

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board  
Raleigh, North Carolina, March 12, 2026**

At 8:15 a.m., President Azure Holland, DVM, called to order the regular meeting of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board. 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. This meeting was held at NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine and virtually through Zoom. Board members present in person were Azure Holland, DVM; Edward Faulkner, DVM; Robin Lazaro, RVT; Andrea Gentry-Apple, DVM; and Krissie Newman. Board member Allen Cannedy, DVM was present via Zoom. Also present in person were Keith West, Executive Director; Melissa Bowman, Deputy Director; Matthew Skidmore, Board Attorney; Kimberly Lewis, RVT (NCAVT President); Robin Hahn, DVM; Anthony Blikslager, DVM (NCSU CVM Associate Dean and Director of Veterinary Medical Services); Jennifer Kendrick, Executive Director, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA); Kasey Henry, RVT (NCSU CVM); Nicolette McNeely, RVT, (NCAVT Vice President); Lisa Padfield, DVM; Sydney MacDonald, NCVMB secondary student liaison; and Bec Mitchell, NCVMB primary student liaison. Board members Michael Martin, DVM and Ronald Komich, DVM were not present.

The following guests were in attendance via Zoom: Jill Partlow; Richard

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Mansmann, DVM; Shannon Bass, DVM, immediate past President (NCVMA); Karyn Smith, DVM, President (NCVMA); David Cowan; Jennifer Sawyer; Maureen Susi, RVT; Heather Henderson; Matt Thompson; Jon Carr, Attorney and Lobbyist (NCVMA); Ann Furr; Brian Stuber; Dr. Tran; Jenny Kapur, RVT; Trisha; Beth Venit; and Paige Harrington, DVM, President- Elect (NCVMA).

The January 15, 2026, Board meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. Krissie Newman made a motion to accept the minutes and Edward Faulkner, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

President Azure Holland, DVM appointed the nominating committee for Board officers as Ronald Komich, DVM and Robin Lazaro, RVT.

**President's Report:**

None

**NCPHP Report:**

Associate Medical Director, Emily King, MHS, PA-C, provided a report on behalf of Chief Executive Officer, Joseph Jordan, PhD. Ms. King presented the report on the status of the program attendance and provided updates.

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**State Veterinarian's Report:**

None

**Legislative Committee Update:**

Executive Director, Keith West stated that NCVMA's objection to the language concerning competency in §90-187.3(a)(2) has been resolved and the Association no longer objects. Mr. West also stated that the Association has asked the Board to consider changing §90-187.3(a)(2) from requiring the applicant to have practiced three of the five years immediately preceding filing the application to have practiced two of the five years immediately preceding filing the application.

A motion was made to accept the Legislative Committee's recommended changes to §90-187.3(a)(2) and keep the requirement that the applicant has to have practiced three of the five years immediately preceding filing the application by Robin Lazaro, RVT and Andrea Gentry- Apple, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Facility Inspection Report:**

Executive Director, Keith West stated that inspections continue to go well and are current. Mr. West also stated that there has only been one facility of concern and it is part of an investigation. The Board is taking all appropriate actions.

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**Rules Update Report:**

Deputy Director, Melissa Bowman stated that the rules review process is still current and no updates at this time. Ms. Bowman reported that the website is in the process of an update.

**Attorney's Report:**

Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore reminded the Board members that their statement of economic interest is due by April 15, 2026.

Mr. Skidmore stated that there continues to be a decrease in the number of complaint cases since adding Susan Bull, DVM's role as the Board's complaint investigator. He commended the Board on their decision to add her role as it continues to help with the complaint volume increase.

**Student Liaison's Report:**

Primary Student Liaison, Bec Mitchell announced the SAVMA Symposium will be held on March 13- 15, 2026. Ms. Mitchell also announced that Open House will be held on March 28, 2026. This event will offer information, exhibits, and a chance to explore the campus.

Ms. Mitchell stated that being in the role of the NCVMB student liaison has been a meaningful and memorable experience that provided valuable knowledge. She stated that

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she is thankful for the opportunity and the privilege.

**Executive Director's Report:**

Executive Director, Keith West provided the number of veterinarians and veterinary technicians whose statuses have been changed to revoked due to non-renewal.

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

**Case Review:**

Robin Lazaro, RVT, presented a complaint case for review. Ms. Lazaro explained the complaint process and read the details of the complaint. There was an open discussion with the Board and the public on their opinions and questions about the case and the ruling. Ms. Lazaro explained the final ruling and reason for the ruling.

At 9:14 a.m. the Board took a break and returned at 9:40 a.m.

At 9:40 a.m., pursuant to G.S. § 143.318.11 (a)(3) and (6), a motion

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was made to go into closed session by Edward Faulkner, DVM and seconded by Andrea Gentry- Apple, DVM to discuss reinstatement of inactive license applications and active litigation. The active litigation includes a case in Wake County filed by the NCVMB against Winan's Chiropractic, Valentina Degiovanni and Christopher Winans. The motion was approved unanimously.

At 10:15 a.m., a motion was made to leave closed session by Edward Faulkner, DVM and Gentry- Apple, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

All inactive reinstatement license applications were approved.

**Old Business:**

None

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

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

- a. 2025135-10 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause for Dr. Tonkin, and continued for Dr. Kennedy

Edward Faulkner, DVM, made a motion, seconded by Andrea Gentry-

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Apple, DVM, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 10.

The report from Committee 10 was approved unanimously.

Edward Faulkner, DVM read into the minutes the decisions from Committee on Investigation No. 14.

**Report of Committee on Investigations No. 14**

- a. 2025160-10 – Letter of Caution for both Dr. Jordan and Dr. Goldbach
- b. 2025157-10 – Letter of Caution
- c. 2026007-14 – Letter of Caution
- d. 2026006-14 – Continued
- e. 2026018-14 – Continued
- f. 2026019-14 – Continued

Andrea Gentry- Apple, DVM, made a motion, seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 14. The report from Committee 14 was approved unanimously.

Andrea Gentry- Apple, DVM read into the minutes the decisions from Committee on Investigation No. 15.

**Report of Committee on Investigations No. 15**

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- a. 2025148-10 – Letter of Caution
- b. 2025162-10 – Letter of Caution

Edward Faulkner, DVM, made a motion, seconded by Krissie Newman, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 15. The report from Committee 15 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.

**Other Business:**

None

**Approval of Expenses:**

Krissie Newman made a motion to approve the Board's expenses, and it was seconded by Edward Faulkner, DVM. The expenses were approved unanimously.

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**Final Review and Summary of Action Items:**

Executive Director, Keith West stated that the website and regulatory bulletin will be updated with information about the SAVE program to assist with the next renewal cycle and applications. Mr. West advised he will work with Sydney MacDonald, incoming NCVMB primary student liaison, to select a second-year student as the secondary student liaison.

A motion to adjourn made by Edward Faulkner, DVM, seconded by, Robin Lazaro, RVT, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith West  
Executive Director