

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE MEETING: February 5, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. John Lawrence, David Richter, Ms. Sharon Todoroff, Dr. Michelle Vaughn

REMOTE MEMBERS: Dr. Barb Fischley

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Julia Wilson, and Mollie Brucher, staff; Mr. Bryan Huffman, Ms. Karen Olsen, and Mr. Jason Pleggenkuhle, Attorney General's Office

The Board of Veterinary Medicine met on February 5, 2014, in Conference Room A, Fourth Floor, University Park Plaza, 2829 University Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN. President John Lawrence called this meeting of the board to order at 1 p.m.

There was a motion to adopt the agenda.

Introductions were given by Attorney General's Office staff, including Ms. Karen Olsen, Deputy Attorney General, (oversees the health licensing board and the consumer group which mediates complaints), and Mr. Jason Pleggenkuhle, Assistant Attorney General, who manages legal services for the health licensing boards. The minutes of the November 26, 2013 special meeting were approved.

The meeting was closed for disciplinary considerations.

- 1) A proposal for a stipulation and order for Dr. Charles Gumbusky was discussed. A motion was made to approve the stipulation. The proposed stipulation and order was approved unanimously.
- 2) A proposal for an unconditional license for Dr. Ann Fischer was discussed. A motion was made to approve the unconditional license. The motion was passed unanimously.
- 3) A proposal for an unconditional license for Dr. Wayne Scanlan was discussed. A motion was made to the approval the unconditional license. The order was passed unanimously.

The meeting re-opened.

A list of applicants who have completed the requirements for licensure was reviewed. Mollie Brucher noted there were two applicants who needed license verification from Colorado still. These applicants passed unanimously, with the stipulation that the two individuals received clear license verifications from Colorado.

The use of pre-made electronic signatures to be used by the board for wall certificates was discussed. Mr. Bryan Huffman determined there were no legal problems with this. The board approved that licenses will be prepared in this manner in the future to expedite the process

Dr. Lawrence gave an update on AAVSB. He noted that there are changes being made to the qualifying examination for foreign graduates.

Dr. Wilson gave an update on the budget balances for the current fiscal year.

OLD BUSINESS

The board is in the process of license renewals. A question regarding history of discipline or a complaint with the board caused some confusion on license renewal applications. Mr. Pleggenkuhle recommended the board adjust the language for future renewals and also suggested the inclusion of a Tennessee warning. He promised to send over model language shortly. The board agreed to move forward to update the renewal documents. It was decided that renewal or new license applicants that did not answer honestly to the discipline/complaint question will be sent a letter of inquiry from the board office. Renewal applicants that reported criminal activity on their renewal form will have their information sent to a complaint committee and reviewed.

Dr. Wilson gave an update on professional firm annual renewal and new firm registration. The board office sent out professional firm renewal notices in November and has received information back from every firm but one. The board has contacted non-registered firms and has registered about 20 new firms and will continue to seek registration compliance with professional firms. The Board agreed that no discipline would be enacted at this point for firms that failed to register or that were tardy in filing their annual report. The Board may do so in the future.

Dr. Wilson discussed the audit process for continuing education requirements and also gave an update on veterinarians requesting continuing education extensions after the renewal period.

The board discussed purchasing web cams for board members so they can participate in conferences remotely and approved further investigation.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Wilson discussed new proposed legislation that involves the board and HPSP (Health Professionals Services Program). It would require action to suspend a license within 60 days if a licensee has been reported for chemical abuse. Karen Olson assured the board that this timeline was feasible given current staffing at the Attorney General's office.

Dr. Wilson gave updates on veterinary technician licensing efforts, the breeder bill and a potential bill to require mandatory canine rabies vaccination.

Dr. Wilson noted that she will be attending a governmental affairs committee meeting in the near future and will relay pertinent information to the board. She also gave an update on MVMA (Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association) happenings.

Dr. Wilson proposed some ethical dilemmas to the board to get their input on how she should handle certain situations in the future. Mr. Huffman noted if a veterinarian ever has a concern, they should file a complaint with the board.

Dr. Wilson discussed the Minnesota jurisprudence examination and suggested some changes to the structure of the exam, along with increasing the rules surrounding the time limit and number of retakes. These suggestions were approved by the Board. Ms. Brucher will work to make the exam available online.

The planned expansion of the board orientation handbook was approved. The AGO will work with the board office when training new board members.

The board discussed CLEAR training for board member to understand legal investigations. Dr. Wilson will get more information from other health-licensing boards in regards to this topic and report back to the board.

Mr. Huffman gave Dr. Wilson permission to give the Attorney General update.

Dr. Wilson gave the Executive Director report.

The next meeting will be held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14, 2014. Dr. Lawrence suggested a change for the September 11, 2014 due to a conflict with an AAVSB meeting. The board approved the date change and the new conference date is set for September 17, 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Barbara Fischley, DVM
Secretary-Treasurer