

Call to Order

The July 29, 2021, Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board) meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 2, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

Presiding Officer – Jeffrey B. Newman, DVM, President

Board Members Present

Steve Karras, DVM, Vice President
Mary Yancey Spencer, JD, Secretary
Tregel Cockburn, DVM
Ellen Hillyer, MPH, DVM
Thomas Massie, Jr., DVM

Staff Present

Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director
Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director
Barbara Allison-Bryan, MD, Chief Deputy Director DHP
Elaine Yeatts, Sr. Policy Analyst DHP
Yetty Shobo, Deputy Executive Director DHP
Heather Pote, Discipline Case Specialist
Laura Jackson, Board Analyst
Charis Mitchell, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel
Anne Joseph, JD, MPA, Adjudication Consultant
Julia Bennett, Deputy Director, APD
Melody Morton, Inspections Manager DHP

Public Present

Robin Schmitz. Virginia Veterinary Medical Association

Establishment of Quorum

With six board members present, quorum was established.

Emergency Egress

Ms. Knachel read the emergency egress procedures.

Introductions

Ms. Knachel announced the appointment of Thomas Massie, Jr., DVM to the Board, introduced new board staff member Laura Jackson and announced the addition of Taryn Singleton to the unit.

Mission Statement

Dr. Newman read the Board's mission statement.

Ordering of Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Public Comment

There were no requests to provide public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Knachel informed the Board that a motion to approve minutes is no longer necessary for minutes that require no corrections. Dr. Newman opened the floor to any edits or corrections regarding the draft minutes for the March 11, 2021, meeting. Dr. Newman stated the minutes were approved as presented.

Director's Report – Dr. Alison-Bryan

Dr. Allison-Bryan provided the Director's report in Dr. Brown's absence. She advised the Board of the following:

- COVID-19 statistics in Virginia.
- The Perimeter Center building will be opening to the public on August 2, 2021.
- The agency's activities related to Diversity, Equality and Inclusion.
- The recent separation of the Board of Health Professions and the Healthcare Workforce Data Center.
- Executive Order 77 – Reducing plastic pollution and how it impacts DHP.

Legislative and Regulatory Report

Update on Veterinary Nurse Regulatory Action

Ms. Yeatts stated that the fast-track action to amend the regulations to include "veterinary nurse degree" will be open for public comment in August and should become effective on October 1, 2021.

Discussion Items

2020 Veterinary & 2020 Veterinary Technician Healthcare Workforce Data Center Reports

Dr. Shobo presented findings from the 2020 workforce reports for veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

Probable Cause Presentation

Ms. Joseph and Ms. Bennett provided a presentation on probable cause.

Inspection Committee Report

Dr. Cockburn provided a report on the activities of the Inspection Committee.

Dr. Massie volunteered to fill the seat on the Inspection Committee vacated by Dr. Rucker. A replacement for Taryn Singleton's vacant seat on the Committee will be discussed with and appointed by the Board President.

Review of Updates to Guidance Documents

- Guidance Document 150-12 Administration of Rabies Vaccines

Ms. Knachel reported that Dr. Julia Murphy, State Health Veterinarian at the Virginia Department of Health, reviewed the guidance document as she oversees rabies prevention in Virginia and had no substantive changes to the guidance document,

A motion to reaffirm the guidance document as made by Ms. Spencer and properly seconded by Dr. Karras. After discussion, a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

- Guidance Document 150-15 Disposition of Routine Inspection Violations

Ms. Knachel reviewed the changes to the guidance document. She reported that the Inspection Committee had voted to recommend that the full Board adopt the changes. Ms. Knachel stated that the Board would need to repeal the current guidance document and replace it with the updated version.

A motion to repeal Guidance Document 150-15 Disposition of Routine Inspection Violations and replace and adopt the changes as present was made Dr. Karras and properly seconded by Dr. Massie. After discussion, a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

- Guidance Document 150-18 Bylaws

Ms. Knachel reviewed the changes to the bylaws.

A motion to adopt Guidance Document 150-18 Bylaws was made Dr. Karras and properly seconded by Dr. Cockburn. After discussion, a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

Research for Clarifying Guidance Document 150-18, Article I (A)(2) Related to Election of Officers

Ms. Knachel provided an update on the Board's request to research what other DHP regulatory boards' bylaws state in regards to the Election of Officers. After discussion, the Board decided to take no action.

Board Counsel Report

Ms. Mitchell provided a brief explanation of the different divisions within the Attorney General's office.

Board President's Report

Dr. Newman stated that he had nothing to report.

Board of Health Professions Report

Dr. Karras stated that the Board of Health Professions met virtually on May 13, 2021. Dr. Brown provided information on the agencies DEI training, Dr. Allison-Bryan provided an update on the status of COVID-19 in Virginia, and Ms. Yeatts reported on the regulatory board's laws and regulations.

Staff Reports

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Knachel reported on the following:

- Board Statistics
- Outreach to licensees
- AAVSB annual meeting

Discipline Report

Ms. Moss reported that the Board's new process for completing Probably Cause Review is going well. She provided information on the number of open and closed disciplinary cases.

Next Meeting

The next full board meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2021.

Adjournment

With no objection, Dr. Newman adjourned the meeting at 12:18 p.m.

Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director Date