President David E. Brooks called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 8:45 A.M. Others in attendance were Board members Dr. George Edwards, Joseph Gordon, Herbert Justus, Kenneth Padgett, Amy Lewis and Mrs. Nellie Jones. The Board Attorney, Mr. George Hearn, and Executive Director, Mr. Thomas Mickey were also present. Also in attendance was Ms. Karen Keltz.

The Executive Director read the minutes of the April 10, 1998, meeting. On a motion made by Dr. Padgett, seconded by Dr. Lewis the minutes were approved as corrected.

Mr. Hearn reviewed with the Board his June 25, 1998, presentation concerning allied health providers to the Board of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association. Thomas Mickey also attended that meeting. It appeared to be the consensus of the Association Board that there was no present need for any amendment to the Veterinary Practice Act to allow the assistance of non-veterinary allied health providers. The Board took no action.
Mr. Hearn presented his research to the Board concerning Ms. Karen Keltz’s request for a hearing on her 1997 complaint (complaint number 97025-1-1) against Dr. Richard Gregory Burkett, this being set forth in her letter of April 9, 1998, and received by the Board April 13, 1998. Discussion followed. Ms. Keltz was present for this discussion and was permitted to comment and ask questions. Dr. Padgett made a motion to adopt Mr. Hearn’s recommendation to deny the request. Mrs. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Committee on Investigations Number 1 proposed that the Board enter into a Consent Order with Dr. Richard Gregory Burkett with respect to complaint numbers 97046-2-1 and 98003-2-1. Mr. Hearn circulated and discussed the terms of the proposed Consent Order. Dr. Padgett made a motion to accept the Committee’s recommendation. As part of the motion, Dr. Padgett authorized Mr. Hearn to finalize the wording of the Consent Order and to allow Dr. Brooks or the Executive Director to sign the Consent Order on behalf of the Board. Dr. Lewis seconded the request. The motion passed unanimously.
The Board reviewed the request of Ms. Keltz to correct the minutes of the January 1998, Board Meeting. Dr. Justus made a motion to deny the request, as the minutes were correct as previously written. Mrs. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Guy Beretich, of Dunn, North Carolina, joined the meeting for the purposes of discussing with the Board the suspension of his veterinary license and the pending petition of the Board at the Office of Administrative Hearings against his veterinary license. Dr. Padgett made a motion to enter into closed session, pursuant to General Statute § 143-318.11(a)(3), to discuss with Mr. Hearn and Dr. Beretich the potential resolution of the license suspension and the pending administrative action. Dr. Justus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The regular meeting was adjourned at 10:35 A.M. and the closed session began at that time. Dr. Beretich left the closed meeting at approximately 11:00 A.M.

The regular meeting of the Board resumed at 11:00 A.M.

Dr. H. O. Line appeared before the Board to request a temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine. Following a discussion by the
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Board, Dr. Lewis made a motion to grant his request until the results of the December examinations are known. Dr. Padgett seconded the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Padgett made a motion to return to closed session to continue the discussion regarding Dr. Guy Beretich, pursuant to General Statute § 143-318.11(a)(3). Dr. Justus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The regular meeting was adjourned at 11:22 A.M. and the closed session began at that time.

The regular meeting was resumed at 1:55 P.M.

Mr. Hearn presented his draft of a policy which would treat each practice facility inspection violation in the same manner as written complaints. The Board took no action.

The Executive Director distributed a financial report to the members of the Board.
The Executive Director reported on the status of the computer upgrades in the Board office. Dr. Justus made a motion to approve the purchase of a new computer for the Board office next spring. Dr. Padgett seconded the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 1

98005-5-1 Ms. Candace Aldridge-Rice, RVT (Complaint of Ms. Emily E. Breedlove) – Disciplinary Action, Letter of Reprimand. The Executive Director is to identify who the veterinarian of record is for the Friends of Madison County Animal Shelter.

98013-1-1 Dr. Michael E. Wood (Complaint of Ms. Jeanne Irwin-Olson) – Disciplinary Action, Letter of Caution. Dr. Wood and his employee Dr. Angela Lee are to be invited to meet with the Committee at its next meeting.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 7
98007-1-7 Dr. Joel D. Fisher (Complaint of Mr. Alan C. House) – Disciplinary Action, Letter of Reprimand.

98004-1-7 Dr. Cecil F. Brown (Complaint of Mr. & Mrs. Keith Lambeth) – Dismissed, no probable cause.

98006-1-7 Dr. John H. Isaacs and Dr. Karen Nasisse (Complaint of Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Morgan) – Dismissed, no probable cause.

98012-1-7 Dr. Gail G. Bowman (Complaint of Ms. Tameka Collins) – Dismissed, no probable cause.

98014-1-7 Dr. Gordon R. McCurry (Complaint of Ms. Melisa Hardy) – Dismissed, no probable cause.
Dr. Gordon made a motion to approve the reports presented by the Committee on Investigations Number 1 and 7. Dr. Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Executive Director presented the contracts with the Professional Examination Service for the National Board Examination and Clinical Competency Test for veterinarians; and the National Board Examination for technicians. Dr. Lewis made a motion to approve the contracts and have the Executive Director sign them on behalf of the Board. Dr. Gordon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Lewis made a motion to increase the fee, by $10.00, from $90.00 to $100.00, charged by the Board for the applicant to take the National Board Examination for technicians, to reflect the increased cost incurred by the Board as a result of the new contract. Dr. Gordon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Executive Director reported on the Occupational Licensing Board Seminar planned for August 26, 1998. The Board took no further action.
The Board continued its discussion on Vetsound, Inc., owned by Ms. Renee Daniels, until its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Dr. Lewis made a motion to approve the requests of Dr. David G. Bristol, Dr. Bruce A. Singbeil, and Dr. Larry J. Ackerman for exemptions on re-taking the Clinical Competency Test based on their Diplomate status. Dr. Justus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board next received a report from the nominating committee, consisting of Dr. Edwards, Dr. Justus, and Mrs. Jones, for officers for 1998-1999. The nominations presented were:

- President         Dr. Kenneth R. Padgett
- Vice-President    Dr. Joseph K. Gordon
- Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Herbert A. Justus

Dr. Lewis moved that the nominations be closed and nominees be elected by acclamation. Mrs. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the presentations, discussions and relevant committee meetings with the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association, attended by certain members of the Board. The Board
determined that by holding its June Board meeting in Asheville, at the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, at the same time and location as the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association meeting, it provided Board Members with communication, discussion and learning opportunities that did and will enable the Board to more effectively fulfill its responsibilities. While the Board considers its office in Raleigh to be its regular and preferred meeting site, the Board determined that meetings in the same general locations where other professional veterinary groups are convening can be a communications resource for the Board. Upon motion by Dr. Justus, seconded by Dr. Lewis, the Board approved the actual expenses incurred for travel, meals, and lodging for Board Members, the Executive Director, and Board Attorney.

The next meeting of the Board will be held in its Raleigh office on August 27 and 28, 1998.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote upon a motion by Dr. Gordon and seconded by Dr. Padgett at 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas M. Mickey
Executive Director