

DRAFT/UNAPPROVED

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHARMACY
MINUTES OF WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR WORKGROUP**

August 27, 2015
Second Floor
Board Room 4

Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

- CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:00am
- PRESIDING: Ellen B. Shinaberry, PharmD, Chairman Board of Pharmacy
- MEMBERS PRESENT: Kelly Gottschalk, DVM, Board of Veterinary Medicine member
Megan Kirchgessner, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
Jim Husband, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
Martin Betts, DVM, Virginia Veterinary Medical Association
Karen Gruszynski, DVM, Department of Health
Ed Clark, Wildlife Center of Virginia
- STAFF PRESENT: Caroline D. Juran, RPh, Executive Director, Board of Pharmacy
Leslie Knachel, Executive Director, Board of Veterinary Medicine
Elaine J. Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst, DHP
Beth O'Halloran, RPh, Licensing Manager, Board of Pharmacy
- PUBLIC COMMENT: Dr. Carolyn Clay, DVM with Richmond Wildlife Center provided comment about her interactions with wildlife rehabilitators. She has observed incidents where drugs were not properly administered by wildlife rehabilitators and antibiotics were changed from what she had originally prescribed. She questioned whether wildlife rehabilitators have the appropriate skillset to have access to a general stock of drugs.
- Melissa Stanley, founder and Executive Director of the Richmond Wildlife Center, stated the role of the supervising veterinarian is important and according to her information, 123 veterinarians sponsor wildlife rehabilitators. Of the 123 veterinarians, 44 sponsor at least three wildlife rehabilitators each. She commented that the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) does not have sufficient resources to oversee wildlife rehabilitators. She expressed concern for the relocation of permits following revocation of an original permit. She commented the drug supply necessary for treating wildlife could be large since larger wildlife requires larger doses. She commented that euthanasia should be discussed by the workgroup since wildlife must occasionally be euthanized by wildlife rehabilitators. In reference to current provisions in law for certain individuals to possess and administer drugs, e.g., athletic trainers, she commented that there is good follow-up care for patients

being administered these drugs but that good follow-up care was uncommon following administration of drugs to wildlife. She did not believe handling the issue in a manner similar to herd and flocks was manageable or feasible.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The chairman noted that Dr. Gruszynski was inadvertently omitted from the draft minutes and requested the minutes be amended to include her in the listing of members present.

MOTION:

The workgroup voted unanimously to approve the minutes as amended for the meeting held July 21, 2015. (motion by Shinaberry, second by Betts)

DISCUSSIONS:

A letter from the Senate ordering the convening of a workgroup to prepare a report with options and recommendations was reviewed by the chairman.

Ed Clark provided and briefly reviewed a handout that proposed a curriculum for training of wildlife rehabilitators. He stated that he is in support of Option #3 from the draft report.

Dr. Betts asked a question about wildlife rehabilitators and their ability to provide euthanasia for animals. Dr. Kirchgessner clarified the conditions and the recognized references for euthanasia of wildlife. She stated wildlife rehabilitators may not administer drugs for euthanasia.

The members of the workgroup reviewed the draft report in the agenda packet and discussed the following:

Ms. Yeatts requested to strike option #5 and there was no opposition to this request. Mr. Clark recommended adding some statistics to the report that includes the number of animals cared for by the wildlife rehabilitators. He estimated that approximately 17,000 wildlife animals are treated annually and that 10% of the wildlife rehabilitators care for the majority of these animals.

A few members discussed that option #4 may not be feasible as the Board of Pharmacy may not have the authority to inspect private residences. Dr. Gruszynski commented that wildlife rehabilitators are not equivalent to animal shelters in that they are not normally treating outbreaks. Mr. Husband commented that DGIF does not have the manpower or the expertise to inspect for controlled substances. The recommendation was to strike option #4.

Discussions about option #3 were as follows: Dr. Betts commented that allowing the wildlife rehabilitators access to antibiotics was necessary since most animals they are treating require such care. Dr. Gottschalk said that antibiotics would still be available, but that the wildlife

rehabilitator would have to bring the animal to a veterinarian for care. Ms. Knachel commented that pounds and animal shelters with controlled substance registrations from the Board of Pharmacy only have the authority to obtain antibiotics to treat outbreaks. Ms. Juran expressed concern with option #3 as the training is not yet in place for the wildlife rehabilitators. She also pointed out that veterinarians cannot distribute drugs to wildlife rehabilitators and that any bulk supply of drugs would need to be obtained through the normal chain of distribution, e.g., a licensed wholesale distributor, manufacturer, or pharmacy acting in accordance with §54.1-3435.02. Ms. Yeatts suggested language that the standing protocol referenced in option 3 be “in accordance with regulations promulgated by DGIF, in consultation with the Board of Pharmacy and the Board of Veterinary Medicine”. The workgroup concluded it should include option 3 in the report with an acknowledgement that the option is supported by some and not by others.

There was a consensus to keep option #1 and #2 in the report, but to amend option #1 by removing the wording referring to additional training and oversight as this would be putting a burden of requiring additional requirements prior to allowing any additional privileges.

Mr. Clark requested the concluding paragraph emphasize that the workgroup feels strongly that additional training on the proper storage and administration of drugs is necessary. Additionally, it was recommended the report state that DGIF needs additional funding/resources to provide adequate oversight of wildlife rehabilitators.

Ms. Yeatts stated a final draft of the report will be sent to the workgroup around the week of September 15, 2015 with comments due back within one week of receipt. It was concluded that no additional meetings of the workgroup are necessary.

ADJOURN:

With all business concluded, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 pm.

Ellen B. Shinaberry, Chairman

Caroline D. Juran, Executive Director

Date:

Date: