

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
TRAINING ROOM 2
HENRICO, VA
DECEMBER 14, 2021**

- CALL TO ORDER:** A meeting of a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (“Board”) was convened on December 14, 2021, at 9:15 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 2nd Floor Conference Center, Training Room 2, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia 23233.
- FIRST CONFERENCE** 9:15 a.m.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steve Karras, DVM, Chairperson
Thomas Massie, DVM, Committee member
- STAFF PRESENT:** Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist
Melissa Moore, Discipline Case Specialist
Claire Foley, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division
- MATTER SCHEDULED:** **Julia Hawthorne, Veterinarian**
License No. 0301-006382
Case No. 194470
- DISCUSSION:** Dr. Hawthorne appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated July 1, 2021, to inquire into allegations that she may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary practice in Virginia. Dr. Hawthorne was represented by counsel, Michael Thorsen, Esq. The Committee fully discussed the allegations contained in the Notice with Dr. Hawthorne.
- CLOSED SESSION:** Dr. Massie moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter regarding **Julia Hawthorne, Veterinarian**. Additionally, Dr. Massie moved that Ms. Moss attend the closed meeting because her presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the

Committee in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

RECONVENE:

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Committee reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

DECISION:

Case No. 194470

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee dismiss the case against Dr. Hawthorne, and that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board order sent to Dr. Hawthorne. The motion was seconded and properly carried.

The hearing concluded at 9:42 a.m.

SECOND CONFERENCE:

1:03 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steve Karras, DVM, Chairperson
Thomas Massie, DVM, Committee member

STAFF PRESENT:

Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist
Melissa Moore, Discipline Case Specialist
Claire Foley, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

MATTER SCHEDULED:

Barron Hall, Veterinarian
License No. 0301-201836
Case No. 208386

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Hall appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated October 29, 2021, to inquire into allegations that he may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary practice in Virginia. Dr. Hall was not represented by counsel. The Committee fully discussed the allegations contained in the Notice with Dr. Hall.

CLOSED SESSION:

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter regarding **Barron Hall, Veterinarian**. Additionally, Dr. Massie moved that Ms. Moss attend the closed meeting because her presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

RECONVENE:

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Committee reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

DECISION

Case No. 208386:

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee issue a reprimand and a monetary penalty of \$500.00 to Barron Hall, Veterinarian, and that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board order sent to Dr. Hall. The motion was seconded and properly carried.

The hearing concluded at 1:51 p.m.

THIRD CONFERENCE:

3:08 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steve Karras, DVM, Chairperson
Thomas Massie, DVM, Committee member

STAFF PRESENT:

Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist
Melissa Moore, Discipline Case Specialist
Claire Foley, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

MATTER SCHEDULED:

Mark Held, Veterinary Technician
License No. 0302-001585
Case No. 212159

DISCUSSION:

The Committee met in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated October 29, 2021, to inquire into allegations that Mr. Held may have violated certain laws and regulations governing his practice as a veterinary technician in Virginia. Mr. Held did not appear and was not represented by counsel. The Chair ruled that adequate notice was given in the case and the Committee proceeded in Mr. Held's absence.

CLOSED SESSION:

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter regarding **Mark Held, Veterinary Technician**. Additionally, Dr. Massie moved that Ms. Moss attend the closed meeting because her presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

RECONVENE:

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Committee reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

DECISION

Case No. 212159:

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee refer the matter of Mark Held, Veterinary Technician, to the full Board of Veterinary Medicine for a formal administrative hearing. The motion was seconded and properly carried.

The hearing concluded at 3:20 p.m.



Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director