

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
September 28, 2017

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

Minutes of Team B Meeting

Team Members Present: Dr. Perry Crowl, Dr. John Stott, and Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner. **Team Member Absent:** Dr. Heather Hendler. **Staff in attendance:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Investigator Susan Husk, and Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James.

Dr. Crowl called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes: In a motion by Dr. Stott, seconded by Ms. Wright-Conner, the minutes of the August 24, 2017 meeting of Team B were unanimously approved.

Following a motion by Dr. Crowl, seconded by Dr. Stott, Team B voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session pursuant to the applicable provisions of the General Provisions Article.

Closed Session

There was an administrative discussion of complaints, investigations and matters before the Board.

In a motion by Ms. Wright-Conner, seconded by Dr. Stott, the team voted to adjourn its meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the
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Joint Open Meeting

Board Members Present: Board President David Handel, Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Perry Crowl, Dr. John Stott, and Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner. **Absent Board Member:** Dr. Heather Hendler. **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 the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Stott, the minutes of the August 24, 2017 Joint Meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

AAVSB Conference Update

Ms. Chaput and Ms. Spirt attended the annual conference of the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) in San Antonio earlier in September. The two updated the Board on some of the sessions they attended and lessons learned. Copies of some of the presentations will be shared with Board members.

Veterinary License Application Approvals

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Stott, the Board unanimously approved veterinary licenses for Dr. Alina McClain, Dr. Thomas McGinn, Dr. Khalid Munir, and Dr. Christopher Robinson.

Sanitation Reports

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

Update on Legislation and Regulations

HB 626 Animal Shelters - Standards of Care & Protocol Implementation & Enforcement. Ms. Orlando reported that the draft regulations shared with Board members prior to the meeting included all edits provided by the Professional Animal Workers (PAWs) of Maryland, The Humane Society of the United States, and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. However, there were two issues where there was not clear consensus. First: while all groups agreed that shelters should have fire alarms, some did not want to require that the alarms be connected to a monitoring service. Board members agreed that the regulations should require 24/7 monitoring and provide adequate time for those systems to be installed. Second: The draft regulations prohibited the use of public drop boxes for surrendering animals but at least one shelter objected. Board members expressed concern that drop boxes open to the public could result in multiple dogs or cats being put in one box and if one of those animals were aggressive, the others would be at risk. There was also concern about sick or injured animals being left in boxes without any help or animals being left out in extreme weather conditions. Dr. Callahan asked for more information about how the drop boxes are being used and the possible risks involved. Inspector Ellen James agreed to do some research and bring more information to the Board.

HB 1463 Animal Cruelty and Animal Fighting Reporting. This bill takes effect October 1, 2017, and draft regulations were shared with Board members prior to the meeting. The drafts showed how current regulations would change in order to adhere to the new law. There were no objections raised to the draft. Ms. Orlando noted that an email would go out to veterinarians before October 1, reminding them of the new law. Board members noted that the email should include information about upcoming training sessions and that the Board would be working with the MVMA to provide more training across the state in the coming months.

SB 517 Secretaries of Principal Departments – Supervision and Review of Decisions and Actions by Units Within Departments. Ms. Spirt noted that these regulations were drafted by Craig Nielson, the department's principal counsel, to adhere to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *North Carolina Board of Dental Examiners v. Federal Trade Commission*. The regulations outline the supervisory steps that the department will take when the Board considers taking a potentially anti-competitive action.

Continuing Education Audit

Ms. Orlando reported that audits have been received back from 68 veterinarians and 38 technicians, to date. The batch will be divided up among Board members for evaluation and discussion at the next meeting.

Discussion: Veterinarian and Physical Therapist

The Board discussed general concerns about physical therapists treating animal clients in private homes without the supervision of a veterinarian. The issue will be revisited at the next meeting.

Craig Nielsen, Principal Counsel, entered the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Discussion: VIP PetCare Partitions

The Animal Policy Group, a company representing VIP PetCare, has asked the Board to allow a mobile, partitioning system to be used as a limited use facility within a pet store. A PowerPoint presentation with slides and a YouTube video were provided for the Board's reference. The materials show how the system is set up and taken down. VIP PetCare offered to make a presentation to the Board to showcase the system in-person and answer any questions. Board members asked to see a 10 minute demonstration at a subsequent meeting.

Other Business

Interviews: Ms. Orlando reported that the first rounds of interviews for the vacant Administrative Assistant's position have been completed and four candidates have been invited back for a second interview. The staff hopes to make an offer to one of the candidates in the next few weeks.

Meeting Dates: After some discussion, the Board voted to cancel the November meeting and re-schedule the December 14, 2017 meeting to December 7, 2017.

Requests for Approval of Continuing Education Credits: After reviewing information submitted during the past two months, Dr. Crowl, on behalf of the Board, approved the following:

- Veterinary Referral Associates, 3 CEs for the VRA 2017 Fall Continuing Education meeting, November 12, 2017.
- Zoetis, 1 CE for the seminar, Approach to the Itchy Dog: Best Medicine in Real World Practice, October 24, 2017.
- Maryland Veterinary Technician Association, up to 8 clinical CEs for the Fall Conference, October 22, 2017.
- The Academy of Veterinary Homeopath Conference, up to 17 CEs for the AVH Conference, October 20-22, 2017.
- Veterinary Referral Associates, 1 CE for a seminar, Removing Confusion about Effusions, October 18, 2017.
- Chesapeake Veterinary Referral Center, 7 CEs for the CVRC Fall Conference, October 8, 2017.
- Anne Arundel County Veterinary Medical Association, 1 CE for the seminar, Old Dog New Tricks: Innovative Anesthesia Techniques for Older Pets, September 13, 2017
- Merial, 1.5 non-clinical CEs for a seminar, Sustainability and Self Care in Veterinary Medicine, September 27, 2017.
- Boehringer Ingelheim (Merial), 3 non-clinical CEs for a workshop, How to Maximize the Value of Your Practice, September 16, 2017.
- Elanco Animal Health, 1 CE for each of two sessions entitled, Canine Lepto and Lyme Disease, September 26, 2017 and October 10, 2017.
- Vetoquinol, 2 CEs each for a seminar, Low Stress Handling in the Veterinary Setting, August 26, 2017 and September 26, 2017.
- USDA-APHIS, up to 21 CEs for the Import Export Training for Veterinary Medical Officers, August 23-31, 2017.
- Travis Reed, 17 hours for himself for attending the European College of Veterinary Surgeons Symposium, July 13-15, 2017.
- Sarah Cramer, 25 hours for herself for attending the American Association of Neuropathologists Conference in Garden Grove, California, June 8-11, 2017

The Board broke for lunch at 11:52 p.m. at which time Mr. Nielsen left the meeting. The Board reconvened at 12:26 p.m.

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

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Joint Closed Session

Board Members Present: Board President David Handel, Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Perry Crawl, Dr. John Stott, and Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner. **Absent Board Member:** Dr. Heather Hendler. **Staff in attendance:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Investigator Susan Husk, and Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James.

The meeting convened at 12:26 p.m.

Board members discussed the results of individual Continuing Education Audits

There was also an administrative discussion of complaints, investigations and matters before the Board.

In a motion by Ms. Wright-Conner and seconded by Dr. Stott, the Board voted to adjourn at 1:26 p.m.

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Meeting of Team A

Team Members Present: Dr. David Handel, Dr. Elizabeth Callahan and Ms. Lynne 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 the meeting to order at 1:28 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes. In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Callahan, the Minutes of the August 24, 2017 meeting of Team A were approved as presented.

In a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Ms. Chaput, the team voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session pursuant to the applicable provisions of the General Provisions Article

Closed Session

There was an administrative discussion of complaints, investigations and matters before the Board.

In a motion by Dr. Handle, seconded by Ms. Chaput, the team voted to adjourn at 2:06 p.m.