

CMU Institutional Biosafety Committee

Meeting Minutes: November 25, 2025

Location: Virtual via Teams

Meeting start and quorum: Quorum was confirmed, the attendance of at least one non-affiliated community member was confirmed, and the meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

1. Attendance

Voting members and roster roles

- Greg Colores, Chair
- Devin Boyles, Biosafety Consultant
- Kevin Park, Animal Expert
- Grant Clarkson, Lab Safety Consultant
- Dawn Polanco, Non-affiliated Community Member
- Jeff Percha, Non-affiliated Community Member

Staff, non-voting

- Belinda Adamson, DRC
- Jennifer Marrs, Coordinator

2. Review of Minutes

The meeting minutes for July 3, 2025, were reviewed and approved as written by general consent.

3. Updates and Announcements

There were no announcements.

4. IBC Registrations for Review

Three-year Registration Renewal

Principal Investigator: Michael Conway

Registration Number: 2025-676

Registration Title: Enhancing glioblastoma virotherapy with a bioluminescent Zika virus NS5 sensor and integrated gene circuit

Location: Biosciences 4300, 4-S-03, 4-S-04, 4318, and 4220

Project Overview

Agent name: Zika virus

Host: Not applicable

Vectors: Not applicable

Applicable NIH Guidelines Section: NIH III-E

Required Training: Biosafety Training; Lab Safety Training

Biosafety Level Assignment: BSL-2

Risk Assessment

The existing risk assessment documentation is adequate and covers the proposed work. There are no deviations from previously conducted activities that prompt a new risk assessment for outlined material in this current protocol.

Summary of Discussion

Protocol involves use of Zika virus in cell culture paired with bioluminescent NS5 sensor constructs to evaluate viral activity in glioblastoma cells. Work represents continuation of prior research previously conducted using mosquito propagation, now transitioned to cell line-based work for reduced risk.

The committee agreed that the following modifications should be made:

Committee-requested modifications

- Confirm whether Zika virus will be propagated or used solely from purchased stock; if propagation will occur, update protocol to include handling, culturing, and containment procedures.
- Revise decontamination procedures to use bleach or other approved disinfectant as primary method for surface and spill response; ethanol may be used as secondary step if needed.

Motion

Motion was made and seconded to approve the application with minor modifications. The Chair and BSO will review modifications upon submission.

Vote: Approved with Minor Modifications

- Members present: 6
- Members absent: 0
- Votes for: 6
- Votes against: 0
- Abstained: 0
- Recused: 0

5. Protocol Approvals Since Last Meeting

None.

6. New Business

None.

7. Adjournment

Meeting end time was 2:40 p.m. A quorum was maintained, and at least one non-affiliated community member was present for the duration of the meeting.