

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, May 9, 2024**

At 8:04 a.m., President Azure Holland, DVM, called to order the regular meeting of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board. This meeting was held at the Board office and virtually through Zoom. Board members present in person were Azure Holland, DVM; Michael Martin, DVM; Edward Faulkner, DVM; Susan Bull, DVM; Mr. Tim Gold; Robin Lazaro, RVT and Allen Cannedy, DVM. Ronald Komich, DVM attended the meeting via Zoom. Also present in person were Tod J. Schadler, DVM, Executive Director; Keith West, Deputy Director; Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore; Joseph P. Jordan, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, North Carolina Physician's Health Program (NCPHP); and Jennifer Kendrick, Executive Director, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA)

The following guests were also in attendance via Zoom: -John McHugh, Director of State Legislature, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA); Jennifer Shults, DVM, Legislative Chair, (NCVMA); Shannon Bass, DVM, President Elect, (NCVMA); Shannon Nowak, BS, LVT, RVT, Secretary/Treasurer, North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (NCAVT); Jon Carr, Attorney, (NCVMA); Maureen Susi, RVT, President, (NCAVT); Holly Swagner, RVT, (NCAVT); Beth Venit VMD, MPH, DACVPM, American Association of Veterinary State Boards

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(AAVSB); Loren Johnson, NCVMB Student Liaison (NCSU); Susan Bray, RVT, (NCAVT); Dante Martin, DVM, Immediate Past President (NCVMA); Karyn Smith, DVM, Vice President (NCVMA); Nathan Moyer, RVT (NCAVT); Kim Lewis, RVT (NCAVT); Gail Thomssen, North Carolina State Director for the Humane Society of the United States; and Tina.

President Azure Holland, DVM reviewed for the Board the Governor's and the North Carolina Ethics Commission's statements on recognizing and avoiding conflicts of interest. She also reviewed N.C.G.S. § 90-179 of the North Carolina Veterinary Practice Act.

The February 29, 2024 and April 12, 2024 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Allen Cannedy, DVM made a motion to accept the minutes and Edward Faulkner, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

None

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**President's Report:**

Azure Holland, DVM announced that this would be the last board meeting that Executive Director Tod Schadler, DVM would be attending due to his upcoming retirement.

**North Carolina Professional Health Program (NCPHP) Report:**

Joseph P. Jordan, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, presented his report in person and gave an update on the North Carolina Professional Health Program.

**State Veterinarian's Report:**

Michael Martin, DVM reported there were no changes in the status of the African Swine Fever or Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease. Dr. Martin also updated the Board on Avian Influenza.

**Nominating Committee:**

Michael Martin, DVM reported after meeting with Mr. Tim Gold they recommend continuing with the people in their current roles. Susan Bull, DVM made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Nominating

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Committee and the motion was seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM. The motion passed unanimously.

**Legislative Update:**

Deputy Director Keith West provided an update on the proposed legislation for PAVE RVTs, VTS and changing “revoked” to “expired” for those who do not choose to renew. Mr. West also stated the proposed rules for Boarding Kennels public comment period ends May 31, 2024 and Public Hearing for Boarding Kennels proposed rules is scheduled for May 21, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. here at the Board office and via Zoom with Board President Azure Holland, DVM presiding.

Deputy Director Keith West proposed the following changes to existing approved rules pending legislative review (if approved these changes would need to go through the rule making process):

**21 NCAC 66 .0902**

(k) The Board may issue a temporary veterinary facility permit to the owners of a veterinary facility for a period of 35 business days to allow the owners to address and resolve violations of the rules of this Chapter, particularly, Rules .0207 and .0208 of this Chapter, discovered during the veterinary facility inspection. However, the Board shall not issue a temporary

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veterinary facility permit if the violations present a danger to the health or safety of the public or animals. Upon request of the owner, the Board may extend a temporary permit for an additional period of no more than 35 business days, as long as satisfactory progress has been made as determined by the Board. In the event of the death of an owner, the permit remains valid for ~~35~~ 50 business days for the date of the death of the owner, so long as the facility continues to have an active, supervising veterinarian registered with the Board.

**21 NCAC 66 .0904**

(b) The Board may suspend, revoke, or deny issuance of a veterinary facility permit, without hearing if:

(1) A veterinary facility has not had a supervising veterinarian or an interim supervising veterinarian serving in that capacity for more than ~~five~~ 15 business days.

**21 NCAC 66 .0903**

(c) The owners may designate an interim supervising veterinarian to serve for a period not to exceed ~~25~~ 50 business days.

A motion was made by Michael Martin, DVM to accept the proposed changes to existing rules 21 NCAC 66 .0902, 21 NCAC 66 .0204 and 21

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NCAC 66 .0204 and the motion was seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM.

The motion passed unanimously.

At 8:54 a.m., the board took a break and reconvened at 9:10 a.m.

**21 NCAC 66 .0206 Minimum Standards for Continuing Education**

Each person holding a veterinary license, limited license, a facility certificate, or a zoo veterinary certificate (collectively referred to herein as “veterinarian”) or a veterinary technician registration issued by the Board shall comply with the standards in this Rule. The standards shall be a condition precedent to the renewal of a license, certificate, or registration respectively.

The standards are as follows:

- (1) A veterinarian shall earn 20 continuing education credit hours for the calendar year license renewal period. A maximum of ~~five~~ ten hours may be obtained pursuant to courses described in item (3) of this rule.
- (2) A registered veterinary technician shall earn 12 continuing education credit hours for the two-calendar year registration renewal period. A maximum of ~~four~~ six hours may be obtained pursuant to courses described in item (3) of this rule.

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Item 3 referenced in the above rule states:

(3) One continuing education hour may be earned for each hour of independent self-study courses, prerecorded webinars, audio conferences, and non-interactive on-line presentations approved by approved continuing education providers.

A motion was made by Michael Martin, DVM to accept the proposed changes to existing rule 21 NCAC 66 .0206 and the motion was seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT. The motion passed unanimously.

The proposed effective date for all rules (Facility Permit/Boarding Kennels/Continuing Education) is January 1, 2025

**Facility Inspection Report:**

Deputy Director Keith West reported Robert Bakal, DVM was hired for the Northeast Inspector position. He stated that Dr. Bakal has been trained and is currently doing inspections. Mr. West reported 162 inspections have been conducted with one (1) serious. Deputy Director West reported Marjorie McFetridge, DVM, performed 37 inspections, Rhonda Greene, DVM, performed 9 inspections, Nicolette Peer, DVM, performed 28 inspections,

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Andrew Horne, DVM, performed 55 inspections, Frederick Schmid, DVM, performed 25 inspections and Robert Bakal, DVM performed 8 inspections.

**Attorney's Report:**

Mr. Skidmore reported that 16 disposition letters were completed and there are currently 10 in process. Mr. Skidmore reported all Board members have completed the ethics training, required by the State Ethics Commission, and updated their Statements of Economic Interest ("SEI").

**Student Liaison Report:**

Loren Johnson, NCVMB Student Liaison, presented her report via Zoom and updated the Board on the College Wide Zoom meeting held on March 6, 2024, the Class of 2025 White Coat Ceremony held on April 13, 2024 and the Oath and Hooding held on May 3, 2024. Ms. Johnson also stated a student liaison for the upcoming school year is under review.

**Executive Director's Report:**

Tod J. Schadler, DVM, Executive Director presented the status report of the number of active Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians



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and reviewed the NCVMB's finances and accounts. Dr. Schadler also provided information to the Board on AAVSB Nominations.

At 9:40 a.m., pursuant to G.S. § 143.318.11 (a)(3) and (6), for personnel discussion and discussion of potential judicial action, a motion was made to go into closed session by Michael Martin, DVM and seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM. The motion was approved unanimously.

At 10:56 a.m., Susan Bull, DVM made a motion to leave closed session and Allen Cannedy, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

At 10:57 a.m., the board took a break and reconvened at 11:05 a.m.

Susan Bull, DVM made a motion to ratify the offer to the candidate discussed during closed session and the motion was seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM. The motion passed unanimously.

Susan Bull, DVM read into the minutes the decisions from Committee on Investigation No. 11.

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**Report of Committee on Investigations No. 11**

- a. 2024002-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause/Letter of Reprimand
- b. 2024006-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2024011-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- d. 2024015-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

Michael Martin, DVM made a motion, seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 11. The report from Committee 11 was approved unanimously.

Robin Lazaro, RVT read into the minutes the decisions from Committee on Investigation No. 10.

**Report of Committee on Investigations No. 10**

- a. 2024001-10 – Letter of Caution
- b. 2024008-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2024012-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- d. 2024014-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- e. 2024018-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

Susan Bull, DVM, made a motion, seconded by Edward Faulker, DVM, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 10. The report from Committee 10 was approved unanimously.

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These decisions are preliminary and will not be final until the decisions are 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.

**Other Business:**

Presentation to outgoing Board member Susan Bull, DVM.

**Approval of Expenses:**

Michael Martin, DVM made a motion to approve the Board's expenses, and it was seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM. The expenses were approved unanimously.

The Board having no further business, a motion to adjourn made by Michael Martin, DVM, seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM  
Executive Director