



New Jersey One Health Task Force Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 13, 2026

Microsoft Teams

Special Meeting to Discuss Task Force Report

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Patil at 3:04 PM.

Notice of Public Meeting

Public meeting notice was given on February 6.

Pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by giving written notice of the time, date, location and to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting to Gannett and Advance Media Legal Publications and the Office of the Secretary of State. In addition, at least 48 hours in advance, this notice has been posted in the lobby and on the third floor of the offices of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, 200 Riverview Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.

Roll Call

The following members were present (all virtual): Dr. Amar Patil, Dr. Darby McDermott, Christine Schell, Dr. Gloria Bachmann, Dr. Heather Fowler, Dr. Vincent Silenzio, Dr. Michael Zwick, Dr. Matthew Edson, Dr. Nicole Fahrenfeld, Dr. Michael Taylor.

Invited Guests

Dr. Katey Pelican (Director, Health Sciences Institute, University of Hawaii) gave a brief presentation on the One Health needs assessment tool she developed (the One Health

Systems Mapping and Analysis Resource Toolkit, or OH-SMART), its application to New Jersey in collaboration with the Task Force, and a brief overview of results (challenges, opportunities, and recommendations to improve One Health coordination in New Jersey). More information on the OH-SMART tool can be found on the web: <https://oh-smart.umn.edu/>

New Business

The Task Force discussed the first draft of their Report to the NJ Governor and Legislature due this month.

- It was decided that appendices would be linked from the main document but not included in it due to their length.
- Members confirmed that they are in agreement with the five major recommendations in the report draft. Overall there were no major changes or corrections.
- Dr. Fowler shared a national effort by National Association of Federal Veterinarians to have One Health proclamations in every state annually. Tameko Webster, NJDA Chief of Staff confirmed plans to request an annual proclamation for New Jersey this year. A mention of the One Health Day Proclamation will be added to the Report.
- A revised version of the report including these comments will be circulated prior to the Task Force's next meeting on February 27th.

Public Comment

- Ms. Amy Papi, a member of the New Jersey One Health Steering Committee and major force behind the passage of the One Health legislation, commented that she was pleased to see how far the Task Force has come. She expressed her willingness to continue to support the Task Force and their work.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the NJ One Health Task Force will be held on Friday, February 27th, beginning at 10:00 AM at 200 Riverview Plaza, Trenton and on Microsoft Teams.

Adjournment

On the motion of Dr. Edson, seconded by Dr. McDermott, the NJ One Health Task Force voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 3:54 PM.