

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, July 8, 2021**

At 8:04 a.m., President Susan Bull, DVM called to order the regular meeting of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board. This meeting was held at the Board and virtually through Zoom. Present also were the following Board members: Drs. Kent Dean, Ronald Komich, Allen Cannedy, Doug Meckes, and Azure Holland; Robin Lazaro, RVT; and Mrs. Krissie Newman. Also present were Board Attorney, George Hearn, Executive Director, Dr. Tod J. Schadler, and Sarah Swartout, Student Liaison.

Dr. Bull reviewed with 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: Dr. Joseph Jordan, CEO, NC Physician's Health Program (NCPHP), Jon Carr, attorney for North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA), and Maureen Susi, RVT, President of North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (NCAVT).

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The May 6, 2021 and June 18, 2021 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Dr. Komich, seconded by Dr. Holland, moved to approve the May 6, 2021 and June 18, 2021 Board meeting minutes with corrections. The minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business - Reports:

North Carolina Physician's Health Program (NCPHP) Report:

Dr. Joseph Jordan gave an update. There are presently six veterinarians under contract, two registered veterinary technicians pending, and one veterinarian pending.

NCVHP Scholarship update given by Dr. Komich. The Board will need to find someone else to determine the approval of who gets a scholarship so there will be no conflict of interest. The NCVMA and NCAVT are possibilities.

Chiropractic Medicine Committee Report:

Mrs. Lazaro reported that the committee is still gathering information and will report at the next Board meeting.

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Dr. Bull had wanted to ask the NCVMA for any comments concerning chiropractic medicine, however, they were unavailable as their summer meeting was in conflict with the Board meeting.

Legislative Committee:

Keith West, Assistant to the Executive Director, reported on the proposed rules for Veterinary Telemedicine. Technical changes were made and the Rules Review Commission will be reviewing this rule on July 15, 2021. If approved, the effective date of the new rule will be August 1, 2021.

The proposed Practice Facility Permit is still being worked on with changes based on recommendations from Ms. Reeder.

Senate Bill 651 - Amend the Veterinary Practice Act, is still in the House with a possibility of September or October time frame.

Dr. Bull had wanted to ask the NCVMA for any comments concerning the legislative report, however, they were unavailable as their summer meeting was in conflict with the Board meeting.

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Chief Inspector's Report:

Keith West reported for Dr. Joseph Wright, Chief Inspector. He reported there have been 95 inspections since the last meeting, 21 in the east, 46 in central, and 28 in the west. Inspections will now return to being unannounced. There were four serious violation letters sent. Some Banfield Pet Hospitals are merging and moving out of pet stores.

Attorney's Report:

Mr. Hearn reported he has written 41 closing letters since January 2021. There has been only one letter of reprimand this year that has been rejected.

Student Liaison:

Sarah Swartout gave a report from the COVID results that the majority of students have been vaccinated. Dr. Lunn, Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, is leaving and returning to the UK January 2022.

Executive Director's Report:

Dr. Schadler presented an update on licensing activities and a finance report. Disciplinary/civil monetary payments are all up-to-date. The Board's annual audit will begin the end of July 2021.

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The AAVSB meeting this year will be September 30-October 2, 2021 in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Bull, Dr. Holland, Delegate, and Dr. Cannedy, Alternate Delegate will be going as will Dr. Schadler and Dr. Komich who are up for nomination on committees. In addition, Sarah Swartout, Mrs. Newman, and Keith West will be attending, and possibly the Board Attorney.

Mrs. Lazaro has been re-appointed to the Board for another term. Mrs. Newman and Dr. Komich are still waiting to see if they have been re-appointed.

At 9:13 a.m. the Board took a break and reconvened at 9:35 a.m.

At 9:35 a.m. Dr. Dean made a motion to go into closed session with the Board Attorney pursuant to GS § 143-318.11(a)(3) for review of complaints, seconded by Dr. Holland. Motion approved.

At 10:49 a.m. a motion to return to open session was made by Dr. Holland and seconded by Dr. Dean. Motion approved.

At 10:50 a.m. the Board took a break and reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

At 11:00 a.m. Dr. Holland, seconded by Mrs. Lazaro, made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to GS § 143-318.11(a)(6) for personnel issues. Motion approved.

At 11:53 the Board returned to open session.

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Dr. Dean made a motion to retain Mr. Matthew Skidmore as legal counsel for the Board, seconded by Dr. Holland. Motion approved. Mr. Skidmore will begin on September 1, 2021.

At 12:24 p.m. Dr. Dean made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to GS § 143-318.11(a)(3) to review complaints, seconded by Mrs. Newman. Motion approved.

At 12:56 p.m. Dr. Dean, seconded by Mrs. Lazaro, motioned to return to open session. Motion approved.

State Veterinarian's Report:

Dr. Meckes joined the meeting at 12:56 p.m. and introduced Dr. Michael Martin, who will be the new State Veterinarian, starting August 1, 2021.

Christina Waggett, will be taking over Joe Reardon's position at the NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services. Dr. Catherine Harris will be taking over the livestock division.

Dr. Meckes gave a review of the proposed "Certified Swine Sample Collector Training Program" for the sixteen states that are involved in swine production. There are not enough veterinarians to do this, therefore this

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certified training will create enough people for sample collections, especially if there is an African Swine Flu outbreak.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 1

- a. 2021023-1 – Barbara Anne Walton, DVM (Third Street Veterinary Clinic) – Ms. Bridget Coates – Continued
- b. 2021019-1 – Elizabeth Anne Ash, DVM (Banfield Pet Hospital) – Ms. Tonya Williams – No probable cause, dismissed
- c. 2021027-1 – Zachary Michael Pfeffer, DVM and James Edward Williams, DVM (Eastern Carolina Veterinary Referral Animal Hospital – Ms. Janet E. Denny – Continued
- d. 2021030-1 – Shana Candice Silverstein, DVM (Shiloh Animal Hospital) – Ms. Alice Chalona - No probable cause, dismissed
- e. 2021034-1 – Amanda Lee Buchanan-Gambill, DVM (Marble Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Doris Bogataj – No probable cause, dismissed

Dr. Holland made a motion, seconded by Dr. Komich, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 1. The report of Committee 1 was approved unanimously. These decisions are preliminary and will not be final until the decision is accepted into the minutes, the letter explaining the decision is drafted by the Board Attorney and is approved by the Committee chair and 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

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hearing. If a rejection occurs, the case is returned to the Committee for further review and action.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 9

- a. 2021018-9 – Robert Scott Bakal, DVM (Youngsville Animal Hospital) – Ms. Leydi Carrillo – Letter of Reprimand
- b. 2021026-9 – Krisi Shupe, DVM (Rocky River Large Animal Veterinary Clinic) – Dr. Thomas Trahey & Dr. Arabella Malone-Trahey – No probable cause, dismissed
- c. 2021024-9 – Brittney Lynn McLamb, DVM (Riverside Animal Hospital) – Mr. Allon Tedder – Letter of Reprimand
- d. 2021028-9 – Kristopher James Eads, DVM (Shallowford Animal Hospital) – Mr. Frederick Mende – Letter of Caution
- e. 2021031-9 – Tara Desai Thompson, DVM (Brunswick Animal Hospital) – Mr. Jared Matthew Cox – No probable cause, dismissed
- f. 2021014-9 – Jennifer Megan Carne Wiegel, DVM (Phoenix Animal Hospital) – Ms. Erin R. Kroenung – Letter of Reprimand
- g. 2021020-9 – Curt Locklear, Jr., DVM (Southeastern Veterinary Hospital) – Marty & Penny Weatherford – Letter of Reprimand
- h. 2021035-9 – Dhanvanthari Emmadi, DVM (Valley Animal Clinic) – Mr. William Freeman – Letter of Reprimand
- i. 2021033-9 – Collen Nicole Crozier, DVM (The Animal Hospital of Lewisville) – Ms. Margaret Folwell – No probable cause, dismissed

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Dr. Dean made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Newman, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 9. The report from Committee 9 was approved unanimously. 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.

Mrs. Newman, seconded by Mrs. Lazaro, 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. Lazaro, seconded by Dr. Komich, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM
Executive Director