

CHARLES D. BAKER GOVERNOR

> **KARYN E. POLITO** LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MIKE KENNEALY SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts **Division of Occupational Licensure Board of Registration in Veterinary Medicine**

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EDWARD A. PALLESCHI UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION

LAYLA R. D'EMILIA COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Massachusetts Board of Registration in Veterinary Medicine Public Meeting Minutes for February 10, 2022 **1000** Washington Street, Boston, MA 02118-6110 9:30 a.m.

Board Members:

Dr. Karen Patti, Presiding Chair Dr. David Diamond, Secretary Dr. Rachel Orlowski, Member (arrived at 9:39am) Jen Fraga, Program Coordinator II Dr. Candance Sloane, Public Member

Board Staff:

Caitriona Taylor, Executive Director Jenna Hentoff, Board Counsel

Board Members absent:

Dr. Stephanie Kube, Chair

Meeting Called to Order at 9:34am

Board Business

- Dr. Candace Sloan was introduced to the Board as the incoming Public Seat Board Member.
- Board Elections The Board held elections for Chair and Secretary.
 - Dr. Patti made a motion to nominate Dr. Kube as Chair. Dr. Diamond seconded the motion. All in favor.
 - o Dr. Diamond made a motion to nominate Dr. Patti as Secretary. Dr. Sloane seconded. All in favor.
- Review and Approve Public Meeting Minutes January 13, 2022
 - o Dr. Diamond made a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. Patti seconded. Dr. Patti, Dr. Diamond and Dr. Orlowski voted in favor to approve the January 13, 2022 public meeting minutes. Dr. Sloane abstained.

Executive Director Report, Including

The Executive Director informed the Board that meeting minutes which are approved by • the Board will be forwarded to the Board Chair for signature.

Application Review – Continuing Education for Reinstatement

M. Piccione – The Board discussed whether the applicant's time in a three (3) year residency program would qualify for continuing education necessary for reinstatement of

Reasonable accommodations or modifications will be provided to individuals with disabilities to participate in the meeting taking place on the date listed above. All requests should be directed to Cheryl Yebba at 617-727-4992 or TTY/TDD: (617) 727-2099 by no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. While the Board will attempt to honor all requests those requests received less than 48 hours prior to the meeting may not be provided due to feasibility.

her license. The Board directed staff that the residency program do qualify for such continuing education.

Correspondence

- The Board discussed an email to the Board dated 01.03.2022 from Kaitlin E. Morel regarding what level of autonomy a veterinarian has in deciding to administer or not administer a rabies vaccination to an animal in their care. The Board stated that the veterinarian may determine if the animal's medical condition permits such services. Board Staff to work with Board Counsel to respond based upon state law and regulations regarding rabies vaccinations.
- The Board discussed an email to the Board dated 01.19.2022 from Fred Nostrant. Dr. Nostrant asked the Board to clarify a veterinarian's obligation in regards to release of medical records when an animal's ownership changes hands. After discussion, the Board determined that in such situation, proof of ownership may establish an individual as the animal's owner and permit the veterinarian to provide records to said individual. Board Staff to work with Board Counsel to respond based upon Board regulations.
- The Board discussed an email to the Board dated 01.20.2022 from Emily Walz. The Board discussed what level of autonomy does a veterinary technician or other type of assistant is required for microchip implantation in animal shelters. The Board stated that such individual working in the same facility as the licensed veterinarian may perform this task as long as it is within the individual's experience and training, the veterinarian has prescribed administration of a microchip, and the veterinarian is available for communication. Board Staff to work with Board Counsel to respond.
- The Board discussed an email to the Board dated 01.21.2022 from Kim Meloy-Comer. The Board discussed administration and/or prescription of controlled substances by veterinarians and their ability to do so by Board regulation in compliance with all relevant federal and state laws. The Board further directed Board Staff and Counsel to respond and further refer the individual to other state agencies, including the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Board of Registration in Pharmacy, in order to obtain answers to her questions.

Discussion

- The Board continued its discussion around interactive vs. non-interactive CEU requirements. The Board discussed RACE's definitions of said types of CEUs. Counsel will continue to research and provide a draft policy to the Board for review at a future meeting.
- The Board continued its discussion of the Board's Telemedicine Policy. The discussion was tabled to continue at the next board meeting.
- Board Counsel updated the Board in regards to progress on drafting regulations for the supervision of veterinary technicians. Board Counsel will work with the Board Chair.

Compliance Monitoring

- 2020-001055-IT-ENF [Walter Grambow] Dr. Diamond made a motion to approve the CEUs submitted by Dr. Grambow for Board approval. Dr. Sloane seconded the motion. All in favor.
- 2018-001201-IT-ENF [Olga Iglikova] The Executive Director communicated an update from Dr. Iglikova's monitor to the Board. The Board directed Board staff to request such update from the monitor in every report submitted in compliance with the terms of the Consent Agreement in Docket No. 2018-001201-IT-ENF.

<u>Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting</u>

The Board was notified that its meetings may continue to be held virtually through July 15, 2022. Ed Carlson voiced support for allowing some sort of virtual public access in Board meetings beyond July 15, 2022.

Ed Carlson provided additional comment regarding the Board's drafting of regulations for the supervision of veterinary technicians, including possible reference to the AAVSB's model practice act.

Jamie Falzone of the Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association ("MVMA") provided comment regarding pending legislation for licensure of veterinary technicians, indicating MVMA's support.

Dr. Sloane thanked Board Chair Dr. Kube and Executive Director Caitríona Taylor for her onboarding process to the Board.

At 11:18 am, Dr. Patti made a motion to adjourn the public meeting and enter Closed Session for Investigative Conference to consider open cases, conduct investigative conferences, and consider settlement offers pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 65C. The open meeting would not resume. The motion was seconded by Dr. Diamond and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Investigative Conference CLOSED under M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C

The Board made the following decisions while in closed session:

Complaints:

- 2021-000847-IT-ENF
- 2021-000855-IT-ENF
- 2021-000924-IT-ENF
- 2021-000925-IT-ENF
- 2021-000994-IT-ENF
- Tabled Dismissed. Board opened a new complaint. Dismissed Dismissed

Settlements: none

The Board confirmed that the next scheduled meeting will be held on March 10, 2022.

At 12:28 pm, Dr. Diamond made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Orlowski. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Stephanie Kube, Board Chair

List of Documents Used During the Public Meeting:

- Agenda of February 10, 2022 meeting
- Draft public meeting minutes for January 13, 2022

- Reinstatement application documents for M. Piccione
- Email correspondence from Kaitlin E. Morel
- Email correspondence from Fred Nostrant
- Email correspondence from Emily Walz
- Email correspondence from Kim Meloy-Comer
- Draft Telemedicine Policy
- Compliance documents for Walter Grambow
- Compliance documents for Olga Iglikova