



Institutional Biosafety Committee

1155 Union Circle #310979 Denton, Texas 76203

Phone: 940-369-7260

Meeting Minutes (August 2025)	
Date/Time/Location	August 13, 2025; 12:30 PM; Virtual 'Teams' Meeting
Type of meeting	Regular Session – Virtual Meeting
	Present
Voting Members:	Sarah Deemer (Kinesiology)
	Calvin Henard (Science)
	Robert Killam (Community)
	Brian McFarlin (Education) – (IBC Chair)
	Veena N (BSO/IBC Vice-Chair)
	Huaxiao (Adam) Yang (Engineering)
Guests	Jordan Murray (RMS, Biosafety Specialist,)

AGENDA ITEMS

- I. **Call to order** by Dr. Brian McFarlin at 12:33 pm
- II. **Welcome:**
IBC Chair welcomed all those in attendance.
- III. **Quorum Sensing**
The quorum for the Committee met.
- IV. **Reminder**
Conflict of Interest announcement.
- V. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**
The Committee reviewed the minutes of the previous month's meeting (a virtual Microsoft Teams meeting held on July 9 , 2025).
The IBC Chair sought a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting. A member made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Another member seconded the motion, and the committee voted unanimously to approve July 9, 2025, meeting minutes as written.
- VI. **Annual Renewal and Amendment Submissions (June-July 2025)** – Reviewed and approved by the Chair or the Vice-Chair/Biosafety Officer or Subcommittee, between IBC meeting dates, no full committee decision was needed.
 1. **Dr. Jyoti Shah** (Biological Sciences) #2022-12-22, "Stress Response in Plants" submitted amendment to update the lab members list.

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2. **Dr. Brian McFarlin** (KHPR) #2022-10-18, “Collection, Processing, and Analysis of Human Biological Samples” submitted amendment to update research material

VII. New Protocol Discussion/Decision

1. **Dr. Kent Chapman** (Biological Sciences) – “*Plant Lipids and Associated Proteins*”
Risk Assessment – The IBC Protocol Registration Form, Lab-Specific Biosafety Manual, Training Records, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and General Risk Assessment Form were circulated for pre-review. Containment Level – BSL1 & BSL-1P. This is a three-year resubmission before expiration date.
Discussion: The project seeks approval to continue the research for 3 more years to study plant lipids and associated proteins involved in synthesis, packaging, signaling, composition, and degradation.
Conclusion: The IBC Primary Reviewer suggested some updates through email communication with the IBC Chair and BSO. These updates included minor revisions to the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and adjustments to the form, such as selecting a checkbox. A committee member made a motion to approve the protocol pending the suggested updates. *Another member seconded the motion.* The BSO will contact the Principal Investigator (PI) to communicate the committee’s recommendations. The committee then voted unanimously to approve the protocol, pending the suggested updates.
2. **Dr. Kent Chapman** (Biological Sciences) “*Greenhouse-based Production of Fungal-Derived Medicines.*”
Risk Assessment – The IBC Protocol Registration Form, Lab-Specific Biosafety Manual, Training Records, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and General Risk Assessment Form were circulated for pre-review. BSL-2 containment for handling transgenic plants. This is a three-year resubmission before expiration date.
Discussion: The project seeks approval to continue their transgenic plant research for 3 more years.
Conclusion: Since there were no comments from the Primary Reviewer, the committee decided to approve the protocol as written. A committee member made a motion to approve the protocol. Another member seconded the motion. The committee then voted unanimously to approve the protocol as written.
3. **Dr. Mauricio Antunes** (Biological Sciences) – “Metabolic Engineering of *Physaria fendleri* to Improve hydroxy fatty acid content.”
Risk Assessment – The IBC Protocol Registration Form, Lab-Specific Biosafety Manual, Training Records, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and General Risk Assessment Form were circulated for pre-review. BSL2 Containment for handling transgenic plants. This is a three-year resubmission before expiration date.
Discussion: The assigned IBC Primary Reviewer presented the protocol and provided details of the project. The project seeks approval for the genetic manipulation of plants to improve hydroxy fatty acid content. The lab will follow BSL-2 level containment for the safe handling of the research materials. The protocol was well written and so was recommended for approval.



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Conclusion: The IBC Primary Reviewer made a motion to approve the protocol as written. *Another member seconded the motion.* The committee then voted unanimously to approve the protocol as written.

VIII. Unfinished Business/Updated

None

IX. New Business

None.

X. Next Meeting

Next IBC meeting – Tentative Date: The next IBC meeting is set for **Sept 10, 2025, at 12:30 pm via Microsoft Teams.**

XI. Adjournment

Dr. Brian McFarlin (Chair) at 12:57 pm