

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 11, 2021**

At 8:00 a.m., President Susan Bull, DVM called to order the regular meeting of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board. This meeting was held virtually through Zoom. Present also were the following Board members: Drs. Kent Dean, Ronald Komich, Allen Cannedy, and Azure Holland; Robin Lazaro, RVT; and Mrs. Krissie Newman. Also present were Board Attorney, George Hearn, and Executive Director, Dr. Tod J. Schadler.

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: Claire Holley, Executive Director of NCVMA; Natalie Young, PharmD, Director of Realo; Jennifer Shults, DVM, President of NCVMA; John McHugh, ASPCA; Gail Thomssen, Humane Society of the United States; Kristin Block, Block's Sport Hounds; Steven Marks, BVSc, Associate Dean, NC State University College of Veterinary Medicine; Maureen Susi, RVT, President of North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (NCAVT); Dante Martin, DVM,

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President-Elect, NCVMA; Joseph Wright, DVM; Dr. Joseph Jordan, CEO,
NC Physician's Health Program (NCPHP).

The January 14, 2021 and January 27, 2021 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Dr. Komich, seconded by Dr. Cannedy, moved to approve the January 14, 2021 and January 27, 2021 Board meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business - Reports:

Nomination Committee:

Dr. Bull appointed Dr. Meckes, Mrs. Newman, and Dr. Dean to be the nomination committee with Dr. Dean as chair.

North Carolina Physician's Health Program (NCPHP) Report:

Dr. Joseph Jordan gave an update, explaining that there are six veterinarians under contract.

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Dr. Komich gave an update about the scholarship for financial assistance within the NCPHP. Since going live, they have \$500 in contributions. They will be looking into getting pharmaceutical companies to contribute.

Chief Inspector's Report:

Dr. Joseph Wright, Chief Inspector, reported there have been 183 inspections since the last meeting. Inspections are still scheduled prior to them being conducted. Dr. Peer had a representative from Patterson tell her the positive impact the inspectors were having on facilities in North Carolina. Dr. Wright is seeing a movement with facilities towards allowing clients inside.

President's Report:

Dr. Bull, Dr. Schadler, and Mr. Hearn met with Senator Rabon on Wednesday morning, 3/10/2021 to discuss upcoming legislation regarding veterinary student preceptee and student internship.

There was a request to the Board to allow handlers of police/drug dogs to treat these dogs if injured until they can reach a veterinary facility. This is allowed in an emergency situation.

Dr. Meckes, State Veterinarian, will be retiring the end of June 2021.

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Board Member Training will be scheduled this summer with Mr. Hearn.
Please remember that SEI forms are due on April 15, 2021.

Dr. Bull appointed a committee to look into creating proposed legislation concerning chiropractic medicine on animals. Dr. Cannedy, Mrs. Lazaro, and Dr. Holland will be on this committee, with Dr. Holland as Chair.

Legislative Committee:

Keith West, Assistant to the Executive Director, reported on the proposed amended administrative rule submitted to the Rules Review Commission for amending the rule entitled, Petition for Inactive Status. The amendment would include “registrants”. This will now go to Rules Review Commission on March 18, 2021. If approved it will go into effect on April 1, 2021.

The proposed rule for 21 NCAC 66.0211, Veterinary Telemedicine was amended after public feedback.

A motion to accept the changes for the proposed Veterinary Telemedicine rule and resubmit to the Rules Review Commission was made by Mrs. Lazaro and seconded by Dr. Dean. Motion passed unanimously

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Student Liaison:

Priya Allen introduced the new student liaison, Sarah Swartout, who is a first year DVM student at NCSU-CVM.

Executive Director's Report:

Dr. Schadler presented an update on licensing activities and a finance report. Disciplinary/civil monetary payments are all up-to-date. The Board office just upgraded the phone system to VOIP.

At 9:13 a.m. Dr. Cannedy made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to GS § 143-318.11(a)(3) for consulting with an attorney on administrative procedures, seconded by Dr. Dean. Approved unanimously.

At 11:23 a.m. the Board returned from closed session and resumed the regular meeting.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 1

- a. 2020089-1 – Amey Landreth Jones, DVM (Seventy-First Animal Hospital) – Mr. Gary Gauthier – No probable cause, dismissed

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- b. 2020078-1 – Thomas Jesse Watson, DVM (Carolinas Veterinary Medical Hospital) – Ms. Karina Vogel – No probable cause, dismissed
- c. 2020091-1 – Jocelyn Ann Romano, DVM (Beaufort Veterinary Hospital) – Mr. James Osika-Michaels – No probable cause, dismissed
- d. 2021002-1 – Deborah Ann Cowan, DVM (Animal Hospital of Walnut Cove) – Ms. Mary L. Benner – Letter of Reprimand
- e. 2021004-1 – Arthur R. Taylor, DVM (The Neighborhood Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Marla Celeste Torrence – Letter of Reprimand and Civil Monetary penalty of \$2,000

Dr. Komich made a motion, seconded by Dr. Holland, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 1. The report of Committee 1 was approved unanimously. These decisions are preliminary and will not be final until the decision is accepted into the minutes, the letter explaining the decision is drafted by the Board Attorney and is approved by the Committee chair and 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 further review and action.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lazaro, seconded by Dr. Holland, to accept Committee No. 1's recommendations for civil monetary penalties for complaint 2021004-1, Dr. Arthur R. Taylor, pursuant to GS § 90-187.8(b) (1)

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harm to the animal; (2) gravity of violation; (5) prior disciplinary record of Dr. Taylor in the amount of \$2,000. The motion was approved unanimously

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 9

- a. 2020072-9 – Brittney Lynn McLamb, DVM (Riverside Animal Hospital) – Ms. Tiffany L. Toler – No probable cause, dismissed
- b. 2020082-9 – Roy Lawrence Bodine Lenzo, DVM (Lenzo Animal Hospital) – Ms. Deborah Anne Sands – Letter of Caution
- c. 2020088-9 – Amelia Joy Taber, DVM (Medvet Emergency Medicine & Specialty Animal Hospital) – Ms. Kimberley A. Odel – No probable cause, dismissed
- d. 2020093-9 – Christopher Lee Karnes, DVM (Little Mountain Veterinary Clinic) – Mr. Victor Bare – No probable cause, dismissed
- e. 2020094-9 – Lisa McMillan Rosenquist, DVM (Kernersville Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Niki Boggs – No probable cause, dismissed
- f. 2020087-9 – Peter Thomas Gilyard, DVM; Jacquelynne Elaine Catania, DVM (Clemmons Veterinary Clinic) – Mr. Allen Perry Grice – No probable cause, dismissed for Dr. Catania; Letter of caution for Dr. Gilyard

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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.

At 11:30 a.m. the Board took a break and returned at 11:43 a.m.

Dr. Bull presented the Board a letter from a person in prison wanting the Board to send a letter of recommendation for a work release program. This person wants to work as an assistant or registered veterinary technician. The Board cannot determine this person's eligibility at the present time, as they are not to be released for another four years. The Board cannot recommend this person for a work release program.

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At 11:54 a.m. Dr. Komich, seconded by Mrs. Lazaro made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to GS § 143-318.11(a)(6) for personnel matters. Motion was approved.

At 12:24 p.m. the Board returned to open session.

A motion to act on the actions discussed in the closed personnel session was made by Mrs. Lazaro and seconded by Dr. Dean. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Holland, seconded by Mrs. Lazaro, 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 Mrs. Lazaro, seconded by Dr. Holland, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM
Executive Director