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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN VETERINARY MEDICINE
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BUSINESS REGULATION

CHARLES BORSTEL
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

Massachusetts Board of Veterinary Medicine
Open Board Minutes for May 12, 2016

Present:

Dr. Sheri Siegel– Chair
Dr. Karen Patti – Member
Dr. David Diamond – Member
Donna Turley, Esq. – Member

Board and DPL Staff:

Jennifer Romeo-Porcaro, Associate Executive Director
James O'Connor, Board Counsel
Alan VanTassel, Investigator
Doris Lugo, Investigator

Public Present:

Susan Curtis - MVMA
Dr. Robert Shurtleff - Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association
Theresa Shurtleff

9:35 AM: Dr. Siegel called the meeting to order with a moment of silence for our troops. Associate Executive Director, Jennifer Romeo-Porcaro, reviewed the evacuation plan in the event of an emergency.

Vote on Minutes: April 14, 2016.

The Board reviewed the Minutes from April 14, 2016. The minutes were tabled for further review.

Associate Executive Director, Jennifer Romeo-Porcaro's Report to the Board: None

Board Counsel James O'Connor's Report to the Board:

- (a) & (b) **Legal Update and Regulation Review for Executive Order 562:** Atty. James O'Connor reported that the amended proposed regulations were approved by the Office of Consumer Affairs (OCA), the agency's parent agency, and now must be reviewed and approved by the Commonwealth's office of Administration and Finance before it can go to public hearing.

Other Board Business:

a) **Report from Office of Investigations:** None

b) **Correspondences:**

- i. **Email from Susan Curtis (MVMA) regarding non-veterinarians practicing chiropractic on animals and "Live chat interaction with a licensed veterinarian."**
The Board discussed these two matters. In regards to non-veterinarians practicing chiropractic on animals, a complaint could be filed with the Chiropractic Board. The Board specifically referenced Policy Number 08-04, "Guidelines for Complementary



and Alternative Veterinary Medicine.” In regards to the “live chat interaction with a licensed veterinarian” there must be a distinction made as to general or specific advice.

- ii. **Email from Susan Curtis (MVMA) regarding confidentiality and licensees conferring with other licensees regarding a client and/or patient.** The Board discussed this matter. A Veterinarian must not contact other Veterinarians to obtain information in regards to a client without first obtaining authorization.
- iii. **Email from Patricia Gallo regarding veterinarians purchasing compounded drugs at a compounding pharmacy and dispensing the compound drug to a pet owner.** The Board discussed this matter. Specific regulations regarding compounding drugs may fall under the Board of Pharmacy.

Investigative Conference – Closed Session under M.G.L. ch. 112, section 65C

Dr. Patti moved to suspend the Open Session pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 112, section 65C and enter into Closed Session so the Board could enter into Investigative Conference. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siegel. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

The Board made the following decisions while in Investigative Conference:

- a) **2015-001515-IT-ENF (SH):** A motion was made by Dr. Patti to refer the matter to the Office of Prosecution. The motion was seconded by Dr. Diamond. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.
- b) **2015-001527-IT-ENF (JZ):** A motion was made by Dr. Siegel to dismiss without prejudice. The Board shall also open a complaint for a continuing education violation. The motion was seconded by Dr. Patti. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.
- c) **2015-001528-IT-ENF (JH):** A motion was made by Atty. Turley to dismiss with an advisory letter. The Board shall also open a complaint for a continuing education violation. The motion was seconded by Dr. Patti. Motion opposed by Dr. Diamond. Motion passed three to one.
- d) **2015-001549-IT-ENF (GH):** A motion was made by Dr. Patti to refer the matter to the Office of Prosecution. The motion was seconded by Atty. Turley. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.
- e) **2016-00100-IT-ENF (ML):** A motion was made by Dr. Siegel to dismiss without prejudice. The motion was seconded by Atty. Turley. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

A motion was made by Dr. Siegel to resume Open Session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Patti. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

Open Session for Topics not reasonable anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of meeting: Reinstatement Request: 2015-1336-IT-ENF, Susan Meaney: The Board provided clarification in regards to the any future reinstatement requests.

A motion was made by Dr. Siegel to close the meeting at 12:02pm. The motion was seconded by Atty. Turley. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

List of documents:

- May 12, 2016 Agenda of Meeting

- Minutes of April 14, 2016 meeting
- Correspondences: Email dated April 28, 2016 from Patricia Gallo
Email dated April 29, 2016 from Susan Curtis
Email dated April 8, 2016 from Susan Curtis



Dr. Sheri Siegel, Chair
Board of Veterinary Medicine