

UNAPPROVED DRAFT
VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
MINUTES OF FULL BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
RICHMOND, VA
AUGUST 20, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: A quorum of the Board of Veterinary Medicine was called to order at 9:03 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, Richmond, VA

PRESIDING OFFICER: Henry McKelvin, DVM, President

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Wise, DVM
Kelly Gottschalk, DVM
Joseph May, DVM

STAFF PRESENT: Elizabeth Carter, Executive Director
Terri Behr, Operations Manager
Eric Gregory, Assistant Attorney General
Emily Wingfield, Chief Deputy Director, DHP
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst

OTHERS PRESENT: Susan Seward, VVMA
Wynne DiGrassie, DVM
Ken Fletcher
Melinda Freckleton, DVM
Amanda Sontag, LVT
Debra Linton
Miles Hopton

WELCOME: Dr. McKelvin welcomed the two new Board members, Dr. Kelly Gottschalk and Dr. Joseph May. Dr. McKelvin also welcomed the Board's new counsel, Eric Gregory.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Dr. Wynne DiGrassie gave public comment. She stated that she is a professor at Blue Ridge Community College and they are now offering a course in Advanced Equine Techniques as an elective to 2nd year students in the veterinary technology program. The course includes an intensive 3 hour dental lecture and demonstration, plus two dental labs. She stated there are currently 10 to 15 students taking the course. Dr. DiGrassie wanted to share this information with the Board.

Miles Hopton gave public comment regarding the equine dentistry course at the University of Nebraska. He stated that he has completed this course and is now in a year long apprenticeship with Debra Linton, a registered equine dental technician. He stated that this is an all inclusive course with hands on experience. It is a one month course and is AVMA accredited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On properly seconded motion by Dr. Wise, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the minutes of the Board meeting of May 14, 2008 as presented.

On properly seconded motion by Dr. Wise, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the minutes of the Conference Call of June 17, 2008 as presented.

On properly seconded motion by Dr. Wise, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the minutes of the Formal Hearing of July 29, 2008 as presented.

ADOPT MODEL PPG REGULATIONS:

Ms. Yeatts explained to the Board that Senate Bill 734/House Bill 1167 enacted by the 2008 General Assembly requires the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) to draft model Public Participation Guideline regulations and for all agencies to either adopt the model as an exempt action or modify the model and adopt as a fast-track action. She stated that Department of Health Professions (DHP) staff have worked for several months to revise the model so it is acceptable to DHP Boards and they have been informed by DPB that any changes will be very carefully scrutinized. Ms. Yeatts recommended that the Board adopt the model PPG regulations as an exempt action. She stated that there must also be a motion to repeal Chapter 10, which is the current regulation for PPG.

On properly seconded motion by Dr. Wise, the Board voted unanimously to repeal Chapter 10 and adopt Chapter 11 as model Public Participation Guideline regulations.

BOARD DISCUSSIONS:

AVMA ACCREDITED PROGRAMS FOR EQUINE DENTAL TECHNICIANS

Dr. Carter stated that she confirmed with the

AVMA that the University of Nebraska course on equine dentistry is accredited by them.

On properly seconded motion by Dr. Wise, the Board voted unanimously to approve the University of Nebraska course for registration as an equine dental technician, as well as any other AVMA accredited courses in equine dentistry.

VIRGINIA PERFORMS

Dr. Carter referred the Board to a handout entitled **Patient Care Disciplinary Case Processing times: Quarterly Performance Measurement, Q4 2004 – Q4 2008**. (See attachment) She stated that there are 3 key measures upon which each board is being evaluated. They are Clearance Rate, Age of Pending Caseload and Time to Disposition. The agency overall is clearly improving performance on all three, especially during the most recent quarters. Similarly, veterinary medicine has well exceeded the goals for Clearance Rate and Age of Pending Caseload and is very close to the 90% goal for Time to Disposition (84%).

USE OF ADVISORY LETTERS

Ms. Wingfield discussed the use of Advisory Letters in cases where disciplinary action is not warranted, but the committee reviewing the case wants to inform the respondent of a concern regarding their practice. Several example letters that other Boards use were disseminated so that the Board could get an idea of what the basic letter would say. Staff would type the letters with whatever concern the Committee member recommended.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Dr. Carter reported to the Board that they are currently operating in a deficit. She stated that increasing fees at this time is not an option because of the length of time it would take to promulgate new regulations. Also because of the economy, they would not likely be approved. She stated that the Board does not have the funds this year to send a Board member or staff to the annual AAVSB meeting.

Dr. Carter reported on statistics regarding licensure and cases for veterinary medicine. She

stated that as of August 15, 2008, the Board has 5,580 regulants, which is an increase of over 230 since the May meeting.

Dr. Carter reported that there are 85 open cases in Enforcement at this point. She stated that 43 standard of care and 11 are non-compliance cases. She stated that "Probation with terms" is now included on the actual license of any licensee that the Board puts on probation.

Dr. Carter reported that Blue Ridge Community College and Va. Tech are no longer offering their face to face recordkeeping continuing education courses, so it makes it difficult for people under a Board order to obtain recordkeeping CE when the Order states face to face. She stated that Blue Ridge does have a disc of the course that they are willing to send to people so that they can take the course on their own. Dr. Carter also stated that the VCU School of Dentistry is willing to formulate a veterinary medicine recordkeeping course if the Board desires.

The Board discussed putting together a Guidance Document on recordkeeping and placing it on the Board's website for licensees to refer to.

On properly seconded motion by Dr. May, the Board voted unanimously to direct staff to gather information on various recordkeeping formats used in veterinary medicine and present them to the Board at their next meeting in November.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Henry McKelvin, DVM, President

Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D., Executive Director