veloped by each of these stations were on a per-lot or per-entry basis. Weighted averages were then developed for the cost estimate by multiplying the time or cost factors in each State by the number of entries estimated or lots quarantined as appropriate. Where a station did not separate out an item, that is, individual shipment, the item was estimated using weighted percentages calculated from the data from States where the item was separated out.

Hourly employee costs were calculated using the average hourly costs for each category of employee, i.e., veterinary medical officer, animal health technician, and bioaid from each State to develop a weighted average cost per man-hour for the eight States, involved. Man-hour costs for bioaids were only available from California and Hawaii. The California figure per man-hour was used for all States except Hawaii because this figure is believed to approximate the hourly employee costs for other mainland States.

The cost estimate for processing laboratory samples was based on data taken from the actual cost of operating the section of the National Veterinary Services Laboratories concerned with tests for VVND. The total cost of testing specimens for VVND was averaged by the number of specimens tested during fiscal year 1977.

After the above estimates for hourly employee costs were calculated, each was increased by 7.05 percent to account for the Federal pay raise of October 1977. A surcharge of 1.5 percent of the base cost plus pay raise was added to cover the cost of initial inspections of stations necessary for initial "approval" and routine inspections, necessary when stations are vacant for maintaining approval.

The resulting totals were increased by 19.09 percent, the percentage of Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's fiscal year 1977 funds used for overhead. The overhead includes all administration costs such as regional and area offices, headquarters staff, Office of the Deputy Administrator and Administrator and all support functions such as budget and personnel operations.

Fiscal year 1977 was determined to be the base year because it is the most recent complete year for which figures are available and should approximate the costs to be expected during fiscal year 1979. These approximate costs were $251.56 for entry of each shipment of birds; $1,834.04 for quarantine and inspection of each lot; security was $5.30 per hour; and laboratory costs were $11.76 per sample, plus actual shipping charges. Further, if work is performed outside the regular tour of duty of the employee providing the required services, overtime charges must be paid in accordance with the provisions of 9 CFR Part 97.

Accordingly, Part 92, Title 9 Code of Federal Regulations, is amended in the following respects:

In § 92.11, a new paragraph (g) is added and the second sentence of paragraph (f) is amended to read:

§ 92.11 Quarantine requirements.

* * * * *

(f) *Standards for approved quarantine facilities and handling procedures for importation of birds.* * * * The cost of the facility and all costs associated with the maintenance and operations of such facility shall be borne by the importer in accordance with the provisions of § 92.11(g) and § 92.12 (a) and (c).

* * * * *

(g) *Charges for services.* The charges to be borne by importers for services provided for quarantine facilities approved in accordance with § 92.11(f) of this part shall be:

(1) The total Veterinary Services employee's time at the appropriate GS hourly rate of such employee to actually perform the service, including his travel time and his travel expenses; *Provided, however,* Such time and travel expense shall not exceed the time and travel expense to and from his offical duty station; [14]

(2) Laboratory costs at $11.76 per sample, plus shipping charges per sample, and;

(3) A surcharge for overhead based on the most current historical data available showing the percentage of APHIS funds expended for administrative support.

These amendments should be made effective on October 1, 1978, to be of maximum benefit to affected persons.

Done at Washington, D.C., this 8th day of August 1978.

NOTE.—The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that this document does not contain a major proposal requiring preparation of an inflation impact statement under Executive Order 11821 and OMB Circular A-107.

J. K. ATWELL,
Acting Deputy Administrator, Veterinary Services.

[FR Doc. 78-22429 Filed 8-8-78; 11:59 am]

[14] If work is done outside the regular tour of duty of the employee providing the service, overtime charges must be paid in accordance with 9 CFR Part 97.

[6750-01]

Title 16—Commercial Practices

CHAPTER I—FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

SUBCHAPTER A—ORGANIZATION, PROCEDURES, AND RULES OF PRACTICE

PART 1—GENERAL PROCEDURES

Subpart B—Rulemaking Procedures

INDIVIDUAL PROCEDURES

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission hereby revises its rules of practice to afford the Commission the greatest flexibility in fashioning rulemaking procedures tailored to individual proceedings. Such procedures will, of course, comply with the requirements of the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 11, 1978.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barry R. Rubin, Office of General Counsel, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, 202-523-3520.

Accordingly, 16 CFR 1.20 is revised to read as follows:

§ 1.20 Alternative procedures.

If the Commission determines at the commencement of a rulemaking proceeding to employ precedures other than those established in the remainder of this subpart, it may do so by announcing those procedures in the FEDERAL REGISTER notice commencing the rulemaking proceeding.

(15 U.S.C. 46(g) and 57a.)

By direction of the Commission, dated August 1, 1978.

CAROL M. THOMAS,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 78-22464 Filed 8-10-78; 8:45 am]

[6750-01]

PART 4—MISCELLANEOUS RULES

Commission Meetings

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule delegates to the General Counsel of the Federal Trade Commission the authority to release nonexempt portions of transcripts or minutes of closed Commission meetings and to exercise discretion as to material that is exempt from mandatory disclosure under the Government