

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
TRAINING ROOM 1
HENRICO, VA
September 17, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER: A meeting of a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (“Board”) was convened on September 17, 2026, at 9:01 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 2nd Floor Conference Center, Training Room 1, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

FIRST CONFERENCE: 9:01 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeffery Newman, DVM, Chairperson
Patricia Seeger, LVT, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT: Claire Foley, J.D., Deputy Executive Director
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist
Lesley Smith, Esq., Adjudication Specialist,
Administrative Proceedings Division

OTHERS PRESENT: Chip Atkins
Emma Sachs
Laurel Huerkamp, Esq.
Patience Perez
Taryn Singleton, LVT

MATTER SCHEDULED: **Matthew Garrett, Veterinarian
Case 231422**

DISCUSSION: Dr. Garrett appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated January 8, 2026, and letters of continuance dated January 23, 2026, January 29, 2026, and April 17, 2026, to inquire into allegations that he may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary medicine in Virginia. Dr. Garrett was represented by Michael Thorsen, Esq.

CLOSED SESSION: Ms. Seeger moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia (“Code”) for the purpose of deliberation to reach

a decision in the matter regarding Matthew Garrett, Veterinarian. Additionally, Ms. Seeger moved that Ms. Foley 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:

Ms. Seeger 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 Nos. 231422

Ms. Seeger moved that the Committee issue an Order for indefinite probation subject to terms and conditions. Ms. Seeger further moved that the basis of this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order sent to Dr. Garrett. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The hearing concluded at 10:59 a.m.

SECOND CONFERENCE:

11:13 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeffery Newman, DVM, Chairperson
Patricia Seeger, LVT, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Claire Foley, J.D., Deputy Executive Director
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist
Christine Corey, Esq., Adjudication Consultant,
Administrative Proceedings Division

OTHERS PRESENT:

Patience Perez
Emma Sachs
Laurel Huerkamp, Esq.
Chip Atkins
Taryn Singleton
Makenzie Harner
Courtney Farries

Justin Blankenship
Christina Dior
Michael Dior

MATTER SCHEDULED:

**Les Sekut, Veterinarian
Case No. 241663**

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Sekut appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated October 29, 2025, and letters of continuance dated November 13, 2025, January 30, 2026, and April 17, 2026, to inquire into allegations that he may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary medicine in Virginia. Dr. Sekut was represented by Ashley Moss, Esq.

CLOSED SESSION:

Ms. Seeger 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 Les Sekut, Veterinarian. Additionally, Ms. Seeger moved that Ms. Foley 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:

Ms. Seeger 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. 241663

Ms. Seeger moved that the Committee dismiss the case against Dr. Sekut. Ms. Seeger further moved that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order sent to Dr. Sekut. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The hearing concluded at 1:26 p.m.

THIRD CONFERENCE:

2:06 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeffery Newman, DVM, Chairperson
Patricia Seeger, LVT, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Claire Foley, J.D., Deputy Executive Director
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist
Christine Corey, Esq., Adjudication Consultant,
Administrative Proceedings Division

OTHERS PRESENT:

Cindy O’Ferrell
Chip Atkins
Laurel Huerkamp, Esq.

MATTER SCHEDULED:

**Scott McCorkindale, Veterinarian
Case No. 247658**

DISCUSSION:

Dr. McCorkindale appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated March 19, 2026, and letter of continuance dated April 20, 2026, to inquire into allegations that he may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary medicine in Virginia. Dr. McCorkindale was not represented by counsel.

CLOSED SESSION:

Ms. Seeger 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 Scott McCorkindale, Veterinarian. Additionally, Ms. Seeger moved that Ms. Foley 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:

Ms. Seeger 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. 247658

Ms. Seeger moved that the Committee issue an Order for compliance with the June 18, 2025, Board Order within 3 months, a monetary penalty of \$4000.00, and six hours of continuing education in the subjects of diseases of the perianal area, management of chronic otitis externa, and client communication. Ms. Seeger further moved that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order sent to Dr. McCorkindale. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The hearing concluded at 4:27 p.m.

FOURTH CONFERENCE:

4:45 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeffery Newman, DVM, Chairperson
Patricia Seeger, LVT, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Claire Foley, J.D., Deputy Executive Director
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist
Christine Corey, Esq., Adjudication Consultant,
Administrative Proceedings Division

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jaleesa Heiskill
Andrew Heiskill
Rob Broadney
Tim Stiff
Laurel Huerkamp, Esq.

MATTER SCHEDULED:

Scotti Stiff, Veterinarian
Case No. 248709

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Stiff appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated April 27, 2026, to inquire into allegations that she may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary medicine in Virginia. Dr. Stiff was represented by John Conrad, Esq.

CLOSED SESSION:

Ms. Seeger 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 Scotti Stiff, Veterinarian. Additionally, Ms. Seeger moved that Ms. Foley 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:

Ms. Seeger 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.

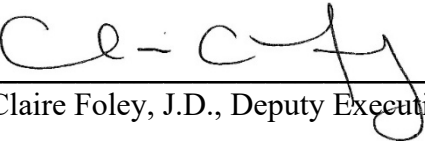
The Committee reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

DECISION:

Case No. 248709

Ms. Seeger moved that the Committee dismiss the case against Dr. Stiff. Ms. Seeger further moved that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order sent to Stiff. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The hearing concluded at 6:11 p.m.



Claire Foley, J.D., Deputy Executive Director