

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, July 7, 2022**

At 8:00 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. All board members were present in person, Drs. Azure Holland, Allen Cannedy, Kent Dean, Ronald Komich, Susan Bull, and Michael Martin. Robin Lazaro, RVT, and Mr. Timothy Gold were present in person. Also present in person were Dr. Tod J. Schadler, Executive Director, and Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore.

Dr. Holland 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 via Zoom: Dr. Ed Faulkner, President elect for NCVMA; Dr. Joseph Jordan, CEO, NC Physician's Health Program (NCPHP); Maureen Susi, President of NCAVT; Marguerite; John McHugh, Director of State Legislature ASPCA; Delia Hohenthauer; Dr. Dante Martin, President of NCVMA; Claire Holley, Executive Director for NCVMA; Dr. Jennifer Shultz, immediate past President of NCVMA;

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Dr. Steven Marks, NCSU- CVM Associate Dean; Jon Carr, attorney for NCVMA; Stephen Pytlik, Attorney; and Raisa Velez- Contreras, NCVMB Student Liaison joined in person.

The May 12, 2022 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Changes were recommended regarding grammar. Dr. Komich made a motion to accept minutes after corrections were made and Dr. Cannedy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Bull presented a plaque and gift to Dr. Dean for his service as a board member. Dr. Bull and other board members gave acknowledgements, and appreciation for his service.

New Business - Reports: None

President's Report:

Dr. Holland stated the Committees for 2022- 2023. Committee 8 will stay the same. Committee 9 will change to Committee 10. Committee 10 will be Robin Lazaro, RVT as Chairman, Dr. Komich, and Dr. Martin.

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Chiropractic Committee will be Dr. Cannedy as Chairman, Robin Lazaro, RVT and Tim Gold.

Personnel Committee will be Dr. Komich as Chairman, and Dr. Holland.

Budget and Finance Committee will be Dr. Bull as Chairman, Dr. Komich, and Dr. Schadler.

The legislative committee will stay the same.

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

North Carolina Professional Health Program (NCPHP) Report:

Dr. Joseph Jordan presented his report through Zoom and gave an update on the North Carolina Veterinary Health Program.

State Veterinarian's Report:

Dr. Martin gave an update on the status of Avian influenza and stated that the spread is calming down. Dr. Martin updated the board on Rabbit

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Hemorrhagic Disease vaccine. There are 12 – 15 practitioners currently using the vaccine, but there is no data on safety or efficacy yet.

Legislative Committee Update:

Deputy Director Keith West reported that all bills have been ratified and are waiting for the governor's signature, with January 1st as the possible effective date for the changes. Keith West also presented copies of the ratified bills. The next move will be rule approvals.

Chief Inspector's Report:

Deputy Director Keith West stated that Dr. Wright will be retiring and the NCVMB is seeking an inspector for that area.

Executive Director, Dr. Schadler, stated there will no longer be a Chief Inspector position and that Deputy Director Keith West will give the Chief Inspector's report from now on.

Deputy Director Keith West reported that there have been 141 inspections since the last meeting. Dr. McFetridge performed 23 inspections, Dr. Jeffer performed 32 inspections, Dr. Peer performed 39 inspections, and Dr. Wright performed 47 inspections. Serious violation numbers have gone down.

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Attorney's Report:

Mr. Skidmore reported that there have been 67 closing letters completed since January, and currently working on 20 which will bring the total to 87 by the next meeting.

All board members stated their appreciation of the quality of the closing letters and being sent out in a timely manner.

AAVSB Conference Planning Report:

Mrs. Robin Lazaro gave the conference committee update stating that they met recently and are on track with the agenda and topics.

Mrs. Lazaro also stated that registration is open and gave the numbers for those currently registered.

Student Liaison Report:

Student Liaison Raisa Velez- Contreras stated that there is a new Dean, Dr. Kathryn Meurs. The hospital is now allowing clients back in. This allows for face-to-face interaction and communication.

She stated that Dr. Cannedy officially retired on June 30th. She also stated that Juneteenth is now recognized as a holiday for students.

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Executive Director's Report:

Dr. Schadler presented the status report of the number of active Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians. He reviewed the NCVMB's finances and accounts. Discipline/ Civil Monetary payments are still up to date.

Dr. Schadler introduced Crystal Moss, as the new Practice Facility Coordinator.

Old Business: None

At 9:07 a.m. the board took a break and reconvened at 9:19 a.m.

After discussion Dr. Holland named Robin Lazaro, RVT and Dr. Kent Dean to lead the RVT Committee.

At 9:20 a.m. Dr. Holland 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. Dr. Bull made the motion and it was seconded by Dr. Dean. Motion approved unanimously.

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At 10:15 a.m. Tim Gold recused himself for the discussion of case 2022031-8 and returned at 10:45 a.m.

At 1:10 p.m. Dr. Bull made a motion to leave closed session and Dr. Komich seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

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

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 8

- a. 2022003-8 – Rachelle M. Khare, DVM (Whole Pet Veterinary Hospital- Mountain Island) – Mr. Lewis German– Letter of Caution
- b. 2022015-8 – Alexander Vincent Giannaris, DVM, (Urgent Vet Pet Clinic- Huntersville) – Ms. Nicole Hunt – Dismissed, no probable cause
- c. 2022020- 8 – James Edward Lofgren, DVM (Lake Brandt Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Lexie Vanada – Dismissed, no probable cause
- d. 2022027-8 – Levi Leonard Cerminara, DVM- (Craven Animal Hospital) – Ms. Karen Sprenkle – Dismissed, no probable cause
- e. 2022031-8 – Steven Tyler Gregory, DVM – (Carolina Animal Specialty & Emergency) – Dr. Richard Williams– Dismissed, no probable cause

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- f. 2022039-8- Cassandra Kathleen Lord, DVM – (Apple Valley Animal Hospital) – Ms. Carolyn Hoidal- Dismissed, no probable cause
- g. 2022040-8 – Diego Igacio Munoz, DVM – (High Point Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Heather Ratley- Letter of Reprimand, with 5 hours of additional CE, must be approved by the Executive Director Dr. Schadler and provide proof of attendance
- f. 2022041-8 – Kozue Harada, DVM and Matthew J. Ascitutto, DVM – (Triangle Veterinary Referral Hospital) – Ms. Paula Piedra – Dismissed, no probable cause for both doctor’s

Mr. Tim Gold recused himself from the closed session discussion regarding case 2022031-8 and abstained from the vote to approve the report of Committee 8. Dr. Komich made a motion, seconded by Dr. Martin, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 8. The report of Committee 8 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.

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

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Report of Committee on Investigations No. 9

- a. 2022008- 9 – Emily J. Wallin, DVM (Tri- State/ Spay Neuter Clinic) – Ms. Montana Tincher – Dismissed, no probable cause
- b. 2022012-9 – Marlon Klaus Sequeira, DVM, and Leanne Catherine Ruoff, DVM (Veterinary Care Anywhere Animal Hospital, PLLC) – Ms. Delia Hohenthanner – Letter of Reprimand for Dr. Sequeira with a Civil Monetary fine of \$1,500. Dismissed- no Probable Cause for Dr. Ruoff
- c. 2022019-9 – Peter Thomas Gilyard, DVM – (Clemmons Veterinary Clinic) - Ms. Eric Meadley – Letter of Reprimand
- d. 2022024-9 – Michelle Diana Barringer, DVM – (Carolina Veterinary Specialists Referral Animal Hospital) – Ms. Jennifer Dunn – Letter of Caution
- e. 2022028-9 – Danielle Nichole Barnes, DVM – (Happy Tails Veterinary Emergency Clinic) – Ms. Meredith Gaither – Dismissed, no probable cause
- f. 2022032-9 – Jason Arthur Streck, DVM – (After Hours Veterinary Emergency Clinic) – Ms. Hailey Massey – Dismissed, no probable cause
- g. 2022035-9 – Jennifer Ellen Fordham, DVM and Edward Maris Lineberger, DVM – (Lineberger Veterinary Hospital) – Mr. Scottie Floyd, Jr.– Dismissed, no probable cause for both doctor’s
- h. 2022036-9 – Roxanne Kathleen Taylor, DVM – (Emergency Pet Hospital of Craven- Carteret) – Ms. Heather Hughes – Letter of Caution

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- i. 2022038-9 – Raymond M. Morrison, DVM and Jennifer Hope Geisler, DVM – (Ard- Vista Animal Hospital) – Ms. Karina Kapitanovsky- Dismissed, no probable cause for both doctor’s
- j. 2022029-9 – Amelia Gayle Hubbard, DVM- (Stokesdale Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Kimberly Nelson- Letter of Caution
- k. 2022033-9- Bobbi Jo Kotrba, DVM- (Craven Animal Hospital) – Ms. Ann Lewis- Letter of Caution
- l. 2022045-9- Shelly Embler Figgatt, DVM- (Skeet Club Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Olga Reyes- Dismissed, no probable cause

Dr. Bull 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.

Other Business:

There was a proposal to create a strategic plan for the board. There was also a suggestion to review other veterinary board’s strategic plans. Dr. Holland stated she would name a committee in the meantime.

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Approval of Expenses:

Dr. Bull made a motion to approve the boards expenses, and it was seconded by Ms. Lazaro. The expenses were approved unanimously.

The Board having no further business, a motion to adjourn made by Dr. Bull, seconded by Dr. Martin, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM
Executive Director