

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 9, 2023**

At 8:02 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; Ronald Komich, DVM; Susan Bull, DVM; Mr. Tim Gold; and Robin Lazaro, RVT. Allen Cannedy, DVM, was not in attendance. Also present in person were Tod J. Schadler, DVM, Executive Director; Keith West, Deputy Director; Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore; and Joseph Jordan, PhD, CEO, NC Physician's Health Program (NCPHP).

The following guests were in attendance via Zoom: John McHugh, Director of State Legislature, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA); Jon Carr, Attorney, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Karyn Smith, DVM, Secretary/Treasurer, (NCVMA); Marguerite Gleason, DVM, President-Elect, (NCVMA); Jennifer Shults, DVM, Legislative Chair, (NCVMA); Maureen Susi, RVT, President, (NCAVT); Shannon Bass, DVM, Vice President, (NCVMA); Claire Holley, Executive Director (NCVMA); Paige Harrington, DVM, Secretary-Treasurer, (NCVMA); Holly Swagner, RVT; Beth Venit VMD, MPH, DACVPM,

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 9, 2023**

(AAVSB); Dante Martin, DVM, Immediate Past President (NCVMA); Erin Clark, RVT; and Nicole Alleva, DVM.

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 September 14, 2023, Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Ronald Komich, DVM made a motion to accept the minutes after corrections were made and Michael Martin, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

None

North Carolina Professional Health Program (NCPHP) Report:

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

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 9, 2023**

RVT Committee Report:

Robin Lazaro, RVT discussed how to educate the profession on title protection. She then proposed the following amendment to NCGS 90-181 (10) to allow Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS) to have reciprocity and become registered as a Veterinary Technician (RVT) in North Carolina. The language was approved by the Legislative Committee prior to the Board meeting.

90-181. Definitions.

(10) Veterinary technician. - ~~Either~~ One of the following ~~persons~~ individuals:

c. An individual who is a registered, certified, or licensed veterinary technician in good standing in another state and is a credentialed Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS) who achieved certification from the National Association of Veterinary Technicians (NAVTA) or the Canadian Veterinary Technician Society (CVTS) approved specialty academy, and who is registered with the Board as a veterinary technician.

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 9, 2023**

A motion to accept the approved language was made by Ronald Komich, DVM and seconded Edward Faulker, DVM. The motion passed unanimously.

State Veterinarian's Report:

Michael Martin, DVM gave an update on the status of Avian Influenza. Dr. Martin gave an update on the African Swine Fever and Chronic Wasting Disease. Dr. Martin stated there were currently 11 cases in North Carolina. He also gave an update on Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease.

Legislative Update:

Deputy Director West reported the North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA) has concluded the long session and the next session is scheduled for April 2024. He stated that currently we have the following amendments scheduled for submission at that time:

- Addition of PAVE language for RVTs. (Approved 5/11/2023 by the Board)
- Change the language to allow expired status instead of revoked for licensees and registrants who choose not to renew. (Approved 9/14/2023 by the Board)

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 9, 2023**

Deputy Director West also reported Boarding Kennel rules are currently being reviewed and edited by the Legislative Committee and the Committee anticipates presenting them at the January 2024 Board meeting.

Facility Inspection Report:

Deputy Director Keith West reported that there have been 136 inspections since the last meeting. Marjorie McFetridge, DVM, performed 42 inspections, Kelly Jeffer, DVM, performed 42 inspections, Nicolette Peer, DVM, performed 22 inspections, and Andrew Horne, DVM, performed 30 inspections. There were no serious violations issued.

Dr. Frederick Schmid has been hired as the new inspector for the Eastern Piedmont area. Dr. Kelly Jeffer will be leaving to explore other employment opportunities. Her last day will be November 30, 2023, and he is currently working to fill the position.

Attorney's Report:

Mr. Skidmore reported that 10 disposition letters were completed and there are currently 11 more to go out. Mr. Skidmore stated digital copies of the recent Board training were available. He also reported he is currently

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 9, 2023**

working with the Legislative Committee on boarding kennels and facility permits.

Student Liaison Report:

Loren Johnson, NCVMB Student Liaison nor Shafarah Dixon, Alternate NCVMB Student Liaison were present during the board meeting due to scheduled exams. Ms. Johnson's report was distributed to board members.

Executive Director's Report:

Tod J. Schadler, DVM, Executive Director presented the status report of the number of active Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians and reviewed the NCVMB's finances and accounts.

Old Business:

The Board discussed RVT licensing (Reciprocity) and added Michael Martin, DVM to the RVT Committee.

At 9:25a.m., the board took a break and reconvened at 9:45 a.m.

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 9, 2023**

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

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 11

- a. 2023045-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2023050-11 – Letter of Caution and Letter of Dismissal
- c. 2023052-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- d. 2023067-11 – Letter of Reprimand

Edward Faulkner, DVM made a motion, seconded by Ronald Komich, DVM, 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. 2023046-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2023048-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2023057-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- d. 2023053-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- e. 2023058-10 – Letter of Caution

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 9, 2023**

- f. 2023060-10 – Letter of Caution
- g. 2023066-10 – 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.

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 9:48 a.m., pursuant to G.S. § 143.318.11 (a)(5), to discuss personnel issues matters, a motion was made to go into closed session by Michael Martin, DVM and seconded by Mr. Tim Gold. The motion was approved unanimously.

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 9, 2023**

At 10:05 a.m., a motion was made by Susan Bull, DVM to come out of closed session and seconded by Michael Martin, DVM. The motion was approved unanimously.

At 10:06 a.m., a motion was made by Susan Bull, DVM and seconded by Michael Martin, DVM to accept the recommendations of the Personnel Committee and have Tod J. Schadler, DVM, Executive Director, carry out the recommendations. The motion was approved unanimously.

Other Business: None

Approval of Expenses:

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

The Board having no further business, a motion to adjourn made by Michael Martin, DVM, seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 9, 2023**

Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM
Executive Director