

Minutes of Special IBC Meeting

Date: August 24th, 2026

Location: EHS Training Room

Call to Order: D. Loy called the meeting to order at 2:31 PM

Members Present: H. Blair (BSO), T. George (Community Member), K. Heath (Animal SME), A. Hilske (Plant SME), D. Loy (Chair), S. McVey (Animal SME), A. Mitra (Plant SME)*, W. Niu (Member), N. Sexton (Member), S. Tatineni (Member)*, M. Wiebe (Member), D. Zinniel (Lab Rep)

*Left the meeting before the Committee came to a vote

Members Absent: K. O'Neill (Community Member)

Quorum Met: Yes

Ex-Officio Advisors: D. Hamernik, B. Osthus, R. Wenzl, S. Quinn

Others: R. Cederberg, S. Goodwater, A. Jungck, E. Schulz, E. Weaver

Declaration of Conflicts of Interest: None.

I. PUBLIC SESSION

A. New Business:

1. Protocol Amendments:

NuRamp ID:	619
Form ID:	26515
TITLE:	Infectious Diseases Vaccine Development
PI:	Eric Weaver
DEPT:	Nebraska Center for Virology
Protocol Biosafety Level:	BSL-2, ABSL-2 (Animal), BSL-2-P (Plant)
NIH Guidelines reference:	III-F-1, III-F-2, III-F-3, III-F-4, III-F-8, C-I, C-II, C-VII, C-VIII, III-E, III-E-1, III-D-1-a, III-D-2-a, III-D-3-a, III-D-4-a, III-D-4-b, III-D-7, III-D-7-a, III-D-7-b
IBC MOTION:	Table pending addressing the following:
Contingencies/Issues:	• Tabled and added to the December 2026 IBC meeting, pending additional guidance from US government agencies. In the interim, the Committee has requested a prioritized list of strains that you plan to use for animal studies.
Made by:	K. Heath
Seconded by:	H. Blair
IBC ACTION:	<i>Adopted by vote</i>
For:	10
Against:	0
Abstained:	0

PROTOCOL NOTES:

Review of Protocol:	The PI provided an overview of the protocol and proposed amendment and the IBC Chair opened discussion to the committee.	
Summary of Project(s):	Amplification and characterization of low pathogenic influenza virus in mice.	
Changes to the Protocol:	This amendment proposes the controlled serial passage of influenza A viruses in mice to generate standardized and reproducible virus stocks for influenza vaccine challenge studies. The edit adds expanded molecular and phenotypic characterization criteria, including sequence confirmation of receptor binding motifs, hemagglutinin cleavage sites, and trypsin-dependent growth characteristics to verify maintenance of low pathogenicity features. These updates were added to strengthen biosafety oversight, improve experimental reproducibility, and support the development and evaluation of broadly protective influenza vaccines.	
Risk Assessment Considerations:		
Genetic Material:	N/A	
Vector system:	N/A	
Microbiological agents:	Low pathogenic influenza	
Organisms:	Mice	
OTCC:	N/A	
Toxins:	N/A	
IRB protocol(s):	☐ Yes ☒ No	SROC protocol: ☐ Yes ☒ No
IACUC Protocol(s):	☒ Yes ☐ No	
Facility/Safety Summary:	The Committee reviewed the description of the facilities to be used and safety procedures	
Safety Concerns:	Strains listed and transmissibility of virus	
Facility Concerns:	None.	
Vaccines/Medical Surveillance:	Seasonal Influenza Vaccine	
Administrative issues:		
Current safety training for staff:	Yes.	
Current equipment certification:	Yes.	
Date/Result of last EHS Survey:	Annual 2/17/2026	Findings: All findings addressed.
IBC Discussion:	The PI presented the amendment to his work and why he felt it was a crucial part of the vaccine development process. The Committee asked the PI questions regarding transmissibility of the virus, safeguards the lab has in place to recognize if a genetic mutation event were to occur, what strains the lab would be using and why, as well as questions about the purpose of passaging of the viruses in mice. The Committee then discussed whether there was enough guidance from the federal agencies to determine if this work fell under the current	

USG policy for High-Risk Research and if it was the role of the IBC to be making the decision. It was decided that the amendment would be tabled until more guidance was provided. The IBC Committee voted to rediscuss this project at December's meeting, after more guidance is made available.

II. ADJOURN

Motion: S. McVey

2nd: D. Loy

Time Adjourned: 4:08 PM