

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board
Raleigh, North Carolina, September 14, 2023**

At 8:02 a.m., 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; Michael Martin, DVM; Edward Faulkner, DVM; Ronald Komich, DVM; Susan Bull, DVM; Allen Cannedy, DVM; Mr. Tim Gold; and Robin Lazaro, RVT. Also present in person were Tod J. Schadler, DVM, Executive Director; Keith West, Deputy Director; Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore; and Joseph Jordan, PhD, CEO, NC Physician's Health Program (NCPHP).

The following guests were in attendance via Zoom: John McHugh, Director of State Legislature, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA); Jon Carr, Attorney, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Karyn Smith, DVM, Secretary/Treasurer, (NCVMA); Marguerite Gleason, DVM, President-Elect, (NCVMA); Shannon Nowak, BS, LVT, RVT, Secretary/Treasurer, North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians (NCAVT); Jennifer Shults, DVM, Legislative Chair, (NCVMA); Maureen Susi, RVT, President, (NCAVT); Shannon Bass, DVM, Vice President, (NCVMA); Claire Holley, Executive Director (NCVMA); Jacklyn Phillips, RVT, Owner, Clinical Consultant;

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Kristen Seawell; Paige Harrington, DVM, Secretary-Treasurer, (NCVMA);
Holly Swagner, RVT; and Dave.

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 July 6, 2023 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Ronald Komich, DVM made a motion to accept the minutes and Allen Cannedy, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

None

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.

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RVT Committee Report:

Robin Lazaro, RVT gave an update on Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) title protection education and enforcement. Ms. Lazaro clarified interpretation of NCGS 90-187.10(2) that allows facilities including the North Carolina State University – College of Veterinary Medicine (NCSU-CVM), or any other legally chartered college, to have non-RVTs who are instructors, and where the duty is assigned as part of the individual's responsibility in teaching or research, to have a scope of duties as defined by the supervising DVM. Ms. Lazaro reported VTNE eligibility for veterinary technician students six (6) months prior to graduation. Ms. Lazaro proposed allowing Veterinary Technician Specialists (VTS) to be eligible for registration in North Carolina. She recommended that the Legislative Committee draft language that would allow VTS registration. Ronald Komich, DVM made a motion for the Legislative Committee to begin drafting language and the motion was seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM. The motion was approved unanimously.

State Veterinarian's Report:

Michael Martin, DVM gave an update on the status of Avian Influenza. Dr. Martin stated there have been 3 new positive cases since May 17, 2023.

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He stated there is a total of 839 flocks. Dr. Martin also gave an update on the African Swine Fever.

At 9:22 a.m., the board took a break and reconvened at 9:40 a.m.

Legislative Update:

Deputy Director West reported the Rules Review Commission approved the following proposed rules:

- 21 NCAC 66 .0108 – Fees
- 21 NCAC 66 .0206 – Min. Standards for Continuing Education
- 21 NCAC 66 .0901 – Definitions
- 21 NCAC 66 .0902 – Veterinary Facility Permits
- 21 NCAC 66 .0903 – Supervising Veterinarian
- 21 NCAC 66 .0904 – Discipline Veterinary Facility Permits
- 21 NCAC 66 .0905 – Reinstatement after Revocation of Facility Permit

Deputy Director West reported ten (10) members of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA) filed objection letters requesting legislative review of the following rules:

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- 21 NCAC 66 .0206
- 21 NCAC 66 .0902
- 21 NCAC 66 .0903
- 21 NCAC 66 .0904

The objected rules will be introduced to the North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA) during their long session in 2024 for review. This delay will affect the effective date requested for the Rules and will also affect the boarding permit required by the North Carolina Farm Act.

Deputy Director West proposed legislation to change the status of licensees and registrants that fail to renew their license or registration from Revoked to Expired. Susan Bull, DVM made a motion to accept the proposed change and Michael Martin, DVM seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Facility Inspection Report:

Deputy Director Keith West reported that there have been 160 inspections since the last meeting. Marjorie McFetridge, DVM, performed 16 inspections, Kelly Jeffer, DVM, performed 39 inspections, Nicolette Peer,

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DVM, performed 61 inspections, and Andrew Horne, DVM performed 44 inspections. There were no serious violations issued.

Deputy Director West also stated resumes are still being accepted for the new inspector position and interviews will begin the week of September 18, 2023. He stated there are several highly qualified applicants.

Deputy Director West stated emails to all DVM facility owners will begin September 25, 2023 in order to comply with NCGS 90-187.17, which becomes effective October 1, 2023. He stated only DVM owners who have a routine inspection due in the 4th quarter will receive this email and the process will be repeated one (1) week prior to each inspection quarter. Mr. West stated the letter advises the owner that his/her facility is due for inspection this quarter, provides a link to the Facility Standards Self Evaluation Checklist and lets them know that the Inspector will be in touch with them or someone at the facility at least one week prior to the inspection to schedule.

Attorney's Report:

Mr. Skidmore reported that 12 disposition letters were completed and there are currently 10 more to go out. Mr. Skidmore stated Board training would also be done during this board meeting.

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Student Liaison Report:

Loren Johnson, NCVMB Student Liaison nor Shafarah Dixon, Alternate NCVMB Student Liaison were present during the board meeting due to scheduled exams. Ms. Johnson's report was distributed to board members.

Old Business:

None

Executive Director's Report:

Tod J. Schadler, DVM Executive Director presented the status report of the number of active Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians and reviewed the NCVMB's finances and accounts. Dr. Schadler also gave an AAVSB update, stating that eight (8) people would be attending the AAVSB conference.

Board Training (Matt Skidmore):

Mr. Skidmore conducted training pursuant to N.C.G.S. 93B-5 - Occupational Licensing Boards as it relates to statutes affecting the operation of the Board.

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At 11:08 a.m., the board took a break and reconvened at 11:29 a.m.

Susan Bull, DVM read into the minutes the decisions from Committee on Investigation No. 11.

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 11

- a. 2023043-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2023041-11 – Letter of Caution (Both)
- c. 2023039-11 – Letter of Reprimand
- d. 2023047-11 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause (Both)

Michael Martin, DVM made a motion, seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 11. The report from Committee 11 was approved unanimously.

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

Report of Committee on Investigations No. 10

- a. 2023033-10 – Letter of Reprimand
- b. 2023034-10 – Letter of Caution
- c. 2023036-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

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- d. 2023040-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- e. 2023037-10 – Letter of Reprimand
- f. 2023049-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

Susan Bull, DVM made a motion, seconded by Allen Cannedy, DVM, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 10. The report from Committee 10 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.

Board Dates for 2024:

Board Meeting Date	Committee 11 Dates	Committee 10 Dates
January 11, 2024	January 10, 2024	January 4, 2024
February 29, 2024	February 28, 2024	February 22, 2024
May 9, 2024	May 8, 2024	May 2, 2024
July 11, 2024	July 10, 2024	July 3, 2024
September 12, 2024	September 11, 2024	September 5, 2024
November 7, 2024	November 6, 2024	October 31, 2024

Other Business: None

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Approval of Expenses:

Edward Faulkner, 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 Michael Martin, DVM, seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM
Executive Director