

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 10, 2022**

At 8:02 a.m., President Susan Bull, DVM called to order the regular meeting of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board. This meeting was held at the Board and virtually through Zoom. Present were the following Board members: Drs., Michael Martin, Ronald Komich, Kent Dean, and Allen Cannedy. Robin Lazaro, RVT, and Mr. Timothy Gold. Also present were Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore, Dr. Tod J. Schadler, Executive Director, Sarah Swartout, previous Student Liaison and the new Student Liason Raisa Velez- Contreras. Dr. Azure Holland was not present at the meeting.

Dr. Bull reviewed with the Board the Governor's and the North Carolina Ethics Commission's statements on recognizing and avoiding conflicts of interest. She also reviewed G.S. § 90-179 of the North Carolina Veterinary Practice Act.

The following guests were in attendance through Zoom: Claire Holley, Executive Director for NCVMA; Ed Faulkner, DVM, President elect for NCVMA; Maureen Susi, President of NCAVT; Jon Carr, attorney for North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Dr. Joseph Wright, Chief Inspector for NCVMB; Nicolette McNeely, Treasurer for NCAVT;

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Gail Thomssen, Humane Society of US; Dr. Dante Martin, President of NCVMA; Jennifer Shultz, DVM, immediate past President of NCVMA, and Shannon Bass, DVM, Secretary-Treasurer, NCVMA, and John McHugh, of ASPCA.

The January 13, 2022 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Changes were recommended regarding grammar by Dr. Komich, Dr. Bull, and Matthew Skidmore. There was a motion to accept minutes after corrections were made. Dr. Komich made a motion and Dr. Dean seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business - Reports:

Dr. Bull stated that the nomination committee members will be herself, Dr. Dean and Dr. Martin.

Student Liaison Report:

Raisa Velez- Contreras introduced herself as the new Student Liaison. Former Student Liaison Sarah Swartout gave an update on the school stating that the school has switched to masks depending on settings, but are in compliance with the University's standards.

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She also gave thanks to the board and said she enjoyed the opportunity to work with the NCVMB.

President's Report:

No official report.

Board Dates for 2022:

Board Meeting Date	Committee 8 Dates	Committee 9 Dates
January 13, 2022	January 12, 2022	January 5, 2022
March 10, 2022	March 9, 2022	March 2, 2022
May 12, 2022	May 11, 2022	May 4, 2022
July 7, 2022	July 6, 2022	June 29, 2022
September 8, 2022	September 7, 2022	August 31, 2022
November 10, 2022	November 9, 2022	November 2, 2022

AAVSB Report:

Dr. Komich stated the AAVSB is a tremendous asset to the board. The deadline for proposed resolutions is April 19th, and the call for nominations deadline is May 19th. Dr. Schadler stated that Dr. Kim Gemeinhardt has asked for the board to nominate her for President Elect of the AAVSB. The board unanimously agreed.

Ms. Robin Lazaro gave the conference committee update. The conference committee meets once a month to discuss the goals, purpose, and

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topics. The meeting and conference will be held September 15th – 17th in Charlotte.

State Veterinarian's Report:

Dr. Martin updated the board on the status of African Swine Fever and Avian influenza.

Dr. Martin also discussed the vaccine for Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease. They are working to permit the vaccine in North Carolina, and validating that Veterinarians are licensed in order to have the vaccine.

Legislative Committee:

Deputy Director Keith West reported that the Legislative Committee determined that no action is needed concerning corporate renewals. The proposed amendments approved at the January Board meeting can be submitted to the General Assembly in May. Senator Rabon's office will schedule a meeting with Board representatives as soon as his schedule permits.

Dr. Bull reported that Dr. Marks' request for a legislative exemption for their unlicensed residents was reviewed and determined that legislative

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action would not be taken. Dr. Marks was informed – he thanked us for our consideration.

Chief Inspector's Report:

Dr. Joseph Wright reported that the inspectors are in the field working. The new inspector, Dr. Marjorie McFetridge has been trained.

Dr. Wright reported there have been 158 inspections since the last meeting. Dr. McFetridge did 15 inspections, Dr. Jeffer did 42 inspections, Dr. Peer did 56 inspections, and Dr. Wright did 45 inspections.

The inspectors will continue to call facilities ahead of time due to COVID. Dr. Wright stated some of the positives for calling ahead: takes the stress out of visits, there are more questions asked during visits, and more interactions between the inspectors and practitioners. Deputy Director Keith West is working on streamlining the inspection process.

Dr. Wright mentioned there is currently one challenge for inspections and that is gas prices and reimbursements. Dr. Schadler stated that he will research options to compensate expenses then present them to the Executive Committee. Dr. Martin made a motion and Ms. Lazaro seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Schadler congratulated inspector's for continuing to do a great job.

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Attorney's Report:

Mr. Skidmore stated that, though Dr. Bull reads the Ethics Statement at each board meeting, board members need to file their Statement of Economic Interest by April 15th to be in compliance. Ethics commission requires that Ethics training be completed every two years. He will send an email reminder.

Committee 9's injunction against Dr. Stevenson was implemented. Mr. Skidmore reported that there were 44 closing letters completed since January, and currently working on 10.

Executive Director's Report:

Dr. Schadler presented the number of active Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians and that the numbers continue to go up. He reviewed the NCVMB's finances and accounts and reported the Board is doing well financially. Civil Monetary payments are all up to date.

At 9:11 a.m. the board took a break and reconvened at 9:32 a.m.

At 9:32 a.m. Dr. Bull asked for a motion to go into closed session pursuant to GS § 143-318.11(a)(3) to review complaints with the Board's Attorney. Ms. Lazaro made the motion and it was seconded by Dr. Cannedy. Motion approved unanimously.

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At 9:57 a.m. the Board returned to open session after Dr. Martin made the motion and Dr. Komich seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

North Carolina Professional Health Program Report:

Dr. Joseph Jordan joined the meeting in person and presented copies of the report for the update.

The NCPHP Scholarship is in the final stage and being voted on for final approval. They are creating a brochure to provide a better understanding of what the scholarship program can and cannot do for Veterinarians. At 10:09 a.m., Dr. Jordan exited the meeting.

At 10:13 a.m. Dr. Bull asked for a motion to go back into closed session pursuant to GS § 143-318.11(a)(3) to review complaints with the Board's Attorney. Dr. Martin made the motion and seconded by Ms. Lazaro. Motion approved unanimously.

At 11:35 a.m. the Board returned to open session.

Dr. Dean read into the minutes the recommendations from Committee on Investigation No. 1 and 8.

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Report of Committee on Investigations No. 1

- a. 2020009-1 – Susan Michele Rohrer, DVM (Atlantic Animal Hospital & Pet Resort) – Ms. Susannah Reynolds– Reconsidered as Letter of Caution and Letter of Reprimand

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 8

- a. 2021074- 8 – Kathryn Yarborough Bray, DVM (CVS Referral Animal Hospital) – Ms. Melissa G. Ashbury – Letter of Caution
- b. 2021085-8 – Paul Michael Gigliotti, DVM (Forest Hills Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Laurel Elam – Dismissed, no probable cause
- c. 2021089- 8 – Donald G. Hoover, DVM (Westside Animal Hospital) – Ms. Marta Serrano – Dismissed, no probable cause
- d. 2021088-8 – Audra A. Cinalli- Munoz, DVM- (High Point Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Tiffany Whittington – Dismissed, no probable cause
- e. 2021091-8 – Roger R. Holt, DVM – (Yadkin Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Pamela Perry – Letter of Reprimand

Dr. Komich made a motion, seconded by Dr. Martin, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 1 and No. 8. The report of Committee 1 and 8 was approved. These decisions are preliminary and will not be final until the decision is accepted into the minutes, the decision is drafted by the Board Attorney and is approved by the Committee chair and then mailed to the licensee and complainant. In the case of a letter of reprimand, the licensee has 15 days from its receipt to reject it and request a

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hearing. If a rejection occurs, the case is returned to the Committee for review and action.

Mrs. Lazaro read into the minutes the recommendations from Committee on Investigation No. 9.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 9

- a. 2021084-9 – Michael E. Sink, DVM – (High Point Veterinary Hospital) – Mr. Robert E. Parker – Letter of Caution
- b. Amelia Joy Taber, DVM and Susan Edna Curci, DVM- (Animal Emergency Clinic of the High Country) – Ms. Berverly Hicks – Dismissed, no probable cause for both Dr. Taber and Dr. Curci

Dr. Dean made a motion, seconded by Dr. Cannedy, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 9. The report from Committee 9 was approved unanimously. These decisions are preliminary and will not be final until the decision is accepted into the minutes, the decision is drafted by the Board Attorney and is approved by the Committee chair and then mailed to the licensee and complainant. In the case of a letter of reprimand, the licensee has 15 days from its receipt to reject it and request a hearing. If a rejection occurs, the case is returned to the Committee for review and action.

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Old Business: None

Approval of Expenses:

Dr. Martin, seconded by Dr. Dean, made a motion to approve the meeting's expenses. It was approved unanimously.

The Board having no further business, a motion to adjourn made by Dr. Dean, seconded by Ms. Lazaro, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM
Executive Director