

USDA  
Panel: Full Committee Review  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
March 04, 2026

**Members Present:**

**Voting:**

Chad Austin (BSO)  
Maggie Behnke (ARU Veterinarian)  
Bonto Faburay (APHIS Scientist)  
Amy Lyons (IBC Program Coordinator)  
Dana Mitzel (Chair) (IBC Chair)  
Vivian O'Donnell (APHIS Scientist)  
Ediane Silva (ARS Scientist)  
Steven Witte (ARS Scientist)  
Ping Wu (Vice Chair) (IBC Vice Chair)  
Dan Brown (Communicy Member)

Quorum was met with 10 of 13 voting members present.

**Not Voting :**

Katie Knappek (Alternate ARU Veterinarian)

**Non-Voting Ex-Officios:**

**Minute Secretary:** Amy Lyons

**Guests:** Juliette Hanson

**The meeting was called to order at 11:07 A.M by D. Mitzel, Chair.**

**EARLY AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Confidentiality of Panel Proceedings**

The members of the panel and the persons employed by the panel are reminded that they shall maintain the confidentiality of the panel's proceedings unless such information is already made available to the public. The Parties shall maintain the confidentiality of the panel's hearings, deliberations and initial report, and all written submissions to, and communications with, the panel.

**2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Minutes from the January IBC meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve January 7, 2026 minutes as written was made by Steve Witte and seconded by Maggie Behnke. It was voted on and approved (10 ayes, 0 noes).

**3. Presentation of Protocols**

Reed Johnson, Krystle Hensley, and Corrine Lenz presented on protocol 26-01-123, Cedar virus.

**4. Protocol Review**

**Protocols For Review**

**1. Presentation, Discussion and Voting on a New protocol:**

**Protocol ID: 26-01-123**

**Principal Investigator:** Reed Johnson  
**Other Investigators:** Carleigh Melofchik; Mary Lenz; Charles Lewis; Christian Young; Dillon McBride; Ellen Murphree; Jacob Stockton; Krystle Hensley; Lisa Hensley  
**Title:** Cedar virus  
**Review Type:** Full Committee Review  
**Proposed Containment Level:** BSL-1 and BSL-2

Protocol Summary: In this protocol the PI proposes to propagate CedPV as well as use CedPV as a surrogate henipavirus to develop pathogen inactivation methods and as a platform for assay development.

After discussion, a motion to approve at BSL-2 pending resolution of stipulations was made by Maggie Behnke and seconded by Steve Witte. It was voted on and approved (10 ayes, 0 noes). Discussion of risk focused on the known host range and pathogenicity of the virus and potential for other agents to be present in viral stocks. NIH Guidelines III-D-1a and III-D-2a.

Stipulations:

1. In the Biological Materials and Agents table, add clarification that rCedV is derived from an infectious clone.

## 5. Other Business

Chad Austin provided an update on the NIH Effort to Strengthen and Modernize Biosafety Oversight listening sessions hosted by the NIH Office of Science Policy.

## 6. Meeting Reminder

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month from 11:00a.m. to 1:00p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 A.M.

---

(Signature) (Chair) (Date)

---

(Signature) (Manager) (Date)