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**Division of Professional Licensure**  
**BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN VETERINARY MEDICINE**  
1000 Washington Street • Boston • Massachusetts • 02118

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UNDERSECRETARY OF  
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**CHARLES BORSTEL**  
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF  
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

**Massachusetts Board of Registration in Veterinary Medicine**  
**Public Meeting Minutes for April 12, 2018**  
**50 Maple Street**  
**Milford, MA 01757-3698**  
**9:30 a.m.**

**Board Members:**

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

**Board Staff:**

John High, Associate Executive Director  
James O'Connor, Board Counsel  
Robert Williams, Investigator

**Public Present:**

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

**Meeting Called to Order**

**9:34 am:** Dr. Diamond, 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 February 8, 2018. Dr. Siegel made a motion to approve the public meeting minutes, with amendments. Dr. Diamond seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

**Board Business – Discussion Items**

**Discussion of Staff Delegation for Approval of Continuing Education Waiver Extension Requests, pursuant to 256 CMR 9.04:** The Board delegated authority to Board staff, defined as including the Executive Director, Associate Executive Director and Board Counsel, to review and approve certain continuing education waiver requests submitted pursuant to 256 CMR 9.04, involving medical issues. A motion was made by Dr. Siegel to approve the delegation. Dr. Kube seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.



**Recent Meeting with OCABR/MSPCA/Animal League of Boston/MDAR:** Board staff provided an update on a recent interagency meeting to which a Board member and DPL staff were invited to discuss collaboration related to the inspection, oversight and regulation of pet shops, kennels, and other veterinary facilities.

**Reinstatement Request - Kate Achilles, DVM:** The Board approved the reinstatement request, contingent upon the applicant passing the International Council on Veterinary Assessment's (ICVA) Companion Animal Species Specific Examination.

**Discussion of Involuntary Committal Situations (G.L. c. 123, § 35) & Board Response:** The Board discussed the involuntary committal process and potential obligations by licensees. The Board determined that such a situation involving a licensee would need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

### **Board Business - Correspondence Items**

**Richard Lerner, DVM, MPH - Request for Continuing Education Requirement Extension/Waiver:** Request approved. Three (3) month extension granted.

**Noelle Litra, DVM / MA Department of Public Health - Cannabinoid Supplements for Chronic Pain:** The Board determined this was not an issue under its jurisdiction. The Board provided guidance to staff for the purposes of formulating a response.

**Susan Curtis, MVMA - Inquiry re: Human Continuing Education Courses:** The Board tabled discussion of this item, pending additional research regarding whether such continuing education courses are accepted in other jurisdictions.

**Susan Curtis, MVMA - Inquiry re: Provision of Medical Records to Law:** The Board determined that the provision of medical records to law enforcement professionals is dependent on the facts and circumstances surrounding such a request.

**Susan Curtis, MVMA - Inquiry re: Sale of Veterinary Practice(s) without a Licensed Veterinarian:** The Board does not get involved in business transactions. No guidance provided.

**Phillip Howell - Emergency Ambulatory Services:** The Board provided guidance to staff for the purposes of formulating a response.

**Debra Caporizzo, DVM - Acceptable Forms of Euthanasia:** The Board provided guidance to staff for the purposes of formulating a response.

**Nicoll Vincent -Inquiry re Pet Grooming & Veterinary Medicine:** The Board provided guidance to staff for the purposes of formulating a response.

**April Mach, PharmD - Inquiry re Prescription of Controlled Substances:** The Board determined this was not an issue under its jurisdiction. The Board provided guidance to staff for the purposes of formulating a response.

## **Executive Session - Closed Session under M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21**

**11:00 am:** A motion was made by Dr. Siegel to enter Executive Session. Dr. Kube seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

**11:10 am:** Dr. Siegel made a motion to exit Executive Session. Dr. Kube seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

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

**11:12 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:

- (1) 2017-001162-IT-ENF (AC): Complaint dismissed without prejudice.
- (2) 2017-001196-IT-ENF (CCVSH): Closed, no action.
- (3) 2017-001343-IT-ENF (LD): Complaint dismissed without prejudice.
- (4) 2017-001241-IT-ENF (BM): Complaint dismissed without prejudice.
- (5) 2018-000152-IT-ENF (PABPS/TF): Closed, no action.
- (6) 2018-000138-IT-ENF (MR): Complaint dismissed with an advisory letter.
- (7) 2017-001365-IT-ENF (KB) Complaint dismissed without prejudice.
- (8) Disciplinary Action Disclosure (DP): No action taken.

**12:25 pm:** Dr. Siegel made a motion to exit closed, Investigative Conference. Dr. Kube seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

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

**Use of Radiology Services Provided by Veterinarians Licensed in Other Jurisdictions:** The Board briefly discussed the issue of veterinarians utilizing the professional services of veterinarians located and licensed in other jurisdictions (ex. radiology scans). Dr. Kube informed the members that American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) is currently looking into this issue. The Board will revisit the matter once the AVMA has provided more definitive guidance on the issue.

## **Meeting Adjournment**

**12:30 pm:** Dr. Siegel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Patti seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the Board.

## **List of Documents**

- Agenda of April 12, 2018 Meeting
- Minutes of February 8, 2018 Meeting
- Correspondence from Richard Lerner, DVM, MPH
- Correspondence from Noelle Litra, DVM
- Correspondence from Susan Curtis, MVMA
- Correspondence from Phillip Howell
- Correspondence from Debra Caporizzo, DVM

- Correspondence from Nicoll Vincent
- Correspondence from April Mach, PharmD

The above Minutes were approved at the open meeting held on May 10, 2018.



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Brian Bialas, Executive Director