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

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JOHN C. CHAPMAN UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION

CHARLES BORSTEL COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

## Massachusetts Board of Registration in Veterinary Medicine Public Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2018

#### **Board Members:**

Dr. David Diamond, Chair Dr. Stephanie Kube, Secretary Dr. Sheri Siegel, Member

#### **Board Staff:**

John High, Associate Executive Director James O'Connor, Board Counsel Kevin Scanlon, General Counsel Christopher Carroll, Chief of Investigations Bruce Hopper, Chief Legal Counsel Alan Van Tassel, Investigator Robert Williams, Investigator Julie Brady, Prosecuting Counsel Seth Henderson, Prosecuting Counsel

#### **Public Present:**

Susan Curtis, Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA)
Dr. Robert Shurtleff, Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA)
Theresa Shurtleff

#### **Meeting Called to Order**

**9:35 am:** Dr. Diamond, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order with a moment of silence. James O'Connor reviewed the evacuation plan in the event of an emergency.

#### **Vote on Meeting Minutes**

The Board reviewed the public meeting minutes from January 11, 2018. Dr. Diamond made a motion to approve the public meeting minutes, with amendments. Dr. Siegel seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

#### **Board Elections**

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 13, § 27, the Board held its annual election of officers. Dr. Siegel made a motion to nominate Dr. Diamond as Board Chair and Dr. Kube as Board Secretary. Dr. Diamond seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

#### **Other Board Business**

(a) 2018 Offsite Meeting Date(s) and Possible Location(s): The Board agreed to hold its April 2018 meeting offsite, at the Division of Professional Licensure's Milford, MA field

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office. In addition, the Board cancelled its June 2018 meeting and agreed to hold a meeting in July 2018.

- **(b) Updates to the Application for Licensure:** Board staff informed the Board members that effective March 2018, the Board will be move to a paperless application process. In addition, Board staff provided clarification regarding the requirements for reciprocal licensure applications.
- (c) **Discussion of Continuing Education Policy for New Licensees:** The Board took no action on this issue.
- (d) Continuing Education Waiver Requests: The Board reviewed two continuing education waivers and/or extension requests.
  - 1. Efren A. Osorio, DVM: Three (3) month extension granted.
  - 2. Jennifer R. Power, DVM: Three (3) month extension granted.

## Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting

- (a) **Destruction of Medical Records**: Susan Curtis of the MVMA inquired whether medical records should be destroyed or shredded following the expiration of the record retention period. The Board indicated that all such records should be destroyed.
- (b) Abandoned Animals: Susan Curtis of the MVMA notified the Board of a situation involving a licensee who agreed to temporarily board an animal for a client while the client was relocating. The licensee now wishes to end the agreement but the licensee is unable to take the animal back. The Board indicated that this was not a matter over which it has jurisdiction.
- **(c) New Board Website Format:** Dr. Diamond inquired about the Board website's new format. Board staff provided an update on the transition of the website to a new format.
- **(d) Surveillance Issues in Veterinary Facilities:** Susan Curtis of the MVMA inquired whether the Board had looked at certain surveillance issues involving cameras in veterinary facilities. The Board indicated that this was not a matter over which it has jurisdiction.

#### Investigative Conference - Closed Session under M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C

**10:10 am:** A motion was made by Dr. Siegel to enter closed, Investigative Conference. Dr. Kube seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

The Board made the following decisions while in Investigative Conference:

## (a) Investigator Presentations:

1. 2017-001226-IT-ENF (CC) - Chief of Investigations, Christopher Carroll: Complaint referred to the Prosecutions Unit.

#### (b) Complaints:

- 1. 2017-001207-IT-ENF (AW): Complaint dismissed without prejudice.
- 2. 2017-001162-IT-ENF (AC): Complaint tabled to a future meeting.
- 3. 2017-001196-IT-ENF (CCVSH): Complaint tabled to a future meeting.
- 4. 2017-001209-IT-ENF (DTM): Complaint dismissed without prejudice.

5. 2017-001419-IT-ENF (JB): Complaint dismissed with an advisory letter.

#### (c) Prosecutor Presentations:

- 1. 2015-001361-IT-ENF / 20150113VT015-IT-ENF (MR) Prosecutor Julie Brady: The Board provided guidance to Prosecutor Brady.
- 2. 2016-000028-IT-ENF (MC) Prosecutor Seth Henderson: The Board provided guidance to Prosecutor Henderson.

12:36 pm: Dr. Siegel made a motion to exit closed, Investigative Conference. Dr. Kube seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

## **Meeting Adjournment**

12:38 pm: Dr. Siegel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Kube seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

#### **List of Documents**

- Agenda of February 8, 2018 Meeting
- Minutes of January 11, 2018 Meeting
- Correspondence from Efren A. Osorio, DVM
- Correspondence from Jennifer R. Power, DVM

The above Minutes were approved at the open meeting held on April 12, 2018.

Brian Bialas, Executive Director

Brian P. Biela