



One Health Commission  
World Health Through Collaboration

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**Dr. Roger K. Mahr**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**One Health Commission**

Roger K. Mahr, DVM, was born and raised on a dairy farm in Indianola, Iowa. He received his veterinary medical degree from Iowa State University in 1971. After working as an associate in suburban Chicago for three years, he established, owned, and directed the Meadow View Veterinary Clinic in Geneva, Illinois, an accredited hospital member of the American Animal Hospital Association from 1974 to 2005. He continues as a small animal practitioner and also works as an independent consultant.

Dr. Mahr was elected unanimously to the office of President-elect of the AVMA in 2005. As AVMA President he revealed a vision for a one health initiative whereby the veterinary medical profession takes the lead to establish a coordinated mechanism to facilitate collaboration and cooperation among colleagues in veterinary medicine, human medicine, public health, and environmental sciences with a focus on “One World, One Health, One Medicine.”

During Dr. Mahr’s presidency the AVMA Executive Board took official action to establish the One Health Initiative by approving a recommendation from him to establish the AVMA One Health Initiative Task Force. Twelve recommendations from the Task Force now form the basic outline for the One Health Initiative. Dr. Mahr served as the Project Director for the multidisciplinary national One Health Joint Steering Committee, which was charged to provide initial oversight for the execution of the One Health Initiative, including the formation of a One Health Commission. The One Health Commission was officially established as a nonprofit corporation in Washington, D.C. on June 29, 2009. Dr. Mahr now serves as chief executive officer for the Commission.

In addition to the AVMA, Dr. Mahr has held numerous leadership positions in the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association and the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association, as well as in many community organizations. He has received the President’s Award from both the AVMA and the Illinois State VMA. Dr. Mahr has been recognized by his alma mater with the College of Veterinary Medicine Stange Award for Meritorious Service in 2004 and the Iowa State University Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2009.