

UNAPPROVED DRAFT
VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
MINUTES
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON LAY EQUINE DENTISTRY
APRIL 5, 2006

TIME AND PLACE: The Ad Hoc Committee on Lay Equine Dentistry meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Richmond, VA.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jana Froeling, DVM - Chair
Dale Cupp, DVM
Jayme Leonard
Debra Linton
Jen LaPlume, DVM
Bayard Rucker, DVM
Donovan Dagner, DVM

STAFF PRESENT: Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D., Executive Director
Terri H. Behr, Administrative Assistant
Emily Wingfield, Assistant Attorney General
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst

OTHERS PRESENT: John Wise, DVM
Craig Sweeney, DVM
Steve Escobar, DVM
Bill Schultze
Lara West, LVT
Martha Moore
Susan Seward

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public Comment was received from Jayme Leonard and Bill Schultze of VEDTA. (Attachments 1 & 2) The memo presented by Mr. Schultze was written by Dr. Rucker. Dr. Escobar stated that the memo does not reflect the position of the VVMA.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Froeling stated that the purpose of the meeting is to review the Guidance Document and consideration of the need to begin regulatory review on this issue. Dr. Carter opened the discussion by stating that the only action the Board of Veterinary Medicine has taken on this issue so far is

the development of the Guidance Document. She explained the process for submitting legislation and the regulatory review process. Dr. Carter advised that the Committee could recommend revising the Guidance Document. They could also recommend that the Board begin the Regulatory Review process.

Ms. Yeatts explained the difference in a Guidance Document and a regulation and that a regulation can be enforced. Ms. Yeatts suggested that the committee has three options to consider. These are to determine if the Guidance Document is sufficient or if revision is needed in its language, to begin regulatory review, or to seek a legislative change. She explained to the Committee what is involved in seeking legislative change.

Jayne Leonard asked whether the Guidance Document should include language relating to the extraction of teeth by lay equine dental technicians. Ms. Wingfield advised that the issue involving the floating of teeth should be kept separate from the extraction of teeth because the current regulations provide for extraction of single rooted teeth by licensed veterinary technicians.

On properly seconded motion by Debbie Linton, the Committee voted unanimously to adopt the following language as the new Guidance Document to be proposed to the Board:

The planing or leveling of equine teeth by the use of non-motorized hand tools is not considered the practice of veterinary medicine and does not require a license. The use of motorized tools to level or plane equine teeth must be performed under the direct supervision and with the concurrence of a Virginia licensed

veterinarian. If sedation is required, the sedation must be administered by a Virginia licensed veterinarian who remains responsible for the animal while it is under sedation.

On properly seconded motion by Debbie Linton, the Committee voted unanimously to propose to the full board that the Guidance Document also be submitted for consideration of regulatory amendment.

A motion was made by Jayme Leonard, properly seconded, and opened up for discussion, that the full board consider a Guidance Document to allow for the extraction of equine teeth by lay equine dentists under the direct supervision of a Virginia licensed veterinarian. A hand show of votes was taken. Three Committee members voted for this motion, Jayme Leonard, Debbie Linton and Jana Froeling, DVM. Four committee members voted against the motion, Dale Cupp, DVM, Bayard Rucker, DVM, Jen LaPlume, DVM and Donovan Dagner, DVM. The motion failed.

On properly seconded motion by Dr. Cupp, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the full Board that they not support HB644 because there is no definition of what an equine dental technician is.

ADJOURN:

The Committee meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Jana L. Froeling, DVM, Chair

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