

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 6, 2025**

At 8:03 a.m., President Azure Holland, DVM, called to order the regular meeting of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board. This meeting was held at NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine and virtually through Zoom. Board members present in person were Azure Holland, DVM; Allen Cannedy, DVM; Edward Faulkner, DVM; Tim Gold; Robin Lazaro, RVT; Andrea Gentry- Apple, DVM; Michael Martin, DVM; and Ronald Komich, DVM. Also present in person were Keith West, Executive Director; Melissa Bowman, Deputy Director, Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore; Erin Clark, RVT, Nicky McNeely, RVT, Vice President, North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (NCAVT); April Lehmann, RVT, VMT Program Director for Cape Fear Community College; Kim Lewis, RVT, President (NCAVT); Stefanie LaJuett, RVT, VTS, (NCAVT); Jeannie Losey, RVT, VTS, (NCAVT); Rachel Stern, RVT, NCSU CVM- Anesthesia; Jennifer Kendrick, Executive Director, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Anthony Blikslager, Associate Dean and Director of Veterinary Medical Services NCSU CVM; Joseph P. Jordan, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, North Carolina Physician's Health Program (NCPHP); Anna Jones, NCVMB Primary Student Liaison, Julie Nettifee, RVT, VTS; and Bec Mitchell, NCVMB Secondary Student Liaison.

The following guests were also in attendance via Zoom: Shannon Bass,

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President (NCVMA); Jennifer Shults, DVM, Legislative Chair, (NCVMA);

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Nycole Anderson; Brian Stuber, DVM, Secretary- Treasurer (NCVMA); Karyn Smith, DVM, President- Elect (NCVMA); Marguriette Gleason, DVM, Immediate Past President (NCVMA); Jon Carr, Attorney and Lobbyist (NCVMA); and Paige Jemison.

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 16, 2025, Board meeting minutes were reviewed with recommended corrections. Ronald Komich, DVM made a motion to accept the minutes and Michael Martin, DVM, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The January 21, 2025, Board meeting minutes were reviewed with no recommended corrections. Ronald Komich, DVM made a motion to accept the minutes and Michael Martin, DVM, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

None

North Carolina Professional Health Program (NCPHP) Report:

Joseph P. Jordan, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, presented his report on the status of the program attendance.

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State Veterinarian's Report:

Michael Martin, DVM reported the changes in the status of disease cases. Dr. Martin discussed best practices and recommendations for the veterinary community and explained that the level of contact with animals is a factor in decision making of using PPE such as masks, goggles and gloves.

Legislative Committee Update:

Executive Director Keith West announced that AAVSB is discontinuing the PAVE program for veterinary technicians. Mr. West recommended that we retain the current amendment to the language for the definition of veterinary technician due to the number of graduates from the PAVE program. Mr. West recommended a minor change to the proposed amendment changing the status of licenses or registrations from revoked to expired. Michael Martin, DVM, made a motion, seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM, to approve the status change. The motion passed unanimously.

Facility Inspection Report:

Executive Director Keith West provided a report that all inspections, including boarding kennel inspections, are going well with no issues. Inspectors are doing a great job with educating facilities on the new boarding kennel rules and requirements. Keith West also reported that inspectors are

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not behind and working in the current inspections quarter.

Student Liaison's Report:

Student Liaison, Anna Jones, provided an update on current classes, topics and seminars at NCSU. Ms. Jones announced that NCSU CVM will be hosting an open house on March 8, 2025, that will provide exploration to the career of veterinary medicine. She also announced that this would be her last board meeting as the board's Primary Student Liaison and that she is grateful for the experience and opportunity.

Executive Director's Report:

Executive Director, Keith West reported that the board's finances remain in good standing and presented the status report of the number of active Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians and stated that the number of applications continue to increase.

Keith West provided a VTNE retake request letter for a veterinary technician applicant. The board approved the request unanimously.

At 8:53 a.m. the Board took a break and returned at 9:11 a.m.

President's Report:

President Azure Holland, DVM and Board Attorney Matthew

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Skidmore presented two complaint case reviews.

Robin Lazaro, RVT, explained the complaint process and read the details of the first complaint. There was an open discussion with the board and the public on their opinions of if the DVM engaged in incompetency. Ms. Lazaro explained Committee 10's final ruling and reason for the ruling.

Allen Cannedy, DVM read the details of the second complaint for discussion, and the final ruling and reason for the ruling.

Old Business:

None

Allen Cannedy, DVM read into the minutes the decisions from Committee on Investigation No. 12.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 12

- a. 2024107-12 – Continued
- b. 2024114-12 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2024122-12 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- d. 2024125-12 – Letter of Caution

Michael Martin, DVM made a motion, seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 12. The report from Committee 12 was approved unanimously.

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Robin Lazaro, RVT read into the minutes the decisions from Committee on Investigation No. 10.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 10

- a. 2024112-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2024116-10 – Letter of Reprimand
- c. 2024124-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- d. 2024127-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause for Dr. Kiell, Continued for Dr. Bucy
- e. 2024128-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

Edward Faulkner, DVM, made a motion, seconded by Andrea Gentry-Apple, DVM, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 10 with an amendment. 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.

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Attorney's Report:

Mr. Skidmore announced that the board's statement of economic interest is due by April 15th, and reminded the board of their ethic's training deadline.

Mr. Skidmore reported that there were 12 complaint decision letters completed since the last meeting, and 8 will go out by the next meeting.

At 10:23 a.m., pursuant to G.S. § 143.318.11 (a)(3) and (6), a motion was made to go into closed session by Edward Faulkner, DVM and seconded by Andrea Gentry- Apple, DVM to discuss the pending cases Ava Marie Louise v. NCVMB at Mid State Equine Hospital, and NCVMB v. Valentina DeGiovanni, D.C., Christopher Winans, D.C. and Winan's Chiropractic, LLC. The motion was approved unanimously.

At 10:45 a.m., Edward Faulkner, DVM made a motion to leave closed session and Allen Cannedy, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business:

None

Approval of Expenses:

Edward Faulkner, DVM made a motion to approve the Board's

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expenses, and it was seconded by Allen Cannedy, DVM. The expenses were approved unanimously.

Final Review and Summary of Action Items:

There were no actions reported for this meeting. Mr. West will notify the VTNE applicant of the board's decision.

A motion to adjourn made by Michael Martin, DVM, seconded by Andrea Gentry- Apple, DVM, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith West
Executive Director