

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 29, 2024**

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. Board members present in person were Azure Holland, DVM; Michael Martin, DVM; Edward Faulkner, DVM; Susan Bull, DVM; Mr. Tim Gold; Robin Lazaro, RVT; Allen Cannedy, DVM and Ronald Komich, DVM. Also present in person were Tod J. Schadler, DVM, Executive Director; Keith West, Deputy Director; Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore; and Emily King, MHS, PA-C, Assistant Medical Director, NC Physician's Health Program (NCPHP).

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); Claire Holley, Executive Director, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Marguerite Gleason, DVM, President-Elect, (NCVMA); Jennifer Shults, DVM, Legislative Chair, (NCVMA); Shannon Bass, DVM, Vice President, (NCVMA); Shannon Nowak, BS, LVT, RVT, Secretary/Treasurer, North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (NCAVT); Jon Carr, Attorney, (NCVMA); Maureen Susi, RVT, President, (NCAVT); Jacklyn Phillips, RVT, Owner, Clinical Consultant; Holly Swagner, RVT, (NCAVT); Beth Venit VMD, MPH,

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 29, 2024**

DACVPM, American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB); Erin Clark, RVT, (NCAVT); Loren Johnson, Student Liaison (NCVMB); Stephen Pytlik, Attorney, McAngus Goudelock & Courie; Susan Bray, RVT, (NCAVT); Stefanie LaJuett, RVT, (NCAVT)

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 January 11, 2023 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Ronald Komich, DVM made a motion to accept the minutes after corrections have been made and Michael Martin, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

Susan Bull, DVM discussed her site visit to the Cape Fear Community College and the Veterinary Technician Programs in the North Carolina Community College system.

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 29, 2024**

**President's Report:**

Azure Holland, DVM appointed the Nomination Committee members as Tim Gold and Michael Martin, DVM.

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

Emily King, MHS, PA-C, Assistant Medical Director, presented her 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 Chronic Wasting Disease and the Avian Influenza.

**Legislative Update:**

Deputy Director Keith West stated the public comment period for periodic review of existing rules has ended. He stated the only comment received was not on whether a rule was necessary or unnecessary, but rather a request to add the term "veterinary nurse" to rules. He stated the attorney was advised that the request will be taken under consideration when the Board

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 29, 2024**

begins revising the language in rules. Mr. West stated the public comment will be reported to Rules Review Commission (RRC) as required. He stated RRC will be taking our report under consideration in their December 2024 meeting.

Mr. West stated, as required by Session Law 2023-63, Section 4.(f), the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board shall adopt rules to establish minimum standards for boarding kennels operating under a veterinary facility permit no later than July 1, 2024. The standards shall be at least as stringent as those adopted by the Board of Agriculture pursuant to Article 3 of Chapter 19A of the General Statutes. Mr. West provided a copy of the proposed rules approved by the legislative committee. He stated the Animal Welfare Section of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture can conduct the inspections unannounced. The North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board is required to announce these inspections pursuant to NCGS 90-187.17 – Inspection Process passed by the North Carolina General Assembly as part of the same session law referenced above. Mr. West requested the Board to review and approve the proposed rules. After Board review and discussion, the Board determined that the reference to Animal Welfare Section on page 1 line 26 needed to be changed to the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board.

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 29, 2024**

Susan Bull, DVM made a motion, seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT, to modify the proposed rule to read, “In the event of either an animal death or escape, while boarding not incidental to the practice of veterinary medicine, the licensee shall notify the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board within 48 hours.” The motion was approved unanimously.

At 9:17a.m., the board took a break and reconvened at 9:35 a.m.

Susan Bull, DVM made a motion, seconded by Edward Faulker, DVM, to approve and submit the modified rules to the Rules Review Commission. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Facility Inspection Report:**

Deputy Director Keith West reported that there have been 124 inspections since the last meeting. Marjorie McFetridge, DVM, performed 17 inspections, Rhonda Greene, DVM, performed 29 inspections, Nicolette Peer, DVM, performed 26 inspections, Andrew Horne, DVM, performed 33 inspections and Frederick Schmid, DVM, performed 19 inspections. There were no serious violations issued. Mr. West advised the Inspector position has been posted to replace Dr. Greene.

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 29, 2024**

**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 February 7, 2024 and the Community Town Hall meeting held on February 28, 2024

**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.

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

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

- a. 2023076-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2023087-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2023093-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- d. 2023082-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 29, 2024**

- e. 2023088-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- f. 2023092-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- g. 2023094-11 – Letter of Caution

Edward Faulker, 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. 2023078-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2023074-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2023080-10 – Letter of Caution
- d. 2023085-10 – Letter of Caution/Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- e. 2023090-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- f. 2023095-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- g. 2024005-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- h. 2024004-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 29, 2024**

Allen Cannedy, 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 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.

**Attorney's Report:**

Mr. Skidmore reported that 15 disposition letters were completed and there are currently 16 in process. Mr. Skidmore advised the Board that ethics training, required by the State Ethics Commission, would need to be completed and he advised members to update their Statements of Economic Interest ("SEI") by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:**

None



**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 29, 2024**

**Other Business:**

President Azure Holland, DVM suggested the Board choose a previous case from each Investigative Committee, that has been concluded, to discuss in open session during the next Board Meeting.

At 10:08 a.m., pursuant to G.S. § 143.318.11 (a)(3), to discuss legal matters, a motion was made to go into closed session by Ronald Komich, DVM and seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT. The motion was approved unanimously. During the closed session, the Board provided the Board attorney with unanimous instructions regarding undertaking judicial action.

At 12:12 p.m., Allen Cannedy, DVM made a motion to leave closed session and Edward Faulkner, DVM seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

**Approval of Expenses:**

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

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, February 29, 2024**

The Board having no further business, a motion to adjourn made by Michael Martin, DVM, seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM  
Executive Director