

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Public Minutes - January 24, 2019
Country Inn and Suites, 2600 Housley Road
Annapolis, MD 21401

Public Minutes of the Team A Meeting

Team Members Present: Dr. David Handel, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Karena Joung, and Dr. Peter Radue. Staff Present: Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Licensing Administrator Tonya Kendrick, Inspectors Peggy Morgan and Ellen James, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Handel called meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes. In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Radue, the team voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2018 meeting of Team A.

In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Joung, the team voted unanimously to move into an administrative closed session to perform administrative functions, pursuant to § 3-103 of the General Provisions Article. The meeting was closed at 9:10 a.m.

Closed Session of Team A

During the closed session, administrative functions were performed, including discussions of complaints and disciplinary matters before the Board assigned to Team A.

Dr. Handel adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

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Joint Board Meeting

Board Members Present: Dr. David Handel, President; Dr. Heather Hendler, Vice President; Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Karena Joung, and Dr. Peter Radue, Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner. **Staff Present:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Licensing Administrator Tonya Kendrick, Inspectors Peggy Morgan and Ellen James, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch. **Guests:** Tom Filbert, Steve Connelly, Julie Oberg.

Dr. Handel called the meeting to order at 10:28 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes. In a motion by Dr. Joung, seconded by Ms. Wright-Conner, the team voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2018 Joint Board meeting.

Veterinary License Approval

Board members stated that, in the near future, they would like to discuss possible changes to the criteria for licensing those who have left practice for an extended period but are licensed and in good standing in other states.

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to approve the veterinary license applications for Drs. Julie Brown, Benjamin Golas, Jessica Huwa, Kim Johnson, Elizabeth Krushinkskie, and Justin Yesilonis.

In a motion by Dr. Hendler, seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the veterinary license reinstatement applications for Drs. Edward Koronowski and Susan Price.

In a motion by Dr. Joung and seconded by Dr. Hendler, the Board voted to add the question, "Why do you want to practice again in Maryland?" to the online Reinstatement Application this year.

Sanitation Reports

Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James reported on the hospital inspections they have conducted since the December 2018 Board meeting. In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted to accept the reports as presented.

Open Meetings Training

At least one member of the Board has to be designated to take the Open Meetings training. It would be preferable to have at least one on each team. Dr. Handel has taken it but will be terming off the Board this year. Board members were asked to take the online course before the next Board meeting. Otherwise, one will be assigned during the February meeting to take it. Staff will send out the link after the meeting.

Commercial Boarding Oversight

Dr. Handel noted that there did not seem to be an agency or organization overseeing boarding and grooming facilities and that none of these had requirements or inspections. Inspectors at the meeting said that they believed most counties had some sort of "animal holding facilities licenses" that facilities had to maintain after housing a certain number of animals. Inspector James said she would research the matter and provide the Board with information at the next meeting.

Presentation / Discussion of CBD Oil

James Polek, Deputy Director of the Office of Controlled Substances Administration, and Lisa Guy, Chief of the Enforcement Division at the Office of Controlled Substances Administration, met with the Board to discuss the current state and federal laws regarding CBD oil and other hemp and cannabis products. They were invited to speak to the Board because of the high number of calls that Board members and the Board office receives from veterinarians asking whether these products are legal to prescribe or sell and whether the Board had a written guidance or advice on the matter. Because of changes in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (known as the Farm Bill), staff will draft statements on the issue for the Board to review and consider distributing to licensees in the future.

Break: The Board broke for lunch at 11:57 a.m. and resumed meeting at 12:20 p.m. Ms. Oberg and Mr. Connelly left the meeting before it resumed.

Following lunch, there was a brief discussion about some pharmacies that require MPI numbers when filling prescriptions that clients received from veterinarians, even though most veterinarians do not have or need MPI numbers. Staff will contact the Board of Pharmacy and ask them to let their licensees know that veterinarians rarely have MPI numbers.

In addition, Tom Filbert announced that he has been named principal counsel for the Maryland Department of Agriculture, replacing Craig Nielsen who retired in December. Board members wished Mr. Filbert well in the years ahead.

In a motion by Ms. Wright-Conner, seconded by Dr. Hendler, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session to perform administrative functions, pursuant to § 3-103 of the General Provisions Article. The meeting was closed at approximately 12:36 p.m. The same individuals present at the open meeting remained for the closed session.

Joint Closed Meeting

During the closed session, the full Board, staff, and counsel performed administrative functions, including discussing complaints, sanitation concerns, and disciplinary matters before the Board.

Dr. Handel adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners **January 24, 2019**

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Public Minutes of the Team B Meeting

Team Members Present: Dr. Heather Hendler, Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, and Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner. **Staff Present:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Licensing Administrator Tonya Kendrick, Inspectors Peggy Morgan and Ellen James, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Hendler called the meeting to order at 2:22 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes. In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Ms. Wright-Conner, the team approved the minutes from the December 6, 2018 meeting of Team B.

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Ms. Wright-Conner, the team voted to adjourn the meeting to move into closed session to perform administrative functions, pursuant to § 3-103 of the General Provisions Article. The meeting was closed at 2:22 p.m.

Closed Session – Team B

During the closed session, administrative functions were performed, including discussion of complaints and disciplinary matters before the Board assigned to Team B.

Dr. Hendler adjourned the meeting at 2:54 p.m.