

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, November 10, 2022**

At 8:01 a.m., President Azure, 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; Allen Cannedy, DVM; Kent Dean, DVM; Ronald Komich, DVM; Susan Bull, DVM and Michael Martin, DVM. Robin Lazaro, RVT, was present in person. Also present in person were Tod J. Schadler, DVM Executive Director, and Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore. Mr. Tim Gold was absent.

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 Elect for NCVMA; Maureen Susi, RVT, President of NCAVT; John McHugh, Director of State Legislature, ASPCA; Claire Holley, Executive Director, NCVMA; Jennifer Shultz, DVM, immediate past President, NCVMA; Jon Carr, Attorney, NCVMA; Shannon Bass, DVM, Secretary-Treasurer, NCVMA; Jennifer Starling, RVT; April Lehmann, RVT, LVT, Interim Director of Cape Fear Community College; Kimberly Lewis, RVT,

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Vice President, NCAVT; Jacklyn Phillips, RVT, Owner, Clinical Consultant; Heather Henderson, student at Cape Fear Community College; Stephanie Parker, RVT; Karen Walker, RVT, Instructor at Nash Community College; Gail Harrell, Director, Veterinary Medical Technology, Nash Community College; Maria Ross-Astrada; Andrea Gentry-Apple, DVM, Vice President, North Carolina Association of Minority Veterinarians; Christian Ver Ardi; Brandy R.; Cape Fear Community College, Veterinary Medical Technology; Lauren Schwab; and Raisa Velez- Contreras, NCVMB Student Liaison. Joseph Jordan, PhD, CEO, NC Physician's Health Program (NCPHP) and Officer Kevin Johnson, State Capital Police, joined in person.

The September 8, 2022 Board meeting minutes were reviewed. Changes were recommended regarding grammar. Ronald Komich, DVM made a motion to accept minutes after corrections were made and Susan Bull, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business** – None

**President's Report:**

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Azure Holland, DVM, gave an update on the 2022 AAVSB Conference that was held in Charlotte, North Carolina and gave an update on the Regulatory Bulletin and Strategic Plan.

**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. He stated the brochure was complete. Ronald Komich, DVM requested 50 copies of the brochure. A copy of the brochure will also be put in the Regulatory Bulletin. Dr. Jordan recognized and thanked Dr. Komich for his help.

**State Veterinarian's Report:**

Michael Martin, DVM gave an update on the status of avian influenza and stated it continues to be a concern with 46 states now testing positive. He also updated the board on Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease and gave an update on the status of Chronic Wasting Disease in deer and the African Swine Fever in North Carolina.

**Continuing Education Committee Report:**

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Ronald Komich, DVM, reported the committee met via zoom on October 13, 2022. Those present were Tod Schadler, DVM, Executive Director (NCVMB); Allen Cannedy, DVM; Ronald Komich, DVM (Chair); and Mr. West. The concerns addressed by the committee were (1) member preference of online vs in-person continuing education, (2) acceptable percentage of online continuing education if elected, and (3) NCVMB annual required hours of continuing education for licensure.

Dr. Komich reported that 89% of the survey participants supported the choice of having 100% of their continuing education hours completed online, 5% had no preference for online vs in-person continuing education, and 5% preferred to return to pre-Covid requirements where only 50% of required continuing education can be obtained online. The committee recommended DVM's and RVT's have the option to obtain 100% of required continuing education online or in-person at their discretion and NCVMB required continuing education hours decrease from the current 20 hours to 15 hours annually for DVMs. After discussion, Azure Holland, DVM, NCVMB President, sent this back to the committee to obtain more data. Robin Lazaro, RVT, requested that RVTs be included in the recommendations.

**Student Liaison Report:**

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Student Liaison Raisa Velez- Contreras stated the school implemented “Wellness Day” as a way for the school to help with mental wellness and that finals were coming up in December.

**Legislative Committee Update:**

Deputy Director Keith West reported that he was waiting on Pre-Review to be completed by the Office of Administrative Hearings regarding the Veterinary Facility Permit. The Legislative Committee presented a proposed amendment to the Veterinary Practice Act to protect the title “veterinary technician”. Mr. West stated if accepted by the Board, the amendment would be introduced in January. Kent Dean, DVM made a motion to accept the proposed amendment and Susan Bull, DVM seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Facility Inspection Report:**

Deputy Director Keith West reported that there have been 181 inspections since the last meeting. Marjorie McFetridge, DVM performed 30 inspections, Kelly Jeffer, DVM performed 45 inspections, Nicolette Peer, DVM performed 76 inspections, and Robin McFerren, DVM performed 30 inspections. There were 10 serious violations issued.

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Boarding facilities were discussed, and Azure Holland, DVM appointed a committee to review. Kent Dean, DVM and Michael Martin, DVM were appointed to the committee. Michael Martin, DVM was appointed Chair of the committee.

Susan Bull, DVM congratulated Deputy Director Keith West and NCVMB Inspector Kelly Jeffer, DVM for their presentation conducted at the AAUSB Conference.

At 10:06 a.m. the board took a break and reconvened at 10:21 a.m.

**Attorney's Report:**

Mr. Skidmore reported that there have been 101 closing letters completed since January, and currently working on 16 which will bring the total to 117 by the next meeting.

Mr. Skidmore also advised the Board to be sure their ethics training, required by the State Ethics Committee, was up to date.

**Executive Director's Report:**

Tod J. Schadler, DVM Executive Director presented the status report of the number of active Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians.

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He reviewed the NCVMB's finances and accounts. Discipline/Civil Monetary payments are still up to date.

Tod J. Schadler, DVM Executive Director stated the recent audit went well. He provided the Strategic Plan update which included Mr. Skidmore's recommendations.

Dr. Schadler advised the Board that board employee, Crystal Moss, will be attending training in December 2022 to become a Notary.

**Old Business:** None

At 10:32 a.m., pursuant to G.S. § 143.318.11 (a)(6), to discuss personnel issue matters, a motion was made to go into closed session by Susan Bull, DVM and seconded by Allen Cannedy, DVM. The motion was approved unanimously.

At 11:10 a.m., the board came into open session and a motion to accept the personnel committee's report and authorized the personnel committee to discuss matters with Dr. Schadler was made by Susan Bull, DVM and seconded by Allen Cannedy, DVM. The motion was approved unanimously.

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At 11:11 a.m., President Azure Holland, DVM asked for a motion to go into closed session pursuant to GS § 143-318.11(a)(3) to review complaints with the Board's attorney. Susan Bull, DVM made the motion, and it was seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT. Motion approved unanimously.

At 2:15 p.m. the Board came back into open session.

At 2:15 p.m., the board took a break and reconvened at 2:25 p.m.

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

**Report of Committee on Investigations No. 8**

- a. 2022049-8 – Hunter K.P. Goldsmith, DVM (Matthews Animal Clinic)  
Ms. Rachel Rosenthal – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2022069-8 – Katelyn Deanna Drummer, DVM (Guilford-Jamestown Veterinary Hospital) – Mr. Chris Taylor – Letter of Reprimand
- c. 2022071-8 – Daniel James Wilson, DVM (A Country Veterinary Clinic)  
– Ms. Brittany Dumire – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- d. 2022075-8 – Max Joseph Gordon, DVM (Meadowmount Animal Hospital) – Ms. Tamara Prezma – Dismissed, No Probable Cause



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- e. 2022064-8 – Madison Grace Grant, DVM (Western Carolina Regional Animal Hospital) and Kristin Kathleen Heilmeier-Santos, DVM (Veterinary Emergency Hospital) – Ms. Amy Jackson – Dismissed, no probable cause (both)

Ronald Komich, DVM made a motion, seconded by Michael Martin, DVM, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 8. The report from Committee 8 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.

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

**Report of Committee on Investigations No. 10**

- a. 2022047-10 – Ginger Wike Tran, DVM (Heritage Animal Hospital) – Ms. Danielle Talley – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- b. 2022051-10 – Amy Lee Nevens, DVM (Animal Hospital of Fayetteville) – Ms. Connie Smith – Letter of Caution
- c. 2022053-10 – Stephanie Anne Moore DVM (Hampstead Animal Hospital) – Ms. Haley Shellhammer – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

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- d. 2022055-10 – Katherine Sarah Snyder, DVM (Banfield Pet Hospital #0602) and Alicia Marie Taylor, DVM (Banfield Pet Hospital #0595) – Ms. Brenda Lamontagne – Dismissed, No Probable Cause (both)
- e. 2022057-10 – Tracy Lyn Gieger, DVM (NC State Veterinary Hospital) and Jason Robert Strasberg, DVM (NC State College of Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Kaitlyn Fulton – Dismissed, No Probable Cause (both)
- f. 2022060-10 – Nicole Peterson Sheehan, DVM and Tamara Brooks Rattray, DVM (Whole Pet Integrative Veterinary Hospital-Davidson) – Ms. Terri Korke – Dismissed, No Probable Cause (both)
- g. 2022059 – Riley Kathleen Raskopf, DVM (NC State College of Veterinary Medicine “no longer at NCSU”) – Ms. Bupathi Dissanayake – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- h. 2022061 – Dustin Charles Orr, DVM (Mt. Pleasant Animal Hospital) – Mr. Terry Crayton – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- i. 2022063 – Karin Maria Margareta Gardner, DVM (Wake Veterinary Hospital & Urgent Care) – Mr. Sean Duford – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- j. 2022065 – George W. Hofmann, Jr., DVM and Pamela Jean Schill, DVM (Winston Veterinary Hospital) – Ms. Mary Carson – Letter or Reprimand (both)
- k. 2022073 – Tanya Noel Osler, DVM and Bobbi Jo Kotrba, DVM (Craven Animal Hospital) – Mr. Ricky L. Martin – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

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

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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.

**Other Business:** None

**Board Dates for 2023:**

<b>Board Meeting Date</b>	<b>Committee 8 Dates</b>	<b>Committee 10 Dates</b>
January 12, 2023	January 11, 2023	January 4, 2023
March 2, 2023	March 1, 2023	February 27, 2023
May 11, 2023	May 10, 2023	May 3, 2023
July 6, 2023	July 5, 2023	June 28, 2023
September 14, 2023	September 13, 2023	September 6, 2023
November 9, 2023	November 8, 2023	November 1, 2023

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**Approval of Expenses:**

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

The Board having no further business, a motion to adjourn made by Michael Martin, DVM, seconded by Susan Bull, DVM, passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tod J. Schadler, DVM  
Executive Director