

Call to Order

The July 29, 2025, Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board) meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 4, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

Presiding Officer

Jeffrey B. Newman, DVM, President

Members Present

Richard G. Bailey, DVM, Vice President
Margaret J. Rucker, DVM, Secretary
Thomas B. Massie, Jr., DVM
Bruce M. Bowman, DVM
Steve Linas, OD

Member Attending Virtually

Patricia Seeger, LVT, BBA

Staff Present

Arne W. Owens, Agency Director
Kelli Moss, Executive Director
Claire Foley, Deputy Executive Director
Erin Barrett, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, DHP
Matt Novak, Policy & Economic Analyst, DHP
Brent Saunders, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel
Yetty Shobo, PhD, Director of Healthcare Workforce Data Center (HWDC), DHP
Barbara Hodgdon, Deputy Director, HWDC, DHP
Cherese Lampkins, Summer Intern for HWDC, DHP
Kelly Smith, Director of Communications, DHP
Laura D. Paasch, Senior Licensing & Operations Specialist
Taryn Singleton, LVT, Discipline Case Specialist
Charles Atkins, Licensing Specialist

Public Present

Jake Tabor, Legislative Specialist at Virginia Farm Bureau Federation
Talya George, Virginia Veterinary Medical Association (VVMA)

Establishment of Quorum

Six out of the seven board members were present in the Richmond office, constituting a quorum for conducting business. Ms. Seeger was approved by the President of the Board to participate electronically due to a scheduling conflict that prevented travel to the Richmond office for the meeting.

Introductions

Dr. Newman welcomed Senior Assistant Attorney General Brent Saunders, who has been named as the board's legal counsel after sharing duties over the past several months following previous board counsel Laura Booberg's transition to DHP.

Dr. Newman congratulated Mr. Charles "Chip" Atkins who has assumed a new, full-time position administering the board's veterinary establishment registrations after working part-time with the board since August 2024 under Ms. Foley's supervision.

Ordering of Agenda

Dr. Newman opened the floor to any edits or corrections regarding the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was accepted as presented.

Public Comment

Ms. Moss reported there were no requests to provide public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Newman opened the floor to any additions or corrections regarding the draft minutes from the following meetings:

- March 11, 2025, Full Board meeting
- March 11, 2025, Formal hearing
- May 29, 2025, Telephone conference call

Hearing no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Agency Director's Report

Mr. Owens provided an update on the agency's activities, including a report of the 2025 General Assembly activities, the elimination of the Board of Health Professions effective July 1, 2025, DHP's review of operations and budgetary efficiency workgroup, and 2026 legislative proposals.

Presentations

Ms. Smith presented updates on communications and outreach efforts, including agency responses to media inquiries about Board activities, the development of newsletters to provide board updates, and social media presence.

Dr. Hodgdon presented the 2024 Healthcare Workforce Data Center reports for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians.

Ms. Small reported on proposed revisions to the Sanctioning Reference Points worksheet and instructions for the Board's consideration.

Dr. Bailey moved to accept the proposed revisions to the SRP worksheet and instructions. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rucker and carried unanimously.

Discussion

Ms. Moss provided information regarding continuing education courses submitted for the board's consideration.

Abdominal Ultrasound for the General Practitioner – Maria Glover, DVM

The Board discussed the need for additional information and requested Ms. Moss to provide the additional information requested for consideration at the next meeting.

Bovine Emergency Response Plan (BERP) – Mr. Jake Tabor

Ms. Moss provided information regarding BERP, a program developed to coordinate responses by local emergency responders, law enforcement and veterinarians when incidents occurred involving cattle transport vehicles. In response to questions Mr. Tabor provided additional information for the board's consideration.

Dr. Bowman moved to approve four hours of continuing education for the BERP course as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rucker and carried unanimously.

Ms. Moss provided information on the Treatment and Transport of Working Canines Workgroup and presented proposed procedures and formulary for first responders' scope of practice when treating working canines who are injured in the line of duty.

Ms. Moss provided information on the Large Animal Veterinarian Shortage Study Workgroup's (VSSW's) second year activities, including legislation passed in 2025 creating and funding a large animal veterinary grant program administered by the Virginia Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services, and the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development (AFID) Fund Planning Grant in partnership with the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission (VTRRC) to support the development of a comprehensive incentive program to help bring large animal veterinarians to the region and support them through a centralized haul-in veterinary establishment.

Regulatory Report

Mr. Novak provided the report on regulatory activity which includes current regulatory actions and consideration of a motion to initiate a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action regarding haul-in veterinary establishments, which aligns with the AFID/VTRRC grant and with a first-year recommendation of the VSSW.

Dr. Massie moved to initiate a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action regarding haul-in veterinary establishments. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rucker and carried unanimously.

Board Counsel's Report

Mr. Saunders gave a status update on two discipline cases that were appealed following formal hearings.

President's Report

Dr. Newman stated he had no information to report to the Board at this time.

Board of Health Professions' Report

Ms. Moss reported that all members have been notified of the elimination of the Board of Health Professions by Mr. Owens, who expressed appreciation to each of them for serving on this policy board.

Staff Reports

Ms. Moss provided updates regarding licensee participation in the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program, board outreach efforts and presentations, attendance by Dr. Bowman and her at the upcoming annual conference of the American Association of Veterinary State Boards in September, and licensing statistics.

Ms. Foley provided an update on open and closed discipline cases.

New Business

There was no new business to report.

Next Meeting

Ms. Moss reviewed the board calendars for the remainder of 2025 and for 2026 and informed the Board about a new meeting invitation process being implemented that will enable them to add scheduled meetings to their calendars. The next board meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2025, and a formal hearing will be held immediately after the board meeting.

Adjournment

With no objection, Dr. Newman adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelli G. Moss". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Kelli G. Moss
Executive Director