Nancy Thiex opened the meeting. After introductions the following issues were covered:

Approval of Agenda – The agenda was approved. (attached-#1).
Approval of Minutes from the January Meeting – Following a couple of editorial corrections the Minutes from the meeting held on January 20, 2010 in Redondo Beach, CA, were approved (attached #2)

Annual Report – Thiex reported that the Annual Report had been submitted to AAFCO as well as to the Lab Committee (attached #3)

Announcements – Thiex reported that Bill Hall had taken over the position as Chair for the Ag Materials Community after Tom Jensen. Hall mentioned that he was actively looking for someone to replace him as his time was limited.

Committee Purpose Statement – Thiex shared a draft. Following some wordsmithing the final version was approved for submission to the AAFCO Long Range Planning committee. (attached #4)

Status of FDA Submissions of Methods for Medicated Feed Additives and other Drug related Projects – Thiex reported that submissions of drug methods were on track -

- Sulfamethazine – data package not yet sent to FDA. Siegel may have to do some additional validation work.

- Monensin, Narasin and Salinomycin - Data package submitted to FDA. Rebecca Owen requested additional data on recoveries and interferences. Recovery data are included in the submission but no specific interference data. Elanco has interference data covering the same method but using those data require permission of Elanco. An amendment to the submission will need to respond to all concerns.

- MGA – No report from R-Biopharm

- CTC - No report from Tami Stolzenbach at Alpharma regarding an HPLC method for quantifying CTC at formulated and residue levels. Sondra Flick will verify continued interest in project.

- Tylosin – Tommy Phillips did not provide an update.

- Neomycin, tetracyclines and tylosin – Jay Gandhi to present at the meeting held this fall in conjunction with AOAC.

- Drug residues in DDGs - FDA plan to present findings from Survey at AAFCO Meeting in January.

Starch Method – Thiex reported that AOAC had offered to process the validation study at no cost to the participants. Mary Beth Hall has almost completed the validation protocol.
Fatty Acid Profile Method Validation – Clapper reported that Steve Hansen et al. had worked on direct methylation processes (alkaline and acid/alkaline) and presented the data from the precollab study. She reviewed the matrices (24) that will be covered in the collab study. Currently she has 12 confirmed participants and is looking to add more labs.

Don Palmquist reported that his method was similar but faster/simpler although a side-by-side comparison of his method versus the Hansen methods has not been completed. His method has not been optimized to cover CLA’s or fatty acids present at levels of <0.5% of total fatty acids. He is currently working on finalizing validation protocol.

Amino Acids Project: – Reimann reported on the results of the study carried out by Dr. Yanhong Zhang et al. The data indicated that the interlab variability was so large that it masked any method specific performance issues. He also reviewed the next step in the project focusing on identifying possible critical control points in the acid hydrolysis procedure. People interested in participating in this project should contact Amy Smith, AOCS. A copy of the presentation is attached (attached-#5)

FERN / IFFS / Laboratory Accreditation – Tim McGrath reported on the status of FERN. It covers 35 Federal, 115 State and 15 local Government labs. Industry is not represented. Managed by FDA/USDA. FDA has multi year contract with chemistry labs and just initiated contracts with microbiology labs. Working on coordinating veterinary diagnostic labs. Mentioned that an Integrated Food/Feed Safety Systems (IFFS) was being pursued which again would exclude industry labs. One of its purposes was to funnel money to state labs to support quality upgrades to their operations with the goal of having state and federal labs operate in compliance with similar/same quality standards. (attached-#6)

Vitamin A – A call for methods and associated validation documents for the determination of ADDDED vitamin A (no endogenous Vitamin A in feed ingredients). Such information should be sent to Ken Riter. People interested in joining a work group to review submitted methods should contact Riter as well.

Vitamin D & E – Dale Hill presented a summary of the chemistries and uses of Vitamin D and E (Attachment #7). Hill reported that essentially no D2 was used in feeds as it was much more expensive than D3 and had essentially no efficacy in bird feeds. Yeast is the primary source for D2 while sheep lanolin is the major source for D3. The Method Needs Statements for Vitamin D and Vitamin E were updated to reflect the information covered.

AOAC Supported Methods (Mycotoxins; Pesticides) – Thiex reported that AOAC had offered to process the mycotoxin validation at no charge and that volunteers had come forward to review methods. The problems associated with the broad scope of the Method Needs Statement were discussed. A meeting of the mycotoxin group is scheduled during the upcoming AOAC meeting and currently includes Lars Reimann, Lu Wetzler, Vicki Siegel, Michael Prinster, Joerg Stroka and other members of the Mycotoxin Community.
A Sub-committee chaired by Karen Stephanie and including Tommy Phillips, Heidi Hickes, Doug Hite (and anyone else interested) will be formed as well with the charge to review methods for analysis of feeds for pesticide residues.

Method Needs Statements (MNS)—Aaron Price demonstrated how to access the most updated versions of each method needs statement on the AAFCO web site. A draft template for preparing such documents is posted there as well.

- Bacitracin – completed
- Fructans – completed
- Total Metals – Nancy reported that Terrence Field has accepted the position as project leader. This is also a project for which AOAC will process the validation at no cost. Terrence’s first charge will be to review the current MNS draft. People with ICP-MS methods including validation data are invited to send such data to Terry.
- Fatty Acids – Clapper reported that the MNS was still under review by AOCS members. She would push for their feedback.
- Vitamin D – See comments above
- Vitamin E – see comments above.

Method Needs Survey – Aaron Price shared a summary of the results from the recent survey based on 17 responses (12 from Regulatory, 5 from Industry).

Mycotoxin Testing Survey – Siegel presented a draft survey form. Discussion followed as to the political sensitivity the data and the difficulties associated with the interpretation of same. Siegel to continue to explore issue.

Sugar methodologies - Lars Reimann reported that this issue would be covered at the upcoming AOAC meeting.

Issues with DDG – Mycotoxin testing of this material is fraught with problems affecting methods from ELISA to HPLC-MS/MS. Christina Nochetto at FDA continues to work on an HPLC-MS/MS method for this matrix.

Relationship w/ISO – Clapper updated everyone on the activities of ISO especially the lack of US involvement with ISO Committee TC34/SC10 covering Animal Feeds. Iran has been awarded the Secretariat for this Committee. In general USA is not much involved in this organization even though more and more countries are subscribing to its standards and incorporating them into their legislation. (Presentation attached-#8)
Respectfully submitted,

Lars Reimann

Eurofins Scientific, Inc.

Attachments:

1. Agenda August, 2010
2. Meeting Minutes 012010
3. 2010 Annual AAFCO Report
4. Draft Mission Statement
5. Amino Acid Study presentation
6. Tim McGrath’s FERN and IFFS presentation
7. Dale Hill’s Vitamin E presentation.
8. ISO related issues.