



MAURA HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KIM DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

YVONNE HAO
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

1000 Washington Street, Suite 710
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

LAYLA D'EMILIA
UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
REGULATION

SARAH WILKINSON
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Public Meeting Minutes
Thursday May 11, 2023

Members Present: Dr. David Diamond, <i>Chair</i> Dr. David Tubman, <i>Member</i> Dr. Candance Sloane, <i>Public Member</i> Dr. Stephanie Kube, <i>Member</i> Members Absent: Dr. Rachel Orlowski, <i>Member</i>	Administrative Staff Present: Keith Gleason, <i>Executive Director</i> Milla Lewis, <i>Admin Assistant</i> Jenna Hentoff, <i>Board Counsel</i> Public Attendees: <i>Dr. Beth Venit, AAVSB, Chief Veterinary Officer</i> <i>Dr. Chris Runde, AAVSB, Immediate Past President</i> <i>Dr. Sarah Norton, VCA Wakefield, manager</i>
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All Board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

The meeting was called to order by the chair at 9:33 A.M.

1) Review Minutes of the meetings of March 9, 2023 & April 13, 2023.

Dr. Diamond made a motion, seconded by Dr. Kube, to approve the March public minutes subject to typo corrections. The motion passed by a majority vote. Dr. Sloane abstained.

Dr. Diamond made a motion, seconded by Dr. Kube, to approve the March Executive session minutes. The motion passed by a majority vote. Dr. Sloane abstained.

Dr. Diamond made a motion, seconded by Dr. Kube, to approve the April minutes. The motion passed by a majority vote. Dr. Sloane abstained.

2) Executive Director Administrative Report

a) IT & Board Webpage Improvements Update

- The Executive Director notified the Board that he has been working with the Mass.gov web developers to launch improvements to the Board website. He expects that the streamlined site should make its use easier and asked that anyone with any comments or issues to email them to Board staff.

3) Legal Counsel Report

- a) The Legal Counsel report was deferred to the discussion on regulations later in the meeting.

4) Presentation by AAVSB

- Dr. Beth Venit, Chief Veterinary Officer of AAVSB, along with Dr. Chris Runde, the Immediate Past President of AAVSB, completed a brief presentation discussing AAVSB's initiatives, nationwide news, workshops, subject matter resources and visions such as a data exchange with state Boards. The Executive Director agreed to consult with management and Legal Counsel to determine Board participation in the programs offered by AAVSB.

5) Reviewed/Discussed Board Correspondence

- a) Dr. Christy Cox, email inquiry regarding requirements to facilitate rabies vaccinations and diagnostics on fecal samples for Animal Control or a shelter.
 - Counsel referenced the Board's policy on rabies vaccination clinics which states that veterinarians are prohibited from administering vaccinations without establishing and documenting a VCPR. However, in light of public health concerns, a veterinarian may administer a rabies vaccination at a rabies vaccination clinic without an established VCPR. The Board recommends that in such situations, the veterinarian should only do so after obtaining the animal's vaccination history.
 - After discussion, the Board members responded that the veterinarian is required to see and examine the animal prior to any treatment.
- a) Dr. Lauren Geiger, Relief Veterinary Medical Association, email inquiry regarding temporary licensure for relief veterinarians.
 - Counsel noted that apart from M.G.L. c. 112, § 58A, which permits a veterinarian to render emergency care or treatment to an animal, there are no additional provisions in the Board's statutes or regulations which would permit temporary licensure other than licensure by reciprocity pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 56C.
- b) Carly Fisher email inquiry regarding "accepted livestock management practices."
 - Counsel stated that M.G.L. c. 112, § 58(6) exemptions from the definition of "practicing veterinary medicine" "[t]he advising with respect to or performance of acts by a person which the board by rule has prescribed as accepted livestock management practices;" however, the Board has not defined such by regulation. The Board noted that they would be open to comment regarding a definition.

6) Application Reviews

- a) Application for Temporary Permit by Dr. Annette Fey to add additional supervisors
 - After discussion and interview of the applicant and additional proposed supervisors, Dr. Kube made a motion, seconded by Dr. Tubman, to approve the applicant's additional supervisors, including Dr. Knoblock once she meets the 4 year license requirement for supervisors of temporary permit holders. The motion passed by a majority vote. Dr. Sloane abstained.

7) Reviewed/Discussed Regulation Review

- Counsel discussed the draft amendments to the Board's regulations at 256 CMR 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00 and 10.00, including review of the reciprocity regulation in Section 3.00 and the requirement to hold a license in another state as is indicated by statute.
- The Board members continued to discuss the proposed definition of "Owner Consent" with the majority of the members expressing their acceptance of the draft definition as written.
- The Board members discussed other sections of the draft regulations and agreed to strike the requirement in 256 CMR 7.01(3)(c) and the last sentence in 256 CMR 5.01(1).

- After discussion, Dr. Diamond made a motion, seconded by Dr. Kube, to approve the draft regulations with the additional edits as presented. The motion passed by a majority vote. Dr. Sloane voted no.

8) **Matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting.**

- The Executive Director noted that he will seek additional information from AAVSB regarding some of the programs that the organization offers and will report back to the Board.

9) **Investigative Conference (M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C – Closed session)**

At 11:39 A.M., the Chair announced that the rest of the meeting will be for discussion of items in closed session, and upon conclusion, the Board would adjourn.

Dr. Tubman made a motion, seconded by Dr. Diamond, to enter Investigative Conference. The motion passed unanimously.

a) Discussion of complaints prior to the issuance of an order to show cause

Docket	Determination	Recusal
2022-000125-IT-ENF	Refer to prosecutions	
2022-001141-IT-ENF	Dismiss with advisory	Dr. Tubman
2022-001142-IT-ENF	Dismiss	Dr. Tubman
2023-000145-IT-ENF	Dismiss	
2023-000149-IT-ENF	Return to investigations	
2023-000157-IT-ENF	Return to investigations	

10) Adjournment – the next scheduled meeting is June 8, 2023.

At 12:37 P.M., Dr. Diamond made a motion, Dr. Tubman seconded, and the members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting minutes signed by:



Board Chair, Dr. David Diamond

List of Documents Used During the Public Meeting:

- Meeting Agenda
- March 9, 2023 Public and Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- April 13, 2023 Public Meeting Minutes
- Correspondences
- Temporary Permit Application
- Draft Board regulations, 256 CMR 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00 and 10.00