

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
MINUTES
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON LAY EQUINE DENTISTRY
JULY 12, 2005**

TIME AND PLACE: The Ad Hoc Committee on Lay Equine Dentistry meeting was called to order at 10:40 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Richmond, VA.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jana Froeling, DVM - Chair
Dale Cupp, DVM
Jayme Leonard
Debra Linton
Jen LaPlume, DVM
Lisa Oliphant

STAFF PRESENT: Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D., Executive Director
Terri H. Behr, Administrative Assistant
Emily Wingfield, Assistant Attorney General

OTHERS PRESENT: John Wise, DVM
Donovan Dagner, DVM
T. Kent Adams, DVM
Craig Sweeney, DVM
Taryn Singleton, LVT
Claudia True, DVM
Mike Stanford, DVM
Debra Stapleton
Robin Schmitz
Steven King, DVM

MOTION: On properly seconded motion by Ms. Linton, the Committee voted unanimously to include Dr. Donovan Dagner as a member of the Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public Comment was received from Dr. Kent Adams and Dr. Craig Sweeney. Dr. Adams stated that he believes that to equine dentistry cannot be adequately performed without sedation. He stated that lay people practicing dentistry on horses has a potential for harm and that some of these people have their own supply of controlled drugs to sedate horses. Dr. Sweeney stated that he

is a licensed, insured veterinarian and equine dental practitioner and does not believe that unlicensed people should be practicing equine dentistry.

MOTION:

On properly seconded motion by Dr. Dagner, the Committee voted unanimously to allow Dr. Claudia True to sit in as a voting member in place of Dr. Bayard Rucker who could not attend this meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Froeling opened the discussion by introducing a 1999 report written by Dr. Mitchell Rode for the VVMA on evaluating the current status of the practice of equine dentistry by “lay dentists” and veterinarians. The report concluded that the floating of equine teeth by lay people is not the practice of veterinary medicine.

The Committee members identified and discussed the goals of the Committee.

These goals are:

Provide for horse welfare,

Protect horse owners,

Establish a working agreement for all parties,

Accountability,

Regulation

Liability; and

Education, especially for the public

On properly seconded motion by Ms. Oliphant, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the full Board the adoption of the following language as a Guidance Document:

The planing or leveling of equine teeth by the use of non-motorized hand tools is not considered the practice of veterinary medicine and does not require a license. If sedation is required for planing and leveling, the sedation must be administered by a Virginia licensed veterinarian who remains responsible for the animal while it is under sedation.

The Committee will report to the full Board at its next meeting on August 10, 2005.

Jana L. Froeling, DVM, Chair

Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D., Executive Director