continue this connection while furthering our impact on other stakeholder groups.
  3) The discussion of metrics to measure antibiotic use and antibiotic resistance is in its early stages. We need to keep metrics at the fore front of our stewardship dialogue.

General Discussion: Developing suitable metrics to monitor changes in antibiotic resistance was a large part of the discussion. A few key points focused on collection of antibiotic use data, confidentiality of data, the value of voluntary data collection and the enormity of the interactions in the environment and microbiota of the animal. The council also discussed pressure from the retail regarding antibiotic usage. The session ended with a discussion of the format and agenda for future symposium.

Antibiotics Council Session adjourned at 5:30 pm March 24, 2015.