

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 11, 2016**

At 8:00 a.m., President Kim D. Gemeinhardt, DVM called to order the regular meeting of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board. In attendance were the following Board members: Drs. William K. Dean, Dwight E. Cochran, Susan K. Bull, Jane A. Barber; and Mrs. Katie O. Morgan. Also present were Board Attorneys, Mr. George Hearn and Mr. Lee Craven. Executive Director, Mr. Thomas Mickey, and Deputy Director, Mr. Jonathan Loftis, were present as well.

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

On motion by Dr. Bull, seconded by Dr. Dean, the minutes for the December 3, 2015 Board meeting and the January 12, 2016 Emergency Meeting were approved.

At 8:05 a.m., Joseph P. Jordan, PhD., Executive Director of the N.C. Veterinary Health Program (NCPHP), joined the meeting. Dr. Jordan

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presented an update of the status of the N.C. Veterinary Health Program (NCVHP) since the last Board meeting. Dr. Jordan presented a spreadsheet with approximate costs for patient monitoring and treatment programs.

A contract between the Board and the North Carolina Physicians Health Program (NCPHP), to provide for the administration of an impaired veterinary personnel program for the period from February 1, 2016 through January 31, 2017, was presented by Mr. Hearn to the Board for approval. Upon a motion made by Dr. Cochran and seconded by Dr. Barber, the contract was approved. Dr. Jordan left the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

The Board Investigator reported on his activities since the last meeting. He gave a brief report of the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) meeting he attended in January, 2016.

Dr. Gemeinhardt reported to the Board that Frederick Schmid, DVM has been hired as the new practice facility inspector for the western part of North Carolina.

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At 9:34 a.m. the Board recessed for a ten minute break and returned at 9:44 a.m.

Following discussion the Board rescheduled the March 24, 2016, Board meeting to April 7, 2016.

The Executive Director reported on operational and administrative activities of the Board since the December 3, 2015 Board meeting. He distributed a financial report which the Board reviewed and discussed.

Dr. Cochran reported on his presentation to the USDA Accreditation class, which was well received.

At 11:45 a.m. Jonathan Loftis, Deputy Director, gave a report on two online continuing education courses offered by Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. The first course is an 18 hour program entitled, "Veterinary Law & Ethics". The second course is a 6 hour program on "Veterinary Medical Records". The instructor for both programs is James F. Wilson, DVM, JD. Mr. Loftis reported that both are excellent

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programs. Mr. Lofts also gave a brief report on the Federations of Associations of Regulatory Boards Conference he attended in January, 2016 in Clearwater, Florida.

At 12:15 p.m. the Board recessed for lunch and reconvened at 12:43 p.m. for a working lunch.

The Board reviewed the request from Christine A. Uhlinger, VMD for an extension of time to complete her continuing education requirements for the 2016 renewal period. Dr. Bull made a motion to grant her an extension until June 30, 2016. The motion was seconded by Dr. Cochran and unanimously approved.

Dr. Meckes joined the Board meeting at 12:50 p.m.

Dr. Bull recused herself from the discussion concerning Mark E. Forde, DVM and left the room. The Board then reviewed the request from Dr. Forde for an extension of time to complete his continuing education requirements for the 2016 renewal period. Dr. Dean made a motion to grant

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him an extension until April 1, 2016. Dr. Cochran seconded the motion and was approved. Dr. Bull returned to the meeting following the vote on this request.

At 12:55 p.m., pursuant to G.S. § 90-143-318.11(a)(3), Dr. Barber made a motion, seconded by Dr. Dean, and unanimously passed, to enter into closed session for discussion of a Simplified Employer Pension Individual Retirement Account Contribution.

At 1:38 p.m. the Board reconvened in open session.

Barry L. Reed, DVM requested approval from the Board to sit for the North Carolina Veterinary State Examination and to be licensed should he pass the examination. Dr. Bull made a motion to accept Dr. Reed's application. The motion was seconded by Dr. Cochran, and passed unanimously.

Data risk liability insurance coverage was discussed by the Board and upon Mr. Mickey's recommendation, Dr. Bull made a motion to purchase a

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policy with a \$1,000,000.00 per annual term limit with a retention limit of \$2,500 per claim. Dr. Cochran seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

At 1:52 p.m. Dr. Meckes left the Board Meeting.

A proposed revision to 21 NCAC 66.0106, entitled, “Current Information required by the Board,” was presented to the Board. Dr. Cochran made a motion to accept the proposed revision. Dr. Barber seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed veterinary technology programs at schools in North Carolina delivering veterinary services to the public. Dr. Cochran made a motion that those schools will have to be registered as a facility and inspected as such. Dr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board discussed who would represent the Board at the September 22-24, 2016 meeting of the American Association of Veterinary State

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Boards (AAVSB), and the Federations of Associations of Regulatory Board's (FARB) Conference, on September 29-October 2, 2016. Dr. Cochran made a motion to authorize Dr. Gemeinhardt (AAVSB Board member), Dr. Bull (delegate), Dr. Barber and Mr. Mickey as the attendees to the AAVSB meeting; and Mr. Loftis and Dr. Dean as the attendees of the 2016 FARB meeting. Mrs. Morgan seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Mickey and Mr. Loftis reported on their attendance at Legislative meetings concerning the State's occupational licensing boards.

At 2:28 p.m. the Board recessed for a break and reconvened at 2:40 p.m.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 1

2015027-1 **Jeff D. Wilkins, DVM** (Elon Animal Hospital) – Mr. & Mrs. David Witzel – Letter of reprimand, \$500.00 civil monetary penalty, and 10 hours additional continuing education

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Following discussion, upon motion by Dr. Cochran, seconded by Mrs. Morgan, which unanimously passed, the Board found the following factors, set forth in G.S. § 90-187.8(b)(1) [degree and extent of harm to the public health]; and (b)(2) [the gravity of the violations], to support the \$500.00 civil monetary penalty against Jeff D. Wilkins, DVM, in complaint 2015027-1.

2015023-1 **Jordan Quinn Jaeger, DVM** (Carolina Veterinary Spec.-South Charlotte) – Dr. James Armstrong – Letter of caution

Dr. Gemeinhardt recused herself from the discussion concerning James G. Schmunk, DVM and left the room.

2015033-1 **James G. Schmunk, DVM; Linda Miller Overcash, DVM; Joni Brooke Vestal Allgood, DVM** (North Davidson Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Belinda S. Wagner – Letter of reprimand and \$2,500.00 civil monetary penalty for Dr. Schmunk; No probable cause for both Dr. Overcash and Dr. Allgood



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Following discussion, upon motion by Dr. Cochran, seconded by Mrs. Morgan, which unanimously passed, the Board found the following factors, set forth in G.S. § 90-187.8(b)(1) [degree and extent of harm to the public health]; and (b)(2) [the gravity of the violations], to support the \$2,500.00 civil monetary penalty against James G. Schmunk, DVM, in complaint 2015033-1.

Dr. Gemeinhardt returned to the meeting.

2015044-1 **Charles Thomas Steinman, DVM** (Salisbury Animal Hospital) – Mr. Frank White - Continued

2015037-1 **Adam Joseph Birkenheuer, DVM; Michael Warren Nolan, DVM; Krista L. Kelsey, DVM** (NCSU-CVM) – Mr. Edward R. Morrell – No probable cause

2015039-1 **Melissa Bame Massey, DVM** (Alamance Countryside Mobile Veterinary Service) – Ms. Tina L. Brantley - Continued

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- 2015038-1 **Audra A. Cinalli-Munoz, DVM; Diego Ignacio Munoz, DVM** (High Point Veterinary Hospital) – Mr. & Mrs. Danny Turner – No probable cause
- 2015035-1 **Sonja Michelle Steelman Szymeczek, DVM** (Points East Veterinary Specialty Hospital) – Mr. & Mrs. Roy & Kathy Oldham – No probable cause
- 2015043-1 **Tanya S. Burtis, DVM** (Waxhaw Animal Hospital) – Ms. Kathleen Patterson – No probable cause
- 2015032-1 **Holly Brooke Hinson, DVM** and **Lissette Marie Leon, DVM** (Banfield Pet Hospital) – Ms. Sandra Mariotte – reconsidered – The Letter of reprimand for Dr. Hinson as reported at the December 3, 2015 left unchanged; and upon reconsideration a finding of no probable cause for Dr. Leon

Dr. Cochran made a motion to accept the report of the Committee on Investigations No. 1 with Dr. Cochran recusing himself from voting on Complaint 2015035-1 and Dr. Gemeinhardt recusing herself from Complaint

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2015033-1. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morgan. The motion passed unanimously.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 2

2014054-2 **Poppy Masterson, DVM** (Affordable Animal Care Spay  
Neuter Clinic) – Mr. & Mrs. Randy Nevils – Continued

Dr. Bull made a motion to accept the report of Committee on  
Investigations No. 2. Dr. Cochran seconded the motion. The motion  
passed unanimously.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 5

2015034-5 **Robert C. Rigsby, Jr., DVM** (Hampstead Animal  
Hospital) – Ms. Gerri DelTondo – No probable cause

2015028-5 **Felicita Brigitte Noeller, DVM** (Lakeview Veterinary  
Hospital) – Mr. & Mrs. Jason Cagle – Letter of caution

2015036-5 **Steven A. Walker, DVM** (Countryside Animal Hospital)  
– Ms. Lauri Norris – No probable cause

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2015041-5 **Larry S. Paul, Jr., DVM** (Havelock Animal Hospital)  
and **George Ericson Wheelis, DVM** (Animal Hospital  
of New Bern) – Ms. Laura Collins – No probable cause  
for both

2015042-5 **Elizabeth Ann Rinker, DVM** (Belmont Animal  
Hospital) – NCVMB - Continued

2015045-5 **Dennis Kay Johnson, DVM** (All Pets Hospital for  
Animals) – Ms. Donna Carter – Letter of caution

Dr. Bull made a motion to accept the report of Committee on  
Investigations No. 5. Mrs. Morgan seconded the motion. The motion was  
approved, with Dr. Dean recusing himself from the vote on complaint  
2015045-5.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 3

2015008-3 **Laura de Marchena Greene, DVM** (NCSU-CVM) –  
Ms. Lorri Warner – reconsidered – No probable cause

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Dr. Bull made a motion to accept the report of Committee on Investigations No. 3. Dr. Barber seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Dr. Cochran made a motion to approve the expenses for the Board Meeting, which was seconded by Mrs. Morgan. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board having no further business, upon motion of Dr. Barber, seconded by Dr. Cochran, the meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas M. Mickey  
Executive Director