

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE  
POSSIBLE SUMMARY SUSPENSION TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
JULY 3, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Pursuant to §54.1-2408.1(A) of the Code of Virginia, a telephone conference call of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine was called to order on July 3, 2024, at 11:08 a.m., to consider a possible summary suspension, after a good faith effort failed to assemble a quorum of the board in person.

**PRESIDING:** Thomas Massie, DVM, Chairperson

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Richard Bailey, DVM  
Tregel Cockburn, DVM  
Steve Karras, DVM  
Steven Linas, OD  
Jeff Newman, DVM  
Patricia Seeger, LVT

**QUORUM:** With 7 members of the Board participating in the telephone conference, a quorum is established.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kelli Moss, Executive Director  
Heather Pote, Acting Deputy Executive Director  
Emily Tatum, Sr. Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mandy Wilson, Assistant Attorney General

**BOARD COUNSEL:** Laura Booberg, Assistant Attorney General

**Chelsey LaMendola, Veterinary Technician**

**Case 235648:** Ms. Wilson presented a summary of the evidence that the continued practice of Ms. LaMendola may present a substantial danger to the health and safety of the public.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Dr. Bailey moved that the Board 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 of Chelsey LaMendola, Veterinary Technician. Additionally, he moved that Ms. Moss, Ms. Pote, and Ms. Booberg attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board in its deliberation. The motion was seconded by Dr. Newman and carried unanimously.

**RECONVENE:** Dr. Bailey moved that the Board certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters

lawfully exempted from the 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 by Dr. Newman and carried unanimously.

**DECISION:**

Dr. Linas moved to summarily suspend the license of Chelsey LaMendola, Veterinary Technician to practice veterinary medicine pending a formal administrative hearing. The motion was seconded by Dr. Cockburn and carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

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Kelli G. Moss, Executive Director