

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, July 11, 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; Susan Bull, DVM; Robin Lazaro, RVT; Ronald Komich, DVM; Michael Martin, DVM; Mr. Tim Gold; and Edward Faulkner, DVM. Allen Cannedy, DVM was not present. Also present in person were Keith West, Executive Director; Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore; Joseph P. Jordan, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, North Carolina Physician's Health Program (NCPHP); and Patricia Norris, DVM.

The following guests were also in attendance via Zoom:-Jennifer Shults, DVM, Legislative Chair, (NCVMA); Jon Carr, Attorney and Lobbyist (NCVMA); Paige Harrington, Secretary/ Treasurer (NCVMA); Maureen Susi, RVT, Treasurer, (NCAVT); John McHugh, Director of State Legislature, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA); Kim Lewis, RVT (NCAVT); Shannon Bass, DVM, President Elect, (NCVMA); Beth Venit VMD, MPH, DACVPM,

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(AAVSB); Nathan Moyer, RVT (NCAVT); Marguerite Gleason, DVM, Marg, Jen, and Pratheek Reddy.

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 May 9, 2024, Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Michael Martin, DVM made a motion to accept the minutes and Ronald Komich, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

The Investigative Committee member assignment will remain as is. All board members will attend the AAVSB Conference. Edward Faulkner, DVM has been assigned as the delegate, with Michael Martin, DVM assigned as the alternate delegate.

The board discussed complaint guidelines and asked the legislative committee to review the three-year policy and repetitive filings policy for complaint submissions to determine whether additional legislation and/or rulemaking would be required to further clarify the issue.

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President's Report:

Azure Holland, DVM announced that the AAVSB conference registration is open. Those attending should register as soon as possible.

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 not many changes in the status of disease cases. Dr. Martin also updated the Board on dairy/ cattle farms being affected, and that they are learning more on a national level.

Legislative Update:

Executive Director Keith West announced that there will be a special board meeting held on August 19, 2024, to approve rules to be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearing, Rules Review Commission (RRC). Mr. West provided an update for the proposed rules for Boarding Kennels; edits were a result of public comment. If the board approves, Mr. West will move forward and submit the rules to RRC. Susan Bull, DVM made a

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motion to approve the rules and Michael Martin, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. West stated that Facility Permit information would be sent out soon. Mr. 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. The General Assembly adjourned without approving the changes. Mr. West will reintroduce the language when the General Assembly convenes in 2025.

Facility Inspection Report:

Executive Director Keith West reported 127 inspections have been conducted since the last board meeting. Robert Bakal, DVM, performed 38 inspections, Andrew Horne, DVM, performed 44 inspections, Nicolette Peer, DVM, performed 29 inspections, and Marjorie McFetridge, DVM, performed 16 inspections.

Mr. West announced the board is currently conducting interviews as Dr. Schmid has resigned and hopes to fill the position within the next couple of weeks.

Attorney’s Report:

Mr. Skidmore reported that 9 disposition letters were completed and

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there are currently 10 in process. Mr. Skidmore reported all Board members have completed the ethics training, required by the State Ethics Commission.

Student Liaison Report:

Loren Johnson, NCVMB Student Liaison, was not present. Robin Lazaro, RVT stated resumes for the upcoming school year's student liaison are under review.

Executive Director's Report:

Executive Director, Keith West presented the status report of the number of active Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians as the number of licensed and number of applications continue to increase, and reviewed the NCVMB's finances and accounts. There are no civil monetary discipline payments so far this year.

Mr. West announced the new Board office employee, Jerri Duck.

At 8:48 a.m., pursuant to G.S. § 143.318.11 (a)(3) and (6), for applicant credential review, and to consult with the Board's attorney regarding potential judicial action, a motion was made to go into closed session by Ronald Komich, DVM and seconded by Susan Bull, DVM. The motion was approved unanimously.

At 10:58 a.m., Susan Bull, DVM made a motion to leave closed session and Edward Faulkner, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed

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unanimously.

The ICVA appeal process was discussed. Executive Director Keith West will provide the standard response.

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

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 11

- a. 2024017-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2024020-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2024024-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- d. 2024029-11 – Letter of Caution
- e. 2024034-11 – Letter of Caution
- f. 2024043-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- g. 2024028-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- h. 2024033-11 – Continued
- i. 2024035-11 – 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

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on Investigation No. 10.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 10

- a. 2024013-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2024025-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2024016-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- d. 2024032-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- e. 2024019-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- f. 2024023-10 - Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- g. 2024030-10 – Continued
- h. 2024045-10 - Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- i. 2024048-10 - Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- j. 2024040-10 - Dismissed, No Probable Cause

Edward Faulkner, DVM, made a motion, seconded by Susan Bull, 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

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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.

Old Business:

None

Other Business:

None

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.

Final Review and Summary of Action Items:

Executive Director, Keith West, will submit the board kennel rules for approval and schedule the special board meeting for August 19, 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 12:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Keith West
Executive Director

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