Specialty President Dr. Susan Trock called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. Present were EVP Dr. Candace McCall and members including Drs. David Smith, James Wright, Ron Anderson, Roy Berghaus, Mark Starr, Linda Schlater, Wayne Schlosser, Eric Ebel, Aaron Scott, and Specialty Secretary Robert Brady.

In her President’s Report, Dr. Trock said there were now 56 active specialty members and 16 emeritus. There are also 6 inactive members, meaning they have not paid their dues.

Credentials Committee: The total of active members includes one new member who passed the qualifying examination on June 22, 2016: Dr. Tim Hale. He was the only person who attempted the examination this year. Dr. Kim Orr is rotating off the Credentials Committee and will be replaced by Dr. Sean Altekruse.

Examination Committee: Dr. Hale took the examination off site under the eyes of a proctor. He is now serving on the Examination Committee. Dr. Susan Trock is rotating off the Examination Committee and will be replaced by Dr. Kathy Orloski.

Nominating Committee: Robert Brady was nominated for Secretary and elected.

Continuing Education Committee: Dr. Eric Ebel reported the Epidemiology Specialty sponsored 2 continuing education talks on August 5 at the AVMA convention. The first was by Dr. Wayne Schlosser titled “Got Data? Analyze It” was attended by about 25 people. The second was by Dr. Aaron Scott about disease outbreak investigation and had an audience of about 20 people. Dr. Ebel discussed the difficulties of scheduling these talks, since AVMA would like the titles submitted one year in advance. We discussed what topics might attract an audience, and ideas included molecular biology update, gene splicing, gene therapy, and how to use data analysis in clinical practice. Dr. Ebel is rotating off the Continuing Education Committee and more members are needed. Dr. Aaron Scott expressed interest in joining the Committee.

Dr. Mark Starr discussed the Specialty Model Concept. Perhaps candidates could take the Specialty Exam without passing the ACVPM exam first. The American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine is allowing candidates to take the general and specialty exams on the same date.

One year ago the ACVPM membership was surveyed about whether food safety and public health specialties should be offered. The membership was split on this issue. Emergency Preparedness and Environmental Health are also possible specialties within ACVPM.
There was one enquiry about mentoring, and Dr. Billy Walker reached out, but never heard back. Would-be mentors should try to recruit applicants. Mentors cannot discuss exam questions. Dr. David Smith said that Mississippi State University offers a residency in population medicine that aims to prepare candidates for the ACVPM exam. Residents can choose food animal or shelter medicine.

Discussion on communications and marketing centered on an list serve for epidemiology specialty members. Drs. Trock and Orloski prepared it with the web master. It is important for specialty members to make sure their email addresses are current. The ACVPM brochure should include mention of the Epidemiology Specialty. Material about the specialty should be available at the ACVPM booth at the AVMA convention. Drop boxes should be prepared for committee chairs so there can be continuity when chairpeople change.

Dr. Eric Ebel received an award for his service on the Continuing Education Committee.

Dr. Trock adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.