At 8:07 a.m., President William K. Dean, DVM called to order the regular meeting of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board. Present were the following Board members: Drs. Kent Dean, Susan Bull, Doug Meckes, Kim Gemeinhardt, Ronald Komich, and Azure Holland; and Robin Lazaro, RVT, and Mrs. Krissie Newman. Also present were Board Attorney, George Hearn, and Executive Director, Dr. Tod J. Schadler, and Elisa Meier, NCSU-CVM student liaison.

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

The following guests were introduced: Steven Marks, BVSc, Associate Dean, North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Brenda Stevens, DVM, President of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA), Jennifer Shults, DVM, President-Elect, NCVMA, Jon Carr, Attorney for NCVMA, Natalie Young, PharmD and Director of Realo Veterinary Pharmacy, Tanner Trantham, and Dante Martin, DVM, Vice President, NCVMA.
The March 14, 2019 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Dr. Gemeinhardt, seconded by Mrs. Newman, moved to approve the March 14, 2019 Board minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business:

On May 10, 2019, Dr. Schadler, Dr. Bull, Dr. Meckes, and Mr. Hearn met with Mr. Thomas Sullivan, Executive Director of N.C. Board Chiropractic Examiners and a member of that Board and its attorney. Included among the issues discussed was actual or potential practice of veterinary medicine by licensed chiropractors. Dr. Schadler was invited to the Chiropractic Board retreat in July. The NCVMB members reaffirmed the Board’s position that the Veterinary Practice Act does not permit individuals who are not licensed veterinarians to practice veterinary medicine.

Reports:

State Veterinarian:

Dr. Meckes presented a report which included an update on the African Swine Fever in Asia. He noted that the N.C. Department of Agriculture &
Consumer Services is researching ways to de-contaminate farms if hogs contract the African Swine Fever.

**Telehealth/Telemedicine Committee:**

Dr. Komich and Dr. Holland are continuing to work on potential language for a telehealth statute to give authority to the Board to regulate telehealth and telemedicine.

Jon Carr and NCVMA representatives presented the revised NCVMA proposal concerning veterinary telehealth. The Board discussed the proposal.

At 9:45 a.m., the Board took a break and reconvened at 10:12 a.m.

The Board Executive Committee reported that it had met during the break and agreed to a recommendation to the Board concerning the telehealth/telemedicine issue. The recommendation is that the Board request Senator Bill Rabon, the sponsor of S.B. 604, to add an amendment to the Bill that would give the Board statutory authority to adopt administrative rules for regulating telehealth/telemedicine; and that the Board and the NCVMA would work together to present an agreed-upon proposal to Senator Rabon.

Dr. Komich made a motion to accept the Board’s recommendation, seconded by Dr. Holland. The motion passed unanimously.
Chief Inspector’s Report:

Dr. David Marshall, Chief Inspector, reported that the Board’s facility inspectors were caught up with all inspections through the end of the first quarter. The inspectors are getting a lot of questions about the reporting system for controlled drugs that is effective June 3, 2019.

NCVHP Report:

Dr. Joseph Jordan, CEO of NCPHP, gave an updated report on participants in its program. NCPHP will change its name to North Carolina Professional Health Program soon to reflect all the professions they serve. Dr. Jordan has been busy presenting continuing education programs on the Abuse of Controlled Substances throughout North Carolina.

Shelter Oversight:

Dr. Meckes and Dr. Patricia Norris, on behalf of the N.C. Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and the department’s attorneys, and Dr. Schadler and Mr. Hearn are working on proposed amendments to the Department’s rules to regulate surgery in shelters licensed by the Department and allow NCVMB inspectors to inspect the surgery sites in the shelters. The proposed rules will incorporate NCVMB’s minimum standards for surgery,
drug requirements, after hours care, and will require that a licensed North Carolina veterinarian perform the surgery.

**Student Liaison Report:**

Elisa Meier, Student Liaison from North Carolina State University – College of Veterinary Medicine (NCSU-CVM) gave a report. She is continuing to discuss with students pertinent topics the Board has discussed.

**Executive Director’s Report:**

Dr. Schadler gave an update on licensing activities and the financial report.

Dr. Schadler reported that the certified public accounting firm of Koonce, Wooten & Haywood will be the new auditor for the Board.

The new staff retirement plan is now in effect.

NCSU-CVM and NCVMB are still discussing issues concerning students obtaining surgical experience at veterinary facilities outside of the university, and which experience will apply toward graduation requirements.

Dr. Schadler reminded the Board that if anyone wants to be considered for an AAVSB position, the NCVMB will need to nominate them. Dr. Gemeinhardt would like to be nominated for Treasurer. There are still openings for and AAVSB Board Director and for a position on the Nominating Committee. Nominations need to be submitted by the May 2019.
Dr. Schadler also reported that served complaints of alleged unlicensed practice have been resolved through letters explaining the Practice Act and the consequences of unlicensed practice.

New Business:

NCVMB Nominating Committee Report:

The Nominating Committee recommended for the Executive Committee: Dr. Bull as President; Robin Lazaro, RVT as Vice President; and Dr. Meckes as Secretary/Treasurer.

Dr. Komich moved to accept the Nominating Committee’s recommendation, seconded by Dr. Gemeinhartdt. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Schadler stated he appreciated Dr. Dean and the entire Board for the hard work they have done this past year.

At 12:30 a.m., the Board took a brief break and continued the meeting during a working lunch. Dr. Meckes left the meeting at 1:00 p.m.
Report of Committee on Investigations No. 1

a. 2018046-1 – Candyce Marcel Thompson, DVM (CVS-Greensboro) – Ms. Courtney I. Raughley – Continued

b. 2019004-1 – Cora Beth Bridges Lanier, DVM (Middle Creek Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Kathleen Jordan – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

c. 2019006-1 – Brett Matthew Gulledge, DVM (Eastern Carolina Veterinary Referral) and Alicia Sue-Ann Burkett, DVM (Animal Emergency & Trauma Hospital of Wilmington) – Ms. Tiffany Yang and Dr. Debbie Yang – Letter of Caution to Dr. Gulledge; Dismissed, No Probable Cause to Dr. Burkett

d. 2019008-1 – Brian Theodor Barnett, DVM (Randolph animal Hospital) – Christopher & Jennifer Priddy – Continued

e. 2019010-1 – Susan Dawn Thompson, DVM (Roxboro Animal Hospital) – Mr. James Edward Davis – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

Mrs. Lazaro made a motion, seconded by Dr. Holland, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 1. The report from Committee 1 was approved unanimously.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 7

a. 2018047-7 - Matthew Eric Braun, DVM; Stephanie Loughlin Bedwell, DVM; Steven Michael Cogar, DVM (Carolina Veterinary Specialists
Referral Animal Hospital Winston-Salem) – Ms. Louise A. Pecevich – Continued

b. 2018049-7 – Laurel Marie Davis, DVM (Sunvet Animal Wellness Clinic)
   – Mr. Bill Manofsky – Letter of Reprimand

c. 2019005-7 – Timothy Charles McMullan, DVM (Pinnacle Animal Hospital) – Ms. Janie Morrow – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

d. 2019001-7 – Susan Aubrey Brown, DVM (Hi-B Equine Mobile Veterinary Practice) – Ms. Mona Marshall – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

e. 2019017-7 – Jerry L. Eskridge, DVM (Kings Mountain Animal Hospital)
   – NCVMB – Continued

f. 2019013-7 – Marilyn Joy Duda, DVM and Gregory Jay Lowe, DVM (Rowan Animal Clinic) – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

Mrs. Newman made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gemeinhardt, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 7. The report from Committee 7 was approved unanimously.

Dr. Komich, seconded by Dr. Holland, made a motion to approve the meeting’s expenses. It was approved unanimously.
The Board having no further business, a motion to adjourn made by Mrs. Newman, seconded by Dr. Gemeinhardt, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM
Executive Director