

**MINUTES, North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina, July 23, 2026**

At 8:01 a.m., President Edward Faulkner, DVM, called to order the regular meeting of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board. President Edward Faulkner, DVM reviewed for the Board the Governor's and the North Carolina Ethics Commission's statements on recognizing and avoiding conflicts of interest. He also reviewed N.C.G.S. § 90-179 of the North Carolina Veterinary Practice Act. This meeting was held at the Board office and virtually through Zoom. Board members present in person were Michael Martin, DVM; Robin Lazaro, RVT; Allen Cannedy, DVM; Azure Holland, DVM; and Andrea- Gentry-Apple, DVM. Also present in person were Keith West, Executive Director; Melissa Bowman, Deputy Director; Matthew Skidmore, Board Attorney; Jennifer Kendrick, Executive Director, (NCVMA); and Joseph P. Jordan, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, (NCPHP). Board member Krissie Newman was not present.

The following guests were in attendance via Zoom: Katie Clark, RVT; Jennifer Shults, DVM, Legislative (NCVMA); Paige Harrington, DVM, President (NCVMA); Paiseley Lunchick, RVT; Suzanne Mathews, Brian Stuber, DVM, President- Elect (NCVMA); James Penrod, CEO (AAVSB), Scott Young, Maureen Susi, RVT, Treasurer (NCAVT); Sherrie Yuschak; Sydney MacDonald, Primary Student Liaison (NCVMB); Nicolette McNeely, RVT, President (NCAVT); Jon Carr, Attorney and Lobbyist (NCVMA); Carrie Fellows, RVT

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(NCAVT); Amanda Ready, RVT; Kim Lewis, RVT; and Erin, RVT.

The May 14, 2026, Board meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. Michael Martin, DVM made a motion to accept the minutes and Andrea Gentry-Apple, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**North Carolina Professional Health Program (NCPHP) Report:**

Joseph P. Jordan, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, presented his report on the status of the program attendance, provided updates and discussed resources available from the program for veterinarians and veterinary technicians regarding their mental health and overall health.

**President's Report:**

None

**New Business:**

The Board discussed reducing the 2-hour opioid CE requirement down to 1 hour. Michael Martin, DVM made a motion to accept reducing the opioid CE hour requirement to 1-hour effective January 1, 2027 and Andrea Gentry-Apple, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board also discussed the AAVSB amendments proposals.

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**State Veterinarian's Report:**

Michael Martin, DVM provided an update on the status of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), and New World screwworm cases and case numbers.

**Legislative Committee Update:**

Executive Director, Keith West stated that Jonathan Scarlett, DVM has been appointed to the Board. Mr. West also stated that there has been progress with additional proposed amendments to the Practice Act and he anticipates to present them at the September Board meeting for possible introduction in 2027.

**Facility Inspection Report:**

Executive Director, Keith West provided a report on all of the inspections since the last meeting totaling 156 inspections. Robert Bakal, DVM completed 56 inspections, Nicolette Peer, DVM completed 34 inspections, Marjorie McFetridge, DVM completed 25 inspections, and Andrew Horne, DVM completed 41 inspections.

Mr. West also stated that inspections continue to go well with positive feedback from both inspectors and facilities.

**Attorney's Report:**

Board Attorney, Matthew Skidmore stated that 10 closing letters have been

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mailed since the last meeting, and a total of 9 closing letters are expected to be completed this month. Mr. Skidmore also stated all consent orders have been resolved.

**Student Liaison's Report:**

Primary Student Liaison, Sydney MacDonald presented her report via Zoom and provided news about the AVMA conference and upcoming events that will be hosted at NCSU CVM.

Ms. MacDonald also stated that the position for the Board's secondary student liaison is still open.

**Rules Report:**

Deputy Director, Melissa Bowman stated preparation for the Periodic Review of Rules is proceeding well with all 47 rules in progress. Seventeen rules are ready for amendment, 18 rules recently pre-reviewed, and the final 12 rules are being finalized for pre-review.

Michael Martin, DVM made a motion to grant rulemaking authority for the 17 rules ready for amendment and Azure Holland, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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**Executive Director's Report:**

Mr. West reported that the Board's finances remain in good standing and the Board's audit has been scheduled for August. 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.

Mr. West reviewed the AAVSB registration and the Board's attendees.

At 9:32 a.m. the Board took a break and pursuant to G.S. § 143.318.11 (a)(3) and (6), a motion was made to go into closed session after the break by Michael Martin, DVM and seconded by Andrea Gentry- Apple, DVM to discuss reinstatement of an inactive license application and a consent order that was accepted. The motion was approved unanimously.

At 10:13 a.m., a motion was made to leave closed session by Michael Martin, DVM and Allen Cannedy, DVM seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The inactive reinstatement license application and consent order were both approved.

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**Old Business:**

None

Edward Faulkner, DVM read into the minutes the decisions from Committee on Investigation No. 16.

**Report of Committee on Investigations No. 16**

- a. 2026028-16– Letter of Reprimand
- b. 2026032-16 – Letter of Caution
- c. 2026039-16 – Letter of Caution
- d. 2026042-14 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

Michael Martin, DVM, made a motion, seconded by Robin Lazaro, RVT, to approve the report from Committee on Investigations No. 16. The report from Committee 16 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**

- a. 2026021-15 – Letter of Caution
- b. 2026035-15 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- c. 2026047-15 – Letter of Reprimand w/ Civil Monetary Penalty

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- d. 2026036- 15 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause
- e. 2026045- 15 – Dismissed, No Probable Cause

Allen Cannedy, DVM, made a motion, seconded by Azure Holland, DVM 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:**

Michael Martin, DVM made a motion to approve the Board's expenses, and it was seconded by Andrea Gentry- Apple, DVM. The expenses were approved unanimously.

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

Executive Director, Keith West stated that he will seek feedback concerning emergency facilities from stakeholders, and proceed with the rule change to update the required opioid CE from two hours to one hour effective January 1, 2027.

Mr. West also stated that he will schedule a meeting with the Board's Executive Committee and Kentucky's Veterinary Board members, as well as provide a webinar from AAVSB to Board members to aid in further discussion about the proposed AAVSB amendments to be reviewed at the annual meeting.

A motion to adjourn made by Michael Martin, DVM, seconded by, Robin Lazaro, RVT, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith West  
Executive Director