

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**

At 8:02am, 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; Kent Dean, DVM; Ronald Komich, DVM; Susan Bull, DVM and Allen Cannedy, DVM, Robin Lazaro, RVT and Mr. Timothy Gold. Also present in person were Tod J. Schadler, DVM, Executive Director, Keith West, Deputy Director and Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore.

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 G.S. § 90-179 of the North Carolina Veterinary Practice Act.

The following guests were in attendance via Zoom: Ed Faulkner, DVM, President, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Maureen Susi, RVT, President, North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (NCAVT); John McHugh, Director of State Legislature, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA); Jennifer Shultz, DVM, past President, North Carolina Veterinary Medical

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**

Association (NCVMA); Jon Carr, Attorney, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Heather Henderson, student at Cape Fear Community College; Karyn Smith, DVM, Secretary/Treasurer, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Marguerite Gleason, DVM, President-Elect, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Dante Martin, DVM, Immediate Past President, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Raisa Velez- Contreras, NCVMB Student Liaison; Amy Farmer, Ed.D., CAE, Senior Director of License Mobility, American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB); Carol Sparrow, Program Manager, Exams, American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB); Shannon Nowak, BS, LVT, RVT, Secretary/Treasurer, North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (NCAVT); Beth Venit, VMD, MPH, DACVPM, Chief Veterinary Officer, American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB); Nancy Gritman, Chief Risk Management Officer, American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB). Joining in person was Joseph Jordan, PhD, CEO, NC Physician's Health Program (NCPHP).

The January 12, 2023 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Changes were recommended regarding grammar. Susan Bull, DVM made a motion to

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**

accept minutes after corrections were made and Ronald Komich, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business – None

President's Report:

Azure Holland, DVM appointed the Nomination Committee members as Ronald Komich, DVM (Chair), Susan Bull, DVM and Tim Gold.

North Carolina Professional Health Program (NCPHP) Report:

Joseph Jordan, PhD presented his report in person and gave an update on the North Carolina Professional Health Program.

State Veterinarian's Report:

Michael Martin, DVM was not in attendance to present.

Continuing Education Committee Report:

Ronald Komich, DVM, reported the committee met via zoom on February 9, 2023 at 9:00am. Those present were Tod Schadler, DVM, Executive Director (NCVMB); Michael Martin, DVM; Ronald Komich,

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**

DVM (Chair) and Keith West, Deputy Director (NCVMB). The Committee presented changes to the minimum standards for continuing education. A motion was made by Susan Bull, DVM and seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT to accept the recommendation of the Committee. The motion passed with Ronald Komich, DVM, Susan Bull, DVM, Azure Holland, DVM, Allen Cannedy, DVM, Robin Lazaro, RVT and Tim Gold approving the motion. Kent Dean, DVM opposed the motion. The proposed changes will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for approval.

Boarding Committee Update:

Michael Martin, DVM was not in attendance to present the update.

Legislative Committee Update:

Veterinary Facility Permit - Deputy Director Keith West reported that the Pre-Review by the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) was completed on January 24, 2023. After reviewing the recommendations by OAH and discussing with Tod Schadler, DVM, Executive Director and Board Attorney Matthew Skidmore, corrections and minor changes were made as recommended by OAH. The revised language was resubmitted to OAH for

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**

pre-review. Deputy Director Keith West stated currently we are still waiting for the results from the most recent submission to OAH Pre-review.

RVT Title Protection (Proposed Amendments to the Veterinary Practice Act) - Deputy Director Keith West reported Senate Bill 135 was filed on February 20, 2023. This bill reflects the changes approved by the Board concerning title protection for RVT's.

Facility Inspection Report:

Deputy Director Keith West reported that there have been 152 inspections since the last meeting. Marjorie McFetridge, DVM, performed 25 inspections, Kelly Jeffer, DVM, performed 43 inspections, Nicolette Peer, DVM, performed 52 inspections, and Robin McFerren, DVM, performed 32 inspections. There were 4 serious violations issued. Deputy Director West mentioned Controlled Substance compliance is an issue at a majority of facilities and is frequently cited as violations at inspections. Deputy Director West advised that we are currently in the process of looking for a new Western North Carolina Inspector. The current Inspector, Roberta McFerren, DVM, will be vacating the position the 1st of April, 2023. Deputy Director West also advised that the Facility Standards Self-Evaluation Checklist is now on the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board website.

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**

Attorney's Report:

Mr. Skidmore reported that 15 disposition letters were completed and there were currently 14 in the new batch. Mr. Skidmore discussed an email he distributed on February 9, 2023 regarding Board Meetings held remotely. Mr. Skidmore advised that given the expiration of the state of emergency, only Board members physically present at Board meetings held in person should be counted towards the quorum requirements. He stated that special statutes were put in place during the Covid pandemic, while North Carolina was in a state of emergency, to allow meetings to be held remotely. Mr. Skidmore stated the North Carolina state of emergency expired in August of 2022. Mr. Skidmore also stated he sent emails to those Board members who need to complete the ethics training required by the State Ethics Commissions. He advised members to update their Statements of Economic Interest ("SEI") by April 15, 2023.

Student Liaison Report:

Student Liaison Raisa Velez- Contreras reported she was in the process of reviewing applicants for the new Student Liaison.

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**

Executive Director's Report:

Tod J. Schadler, DVM Executive Director presented the status report of the number of active Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians. He reviewed the NCVMB's finances and accounts. Dr. Schadler also reported that currently there are 169 veterinarians and 82 registered veterinary technicians who have not renewed their license at this time.

AAVSB PAVE Program Presentation:

Nancy Grittman, Chief Risk Management Officer, American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB), presented The Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE) to the Board.

At 9:40am, the board took a break and reconvened at 9:57am.

AAVSB PAVE Program:

The program was discussed, and a motion was made by Robin Lazaro, RVT and seconded by Susan Bull, DVM to send to the Legislative Committee

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**

for language to change the current statute to allow PAVE for Veterinary Technicians in North Carolina. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: None

At 10:03am., pursuant to G.S. § 143.318.11 (a)(6), a motion was made to go into closed session by Susan Bull, DVM and seconded by Ronald Komich, DVM. The motion was approved unanimously.

At 11:44am, Susan Bull, DVM made a motion to leave closed session and Kent Dean, DVM seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

A motion was made to accept the consent order recommended by Committee 8 to give authority to Azure Holland, DVM to sign on behalf of the Board. A motion was made by Robin Lazaro, RVT and seconded by Ronald Komich, DVM. The motion passed unanimously.

Kent Dean, DVM read into the minutes the decisions from Committee on Investigation No. 8.

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 8

- a. 2022095-8 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2022099-8 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2022100-8 – Letter of Reprimand
- d. 2022090-8 – Letter of Reprimand
- e. 2023005-8 – Continued
- f. 2023001-8 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

Susan Bull, DVM, recused herself from case 2022099-8.

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

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 10

- a. 2022083-10 – Letter of Caution
- b. 2022085-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2022087-10 – Letter of Caution
- d. 2022094-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- e. 2022096-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- f. 2022098-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- g. 2022101-10 – Continued
- h. 2023004-10 – Letter of Caution
- i. 2022103-10 – Letter of Reprimand
- j. 2022104-10 – Letter of Reprimand

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**

These decisions are preliminary and will not be final until the decision is 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.

Other Business: None

Approval of Expenses:

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

The Board having no further business, a motion to adjourn made by Allen Cannedy, DVM, seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:50am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM
Executive Director

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 2, 2023**