

Call to Order

The October 21, 2025, Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board) meeting was called to order at 9:11 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

Richard Godine, DVM

Patricia Seeger, LVT, BBA

Steve Linas, OD

Member Not Present

Bruce M. Bowman, DVM

Staff Present

Arne W. Owens, Agency Director

Kelli Moss, Executive Director

Matt Novak, Policy & Economic Analyst

Claire Foley, Deputy Executive Director

M. Brent Saunders, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel

Laura Jackson, Board Administrator

Laura D. Paasch, Senior Licensing & Operations Specialist

Taryn Singleton, LVT, Discipline Case Specialist

Public Present

Victoria Staples, Virginia Veterinary Medical Association (VVMA)

Greg Habeeb

Establishment of Quorum

Six out of the seven board members were present in the Richmond office, constituting a quorum for conducting business.

Introduction

Dr. Newman welcomed Dr. Godine to the Board, who was appointed to the Board after it's last meeting.

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

No public comment was provided.

Approval of Minutes

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

- July 29, 2025, Full Board meeting
- July 29, 2025, Formal hearings
- July 30, 2025, Formal hearings
- August 14, 2025, Formal hearing
- August 15, 2025, Formal hearing

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

Agency Director's Report

Mr. Owens provided an update on the agency's activities, including DHP's focus on operational and budgetary efficiency measures and participation in development of the biennial budget.

Regulatory Report

Mr. Novak provided the report on regulatory activity, including the status of current regulatory actions and the pending appointment of a Regulatory Advisory Panel to develop regulations for large animal haul-in veterinary establishments.

Mr. Novak presented information for the Board to repeal Guidance Document 150-14, which is no longer needed after an agency policy was adopted to delegate case adjudication duties to an agency subordinate.

- Dr. Rucker moved to repeal Guidance Document 150-14. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bailey and carried unanimously.

Mr. Novak provided information on the readoption of the Board's electronic participation policy, which the Board is required to review annually.

- Dr. Rucker moved to readopt the electronic participation policy. The motion was seconded by Dr. Godine and carried unanimously.

Mr. Novak presented the revised Sanctioning Reference Points (SRP) manual, which was finalized after the Board previously adopted the SRP worksheet and instructions.

- Dr. Bailey moved to adopt the revised SRP manual as a policy document. The motion was seconded by Dr. Linas. The motion carried with six votes in favor.

Discussion

Ms. Moss provided additional information as requested by the Board at its July 29, 2025, meeting regarding a continuing education course entitled Abdominal Ultrasound for the General Practitioner for the Board's consideration.

- Dr. Rucker moved to approve two 5-hour sessions entitled Abdominal Ultrasound for the General Practitioner as presented to meet the regulatory requirements for continuing education under 18 VAC 150-20-70. The motion was seconded by Dr. Godine and carried unanimously.

Ms. Moss and Ms. Foley provided information regarding regulatory requirements for drug records under 18 VAC 150-20-190(I) and (K), which requires the maintenance of original invoices for the receipt of controlled drugs. Ms. Foley reported technological and other factors impact compliance with this regulation as invoices are no longer routinely provided with shipments, but shipments do include packing slips containing the same information needed for documenting receipt of controlled drugs.

- Dr. Bailey moved to interpret the maintenance of original packing slips to satisfy the regulatory requirement to maintain original invoices under 18 VAC 150-20-190 (I) and (K). The motion was seconded by Dr. Linas and carried unanimously.

Board Counsel's Report

Mr. Saunders gave status updates on two board decisions that were appealed to circuit court.

President's Report

Dr. Newman had no information to report to the Board.

Staff Reports

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Moss provided licensing statistics and the following information to the Board:

- American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) 2025 Annual Meeting
Ms. Moss and Dr. Bowman represented the Board at the 2025 AAVSB's annual conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. She provided a brief report by Dr. Bowman and gave details about three resolutions passed by the AAVSB Delegate Assembly. They are not expand membership beyond North America, not endorse the creation of the

Veterinary Professional Associate until and unless a nationally accredited educational and credentialing framework has been established and regulatory infrastructure has been developed and to focus on recognition and utilization of existing credentialed veterinary technicians, and to establish the VCPR through in-person examinations requiring a valid license in the jurisdiction where the veterinarian is practicing.

➤ EMS Treatment and Transport of Working K9s:

Ms. Moss reported that this workgroup has concluded and provided the draft report for House Bill 1309, Guidelines for the Emergency Treatment and Transport of Fire, Police, Search and Rescue Dogs, which included the following:

- Protect the lives of canine partners who serve alongside first responders.
- Safeguard significant state and local investments in training and readiness.
- Provide EMS providers with clear authority, training and legal protection.
- Position the Commonwealth as a national leader in operational canine emergency medicine.

➤ Large Animal Veterinarian Shortage Study Workgroup:

Ms. Moss reported that this workgroup held its last meeting on September 3, 2025, and the second and final report will be presented to the 2026 General Assembly and provided to the Board at its next meeting. She reported that several recommendations from the first-year report have resulted in legislation and funding for two separate grants:

- Four recipients will be awarded grants up to \$110,000, disbursed over a three-year period. The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) received 44 applications, which were reviewed by a panel.
- Governor Glenn Youngkin awarded Russell County a Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development (AFID) Fund Planning Grant, to be combined with funding from the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission (TRRC) to support the development of a comprehensive incentive program to help bring large animal veterinarians to the region.

➤ Ms. Moss reported that Dr. Bowman served as the Board's representative in reviewing VDACS' applications for grant awards. She presented a brief report on his behalf that the panel received 43 applications from which it selected the four award recipients. The TRRC also made its selections from the same pool. Distribution statewide was outstanding and awards between equine exclusive, bovine exclusive, and mixed equine/bovine practices resulted in a satisfactory distribution of funds.

➤ Board Outreach

Ms. Moss provided the following information on outreach efforts by board staff:

- Ms. Foley and Ms. Singleton conducted virtual presentations of inspection information in September to Blue Ridge Community College veterinary technology students. She and Ms. Foley will conduct a second virtual presentation on October 30 to the same class providing board information and licensing processes.
 - The Virginia Veterinary Medical Association (VVMA) has invited her to present board information at its annual meeting in February 2026.
 - Board staff are collaborating with DHP's communications team to develop a quarterly newsletter that will provide updated information and increase engagement with licensees and the public.
- DVM Reciprocity
Ms. Moss reported that she is working with the Maryland and DC veterinary boards on an agreement to expedite licensing applications from each other's jurisdiction with guidance from Mr. Saunders.
- Ms. Moss reported that an affidavit has been created using a template developed by Mr. Saunders to expedite military servicemember applications for licensure under the Military Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA). She reported that Ms. Foley and staff are working to update other forms related to the inspection process.
- Ms. Moss provided an update on open and closed licensure applications.

Ms. Foley provided an update on open and closed discipline cases and reported that the discipline team resolved the most cases during the previous quarter in the past nine quarters. She acknowledged her staff and thanked the board members for their hard work in achieving this target. She reported the case clearance rate, age of pending caseload and time to disposition all exceeded DHP's performance measures, upholding the agency's mission of ensuring safe and competent patient care.

New Business

Elections

Dr. Newman provided information from the Bylaws regarding officer elections.

President:

Dr. Rucker moved to nominate Dr. Bailey as president which was seconded by Dr. Godine. No other nominations were received. The motion carried unanimously. Dr. Bailey will serve a one-year term as president of the Board beginning January 1, 2026.

Vice-President:

Dr. Bailey moved to nominate Dr. Rucker to serve as vice-president. The motion was seconded by Dr. Godine. No other nominations were received. The motion carried unanimously. Dr. Rucker will serve a one-year term as vice-president of the Board beginning January 1, 2026.

Secretary:

Dr. Rucker moved to nominate Dr. Godine to serve as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bailey. No other nominations were received. The motion carried unanimously. Dr. Godine will serve a one-year term as secretary beginning January 1, 2026.

Other New Business

Dr. Bailey announced a coordinator position was created within the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech. The role is designed to support the recruitment, placement, and long-term retention of large animal veterinarians in Virginia, particularly in areas with demonstrated need and community support. Applications are now being accepted and he encouraged board members to share this information with qualified individuals who may be interested in applying for the position.

Next Meeting

Ms. Moss reviewed the 2026 calendar and noted the next full board meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2026.

Adjournment

With no objection, Dr. Newman adjourned the meeting at 10:16 AM.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelli G. Moss". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Kelli G. Moss
Executive Director