Committee Report/Minutes
2020 AAFCO Midyear Meeting
January 22 9:30 – 12:00 PM, Albuquerque, NM

Committee Recommendations
Committee recommendation summary or list.
(1)
(2)

Board Recommendations
Board recommendation summary or list.
(1)
(2)

Association Actions
Association action summary or list.
(1)
(2)

Committee Participants
Members Present: Lizette Beckman (Co-Chair, WA), Jason Schmidt (CoChair, LA) Austin Therrell (SC), JoLynn Otero (NM), Katie Simpson (IN), Stan Cook (MO), James Embry (TX), Kristen Green (KY), Richard Ten Eyck (OR), Sue Hays (AAFCO Executive Director), Charlotte Conway (FDA), George Ferguson, Bill Burkholder (FDA)

Advisors Present: Angelle Thompson (PFI), Dave Dzanis (APPA), Cathy Allinovi (NGPFMA), James Emerson (US Poultry), Pat Tovey (PFI), David Fairfield (NGFA), Bill Bookout (NASC), Louise Calderwood (AFIA), David Meeker (NRA)

Committee Report
Meeting called to order at 9:30 am MST

Announcements
In August of 2019, AAFCO filed a Form 15 with the National Conference on Weights and Measures to amend the pet treat net weight requirements. The proposal was considered and denied by the NCWM at their Western Regional meeting. AAFCO will not pursue this matter any further. It is advised that states address the issues with their W&M counterparts.

In a November e-vote, the PFC membership voted in favor of updated language for PF3, PF5, PF7 and the preamble for the feeding protocols. This language has been forwarded to MBRC.

Committee Activities
MOTION: Charlotte Conway proposed that the workgroups for PF3, PF5, PF7 and NCWM be disbanded. Bill Burkholder seconded. The motion passed.

Committee Minutes
Human grade Working Group – Caitlin Price, NC.
Caitlin Price reported that the WG has been meeting regularly to develop a draft policy. She reviewed the draft policy (see Amendment I) with the committee during the meeting. The WG plans to conduct a pilot study of this policy before presenting a final draft to the committee.
Update from the Pet Food Forum – Riley Franklin, MO.
Riley Franklin gave an update on the preparations for the Pet Food Forum trade show. She indicated that the booth size was to be increased this year and the team manning the booth was fully staffed.

Update on the new Advanced Labeling Workshop at the Pet Food Forum – Katie Simpson, IN.
Katie Simpson gave an update on the new Advanced Labeling Workshop that will be unveiled at the Pet Food Forum. This will be a 1 day workshop at the conclusion of the trade show limited to 200 attendees. AAFCO has hired an instructional designer to assist presenters with the format, activities and development of content.

Discussion of Veterinarian Directed Therapeutic Pet Foods – Austin Therrell (SC).
Issues have surfaced recently surrounding the Therapeutic Diets. Through the use of a survey, the WG believes to have identified the core issues. Austin Therrell presented some draft guidelines developed by the WG as a possible solution to these issues (see Amendment II). Austin requested that the PFC review these guidelines and be ready to discuss at the next meeting.

Discussion of PF4(f) – Katie Simpson
There was some discussion concerning the descriptors used in the naming of products containing greater than 78% guaranteed moisture. It was decided to form a working group to examine the issue and examine this section of the labeling guide.

Pet Food Label Modernization Discussion / Consumer Research – Sue Hays, AAFCO Executive Director, & Nancy Weinstein, Weinstein & Assoc.
The label modernization work remains a major focus for PFC. The ongoing goal for the workgroup is to reach consensus in the four subgroups for their work products. The four subgroups are Nutrition Facts Box (Jason Schmidt, Chair), Ingredient List (Richard Ten Eyck, Chair), Nutritional Adequacy Statement (Jo Lynn Otero, Chair) and Safety Statement (Lizette Beckman, Chair).

Jason Schmidt began the Pet Food Label Modernization (PFLM) portion of the meeting by showing an overview of the PFLM process (see Amendment III). On the following slide, he illustrated how the language review process would proceed.

Next, JoLynn Otero presented an update on the Nutritional Adequacy teams progress and Lizette Beckman presented an update on the status of the Safe Handling Instruction team (Amendment IV).

Richard Ten Eyck presented some new language developed by the Ingredient Statement team (Amendment V). In this presentation, Richard not only explained the changes to the language but also outlined the next steps for this language as well as how to submit comments. An initial webinar to discuss comments has been set for March 4th.

Alfredia Johnson (Nature’s Variety), Jim Barritt (Mars) and Robert King (Merrick) presented the industry perspective on new nutrient guarantees. The presentation contains the pros and cons associated with transitioning to total dietary fiber, sugars & starches and non-fiber carbohydrate.

Pet Food Committee adjourned at 12:00 pm MST.
Appendix I: Human Grade Working Group

4a AAFCO HG Pet food Standard_DRAFT

4a HG Pet Food Audit Checklist_DRAFT
Appendix II: Therapeutic Diet Claims

Guidelines for making Therapeutic Diet Claims

AAFCO supports and recommends the following guidelines, as based on FDA CPG 690.150, for products that are labeled and/or marketed as intended for use to diagnose, cure, mitigate, treat, or prevent diseases and that are also labeled and/or marketed to provide all or most of the nutrients in support of meeting an animal’s total daily nutritional requirements by serving as the pet’s sole diet.

1. The product is made available to the public only through a valid veterinarian-client patient relationship (VCPR) or through retail or internet sales to individuals purchasing the product under the direction of a veterinarian.
2. The product does not present a known safety risk when used as labeled (e.g., when a product labeled for use in dogs or cats with a particular disease would be unsafe in such animals).
3. The product label does not include representations that it can be used to treat or prevent disease (e.g., obesity, renal failure).
4. Distribution of labeling and other manufacturer communications that contain representations that the product is intended for treatment or prevention of disease is limited so that it is provided only to veterinary professionals.
5. Electronic resources for the dissemination of labeling information and other manufacturer communications related to the intended use of the product are secured so that they are available only to veterinary professionals.
6. The label and labeling of the product is not false or misleading in other respects (e.g., dog food labeled and promoted for the treatment of cancer with no basis for the claim).
7. The product is not marketed as an alternative to approved new animal drugs.
8. The manufacturer is registered under section 415 of the FD&C Act.
9. The product is manufactured in accordance with CGMPs applicable to animal food (see 21 CFR part 507 subpart B) and other regulations applicable to animal food manufacturing.
10. The product’s labeling complies with the current AAFCO Model Regulations and all other food labeling requirements for such products (see 21 CFR part 501).
11. The product contains only ingredients that are GRAS ingredients, approved food additives, or ingredients defined in the most recent version of the Official Publication.
Appendix III: PFLM Roadmap
Appendix IV: PFLM Nutritional Adequacy & Safe Handling Instructions Update

6b Nutritional Adequacy Presentation - Jan 2020.pptx
Appendix V: PFLM Ingredient Statement

6d Ingredients
subgroup 010220 Hlg

6d Regulation PF5
rev 13 110419_DRAFT
Appendix V: PFLM pet Food Nutrition Facts Box