

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
July 27, 2017

Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401

Minutes of Team B Meeting

Team Members present: Dr. Heather Hendler, Dr. Perry Crowl, Dr. John Stott, and Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner. **Staff present:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cindy Spirt, Investigator Susan Husk, and Inspectors Ellen James and Pegeen Morgan.
Dr. Hendler called meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes

In a motion by Dr. Stott, seconded by Dr. Crowl, the minutes of the June 22, 2017 meeting of Team B were unanimously approved as presented.

Ms. Wright-Conner made a motion to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session pursuant to the applicable provisions of the General Provisions Article. The motion was seconded by Dr. Crowl and approved unanimously.

Team B conducted administrative discussions regarding the status of complaints and disciplinary matters before Team B. The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the
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Joint Open Meeting

Board Members Present: Board President David Handel, Vice President Dr. Heather Hendler, Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, Dr. Perry Crowl, Dr. John Stott, and Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner. Note: Ms. Lynne Chaput arrived at 10:24 a.m. **Staff in attendance:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Investigator Susan Husk, and Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James. **Guests in attendance** for part of the meeting: Dr. David McKeown, Chairman, Veterinary Technician Committee; Dr. Lori Landis, owner, Landis Veterinary Home Care; and Ross Peddicord, Executive Director, Maryland Horse Industry Board.

Dr. Handel called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m.

Presentation and Discussions on Veterinary Technicians by Dr. David McKeown, Chair, Veterinary Technician Committee

Dr. McKeown reviewed the responsibilities of the Veterinary Technician Committee, as stated in the Veterinary Practice Act, and reviewed the process for deciding whether to approve or reject questionable or unusual applications. Dr. McKeown also submitted recommendations to the Board for consideration. Dr. McKeown offered to work with the Board staff to draft more detailed recommendations for moving the committee and proposed regulations forward.

Presentation and Discussions on Registered Veterinary Technicians (RVTs) by Dr. Lori Landis of Landis Veterinary Home Care

Dr. Landis is growing a hospice/palliative ambulatory practice and suggested that regulations be drafted that outline what extra duties RVTs can perform in hospice/palliative practices. Dr. Landis said she would submit recommendations for the Board to review and consider going forward.

Presentation and Discussion by Ross Peddicord, Maryland Horse Industry Board (MHIB)

Mr. Peddicord asked the Board to consider developing regulations that would require equine veterinarians who treat horses at licensed stables to maintain detailed medical records.

Approval of Minutes

In a motion by Dr. Stott and seconded by Dr. Callahan, the minutes of June 22, 2017 Board joint meetings were approved, as presented.

Update on Necropsy Service at College Park

Dr. Handel and Ms. Orlando recently met in College Park with Dr. Cyril Clarke, Dean of the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine and other officials at the University of Maryland to discuss the possibility of re-starting a necropsy service at the university. Dr. Handel reported that everyone agreed it was a good idea and the conversation focused on how to set it up and how to pay for it. Dr. Clarke will work with the university to develop a plan for moving forward.

Sanitation Reports

Inspectors Morgan, James and Husk reported on the inspections of veterinary hospitals that they have conducted since the June meeting. In a motion by Dr. Stott, seconded by Dr. Crowl, the Board unanimously voted to accept the reports.

License Renewals and Non-Renewals

Ms. Orlando reported some veterinary hospitals and in-state veterinarians who were licensed in FY 2017 had not renewed for FY 2018 and have not notified the Board that they were moving or retiring or otherwise ending practice, as they are required to do. The Board instructed the staff to send letters the first week of August, notifying them that their license has lapsed and they are currently practicing without a license if they are still practicing in Maryland, and they are subject to charges.

Update on Legislation and Regulations

Summary of Pending and Proposed Regulations: Staff presented a chart to Board members, showing the status of regulations that the Board has approved, the status of regulations that the Board is required to develop, and a list of regulations currently in discussion.

Animal Shelters - Standards of Care and Protocol Implementation and Enforcement (HB 626) – Preliminary Draft: Regulations for HB 626, which passed during the 2017 legislative session, are in process and scheduled to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

Dr. Stott left the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Corporate Ownership Regulations (Preliminary Discussion): Because many veterinary practices are being purchased by corporations and LLCs, the regulations need to be updated to accommodate these new business

models and modes of operation. Noting that several discussions will have to take place before new regulations can be proposed, staff presented a preliminary draft showing the type of information that would be required. Both regulatory and/or statutory changes may be required as the process continues.

Veterinary Practice Act Models from AVMA and AAVSB: During the June meeting, the Board asked the staff to research how other states defined the practice of veterinary medicine. The staff shared model Veterinary Practice Acts that were developed by the American Veterinary Medical Association and the American Association of Veterinary State Boards.

Continuing Education

Board members discussed various requests for CE credits.

Fake Medications

Investigator Husk brought the Board a question from a veterinarian who asked if he had to write a prescription for a client who intended to buy heartworm and other medications online even though he believed those online vendors are selling counterfeit medications. Board members noted that there were many reasons for treatment failure, other than counterfeit medications, and veterinarians must still provide a written prescription, when asked to do so by a client.

Requests for Approval of Continuing Education Credits

After reviewing information submitted during the past month, the following requests were approved:

- A request from Tammy Colson-Dorsch to earn 24 hours of clinical CEs by attending the Keystone Veterinary Conference, August 10-13, 2017.
- A request from Dana Robert on behalf of Zoetis to offer 2 CEs for the seminar, "Approach to the Itchy Dog: Best Medicine in Real World Practice," August 22, 2017.
- A request from Dr. Rich Burgess to earn 17 clinical CEs by attending the European College of Veterinary Surgeons Symposium, July 13-15, 2017.

Veterinary License Applications

In a motion by Dr. Hendler, seconded by Dr. Handel, the Board unanimously voted to approve the reinstatement applications for Dr. Mozzachio, Dr. Seeley and Dr. Sobel.

In a motion by Dr. Hendler, seconded by Dr. Handel, the Board unanimously voted to approve the licensing applications for Dr. Maurauo, Dr. Martinez-Ramirez, and Dr. Mawell.

In a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Ms. Wright-Conner, the Board unanimously voted to close the meeting in accordance with Sections 3-305(b)(13) of the General Provisions Article, Maryland Annotated Code, to conduct discussions regarding matters not subject to public disclosure pursuant to other laws. The meeting was closed at 1:39 p.m.

During the closed portion of the meeting, the Board voted unanimously to take confidential action.

Following a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Ms. Wright-Conner, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the closed portion of the meeting in order to reconvene immediately thereafter in open administrative session.

Joint Closed Meeting

Dr. Handel called the closed meeting to order at 1:48 p.m.

The Board received status reports and discussed complaints and disciplinary matters before the full Board.

Probation Updates

Ms. Orlando reported on the status of veterinarians who are currently on probation.

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

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Minutes of Team A Meeting

Team Members Present: Board President David Handel, Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, and Ms. Lynn Chaput. Staff in attendance: Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Investigator Susan Husk, and Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James.

Dr. Handel called meeting to order at 2:16 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Ms. Chaput, the minutes of the June 22, 2017 Team A meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

In a motion by Ms. Wright-Conner, seconded by Dr. Callahan, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session pursuant to the applicable provisions of the General Provisions Article.

Team A conducted administrative discussion of cases before Team A.

Dr. Handel adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.