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CHARLES BORSTEL  
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Massachusetts Board of Veterinary Medicine  
*Open Board Minutes for June 11, 2015*

**Present:**

Dr. David Diamond – Chair  
Dr. Karen Patti – Member  
Dr. Sheri Siegel – Member

**Board Staff:**

Erin LeBel, Executive Director  
James O'Connor, Board Counsel  
Robert Williams, Investigator  
Pam Mogavero, Investigator  
Leija Meadows, Board Administrator  
Elizabeth Regan, Administrative Assistant  
Ann Barry, Executive Director

**Absent:**

Donna Turley, Esq. - Member

**9:35 AM:** Dr. Diamond called the Open Session to order with a moment of silence for our troops. Jim O'Connor reviewed evacuation plans in the event of an emergency. Ann Barry, Associate Executive Director, was introduced as the incoming (as of September) Executive Director of the Veterinary Medicine Board. The reorganization within the Division has redistributed duties and Boards. The transition will occur officially in September when Erin LeBel and Leija Meadows will step down from their roles with the Veterinary Board. Erin LeBel announced that Pam Mogavero is retiring at the end of June.

The Board reviewed the Open Minutes from the May 14, 2015 meeting. Dr. Patti clarified the Board will no longer accept a copy of a notarized diploma as confirmation of degree; for all new applicants going forward, sealed transcripts will be required for confirmation of degree. Electronic submissions sent directly from the school to DPL will also be accepted. Motion was made by Dr. Siegel to accept this and the minutes as written. Dr. Diamond seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

**9:40 AM:** Dr. Diamond announced that the Public Listening Session, pursuant to Executive Order 562 would commence.

Members of the public present were:

Dr. Robert Shurtleff, MVMA Board liaison  
Ms. Susan Curtis, MVMA Executive Director  
Dr. Joann Rose Foley, member of the public



Dr. Shurtleff spoke in general terms about regulation review, asking the Board to be cognizant of any change and the trickle down effect to the consumer. He reminded the Board that costs incurred by added regulation eventually trickle down to the consumers.

Susan Curtis explained that she did not have any additional comment outside of the written comment submitted to the Board in September 2014, when feedback regarding regulation was also solicited.

Dr. Foley did not offer comment, written or oral.

**9:47 AM:** Dr. Diamond moved to return to Open Session and return to Board business.

### **Other Board Business**

- 1. E-licensure Update:** E-licensure is up and running. As of next license renewal cycle, licensees will receive online instruction on how to renew that way, if they choose to do so.
- 2. Email Correspondence from Dr. Charles Innis of New England Aquarium:** Board reviewed correspondence in which Dr. Ennis inquired if it would be permissible for licensed, out-of-state veterinarians to work with MA licensed veterinarians in Massachusetts during emergency situations, such as the stranding of sea turtles on Massachusetts beaches. The Board has an existing policy on emergency care so it is fine if the New England Aquarium accepts assistance from out-of-state veterinarians when they are faced with emergency situations. These vets would practice temporarily under the authority of the New England Aquarium's full-time MA-licensed veterinarians.
- 3. Email Correspondence from Susan Curtis of MVMA:** The purpose of the email from Ms. Curtis was to inform the Board that there is concern within the MVMA population as regards inspection regularity, as those who only practice on the weekend (clinic models) are not subject to inspections. No action from the Board necessary at this time.

**10:15 AM:** Dr. Siegel moved to suspend the Open Session pursuant to G.L. c. 112 § 65 C and enter into Closed Session so that the Board could enter into Investigative Conference to discuss cases. It was estimated the conference would last approximately 1 hour. The motion was seconded by Dr. Patti. Motion passed unanimously.

**11:28 AM:** Motion made by Dr. Patti and seconded by Dr. Siegel to leave Investigative Conference and enter into Quasi Judicial Session (Closed Session) pursuant to G.L. c. 30A § 18. The motion passed unanimously. The Board made the following decisions while in Investigative Conference:

<b>VT 15-001311</b>	Dismiss
<b>VT 15-000021</b>	Refer to Prosecutions
<b>VT 15-001308</b>	Dismiss with Advisory
<b>VT 15-001309</b>	Tabled
<b>VT 14-054</b>	Dismiss
<b>Board Counsel Update:</b>	Tabled

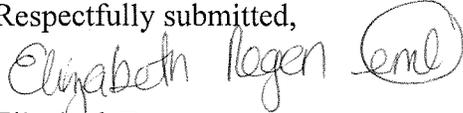
**11:45 AM:** Board returned to Open Session to resume discussing Other Board Business.

## Other Board Business (continued)

4. **Inquiry from Ms. Masterson (SA VT-15-006 discussed in May):** Board carefully reviewed the case and determined the care given was not below standard of care. Board determined that decision holds and case is closed. Ms. Masterson can request the public record of the decision if she wishes. No new action required.
5. **Delegation of Authority regarding Default Decisions:** The Board hereby delegates the authority to execute Default Final Decisions on behalf of the Board and to revoke current licenses and to revoke the right to renew licenses that are lapsed or expired to its Executive Director or to its Associate Executive Director or to the Deputy Director of Policy and Boards at the Division of Professional Licensure. Motion was made by Dr. Siegel and Dr. Diamond seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.
6. **Email from Alexandra Ubell, DVM from Northeast Animal Shelter:** Board determined that as long as the shelter follows the standards of practice and care as outlined in the regulations then it is fine if they add a surgical suite to provide limited surgical and dental services (no x-ray technology will be available on site).

The Board meeting adjourned at 12:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Elizabeth Regan in cursive, with the word "eml" circled in the middle.

Elizabeth Regan  
Administrative Assistant

### List of documents:

- Draft Minutes of May 14, 2015 meeting
- Email Correspondence from Dr. Innis of New England Aquarium
- Email Correspondence from Susan Curtis of MVMA
- Inquiry from Ms. Masterson