

**Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**January 15, 2026**

**Minutes approved during IBC meeting held on 3/19/2026**

**Members Present (10):** Dr. John Bates, Dr. James Rowlett, Dr. Yolanda Griffin, Dr. Josh Speed, Dr. David Thompson, Dr. Jamie White, Dr. Nathan Campbell, Carla Brown, Gretchen Zmitrovich, Sharon Greer

**Members Absent (5):** Dr. Stephen Stray, Dana White, Dr. Harry Pantazopoulos, Anthony Walters, Dr. Laree Hiser

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

a) Welcome and meeting called to order by Dr. John Bates at 3:02pm.

**2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Meeting began with acknowledgements of late arrival of prior minutes. The minutes from December 18, 2025 were presented. Discussion focused on transcribing text box to be removed due to the ADA system website. The system only recognize text to voice only and does not recognize inserted objects within a document.

- i) Motion to approve December minutes with removal of text box due to ADA system
- Seconded by
- Unanimous vote to approve minutes with minor change

Dr. David Thompson  
Dr. Nathan Campbell  
All in favor

**3) OLD BUSINESS:**

a) New Registrations

- i) **IBC-00001170** (Behavioral Pharmacology Studies in Nonhuman Primates) – pending laboratory inspection.
- ii) **IBC00001088** (Ultrasound-guided delivery of Oncolytic Adeno Viruses) – pending laboratory inspection.

b) 3-year Renewals:

- i) **IBC-0001068** – (Kohtz) - PI having issues reviewing comments made by Drs. Thompson and Griffin. Dr. Thompson will follow up with Dr. Kohtz to verify BSL-2 in rats. Dr. Bates will also review all comments for clarification. Registration assigned back to Dr. Bates to review comments. Issue resolved and registration has been returned back to the IBC office for review.

c) Overdue Annual Continuing Reviews

- i) **IBC-0001077** – This protocol expired in November and has had no movement. Dr. Bates emailed the PI numerous times and Division Director was copied on the last email. Dr. Bates received call on 1/15/2026 and is working with the PI to decide whether to renew the protocol or proceed with closeout.
  - d) Protocol Closeout List
    - i) Ritesh Tandon – CMB – 2023 – the materials in this lab have been transferred to Dr. Stray. The close out form has been completed and waiting on Dr. Garrett’s signature.
    - ii) Eva Bengten – CMB – 11/2025 – still in the process of disposing of materials from her other protocol.
- 4) NEW BUSINESS:**
- a) New registrations since last month: none
  - b) New 3-year renewals since last month:
    - i). **IBC-00001075 (Keller)** – Drs. Speed and Campbell assigned as designated reviewers for protocol.  
**Reviewers**  
Dr. Josh Speed – lab safety protocol needs to be address. Clarification regarding procedure for handling mice injection, tissue harvesting and method of transportation. Registration returned back to Dr. Speed to enter new comments for PI to address.  
Dr. Nathan Campbell – Need clarification of how the animals are euthanized. Clarification is also needed regarding the location of where the work being is performed.  
Dr. John Bates will review all comments once PI has addressed registration questions.
  - c) Overdue annual continuing reviews: none
  - d) Protocol closeout list
    - i) **IBC-00001077** – registration expired on 11/30/2025. Dr. Bates will continue attempting to contact the investigator and include the investigator’s division director on future e-mails.
- 5) PROCEDURES:**
- a) No updates at this time.
- 6) IBC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:**
- a) No updates at this time.
- 7) INFORMED CONSENT SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE:**
- a) Dr. Bates request an updated version of the informed consent form. The subcommittee previously agreed on an update but the form has not been drafted as of yet. Dr. Griffin suggested

revising the current form that is in use until the new form has been created. Gretchen Zmitrovich stated there is no explanation as to why the informed consent is required. The Office of General Counsel does not see a need for this form because it does not provide additional liability protection. If an employee is injured, the employee is currently covered by worker's comp or the Mississippi Tort Claims Act. Since this has been an on-going issue and if there is no legal benefit to signing the form, Dr. Bates suggested creating a one page training acknowledgment form that would be signed by the investigator and all personnel added to the protocol.

- i) Motion to dissolve Informed Consent Sub-Committee
- Seconded by
- Unanimous vote to dissolve Subcommittee

Dr. Josh Speed  
Dr. Nathan Campbell  
All in favor

**8) BIOSAFETY OFFICER REPORT:** No updates at this time.

**9) OTHER BUSINESS:** Members are reminded to submit NIH-style biosketches and CITI training certificates, preferably before the next IBC meeting scheduled for February 19, 2026.

**10) ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. David Thompson and seconded by Dr. Josh Speed. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:44pm.