

**Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners**  
**Minutes of the August 26, 2021 Meeting**

Held in the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Lower Level Conference Rooms

**Joint OPEN Meeting Minutes**

Board Members Present: Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, President; Dr. Karena Joung, Vice President; Dr. Christine Calvert, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Ms. Patricia Quimby, Dr. Peter Radue and Dr. James Reed. Staff present: Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Inspectors Pegeen Morgan, Ellen James and Investigator Sarah Hultz.

Dr. Callahan called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

**Approval of the Minutes.** In a motion by Dr. Joung, seconded by Ms. Chaput, the minutes of the July 22, 2021 Board Meetings were unanimously approved.

**Veterinary License Applications Approvals.** In a motion by Dr. Calvert, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to approve veterinary license applications for Drs. Raphael Repellin, Julia Hecking, Miriam Talaat, Joyce Bendokas, Erin Aufox, Christine Adams, and Katrina Roberts.

**Sanitation Reports.** Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James reported on the inspections they have completed since the July meeting. In a motion by Dr. Reed, seconded by Ms. Chaput, the sanitation reports were accepted as presented.

**CE Approval Requests.** In a motion by Dr. Reed, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to approve #524 for military veterinarians and to approve #520, #521 and #525.

**VCPR/Telemedicine for Shelter Veterinarians.** A shelter veterinarian asked for clarification on how telemedicine can be used in a shelter setting. The Board determined that if a veterinarian had a formal relationship with a shelter, even if unpaid, then a vet could provide telemedicine services to a shelter staff person; however, they should only treat conditions that they would normally treat by telemedicine (such as skin conditions) and must still exhibit the standard level of professional judgement. This will be added to the proposed regulation updates.

**Regulation Read Through.** Board members were provided with a marked-up copy of proposed regulation changes before it is sent for approval. Some edits were made and will be incorporated in the next draft.

**Managing for Results FY 2021.** The report on year-end status was shared with Board members for their information.

**Hospital Check list.** A draft of the checklist hospitals should use when closing permanently, whether by choice or as part of a Board action, was reviewed. Board members suggested adding that a notice be placed in the local newspaper and to clarify that written notice includes email. Also, that medical records can't be sold separately from a practice.

*The Board broke for lunch at noon and heard remarks from Agriculture Secretary Joe Bartenfelder, Deputy Secretary Julie Oberg and Assistant Secretary Steve Connelly. The Board reassembled at 1 p.m.*

*In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Calvert, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session to perform administrative functions outside the scope of the Open Meetings Act, in accordance with § 3-103(a)(1)(i) of the General Provisions Article. The administrative functions to be performed include discussion of the specific matters identified on the Board Agenda. In the alternative, I move to close the meeting pursuant to the following Section 3-305(b):*

*(7) To obtain advice of counsel;*

- (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation;*  
*(12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct;" and*  
*(13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.*