

**BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
PUBLIC MINUTES OF MARCH 11, 2020**

The March 11, 2020 meeting of the Board of Veterinary Medicine (“Board”) convened at 10:10am at the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, 121 South Fruit Street, Concord, NH 03301 with the following members present:

President, Sonnya Dennis, DVM, DABVP (SD)
Vice President, Suzan Watkins, DVM (SW)
Judith Leclerc, DVM (JL)
Kirk Smith, DVM (KS)
Winifred Krogman, DVM (WK)
Public Member, Elaine Forst (EF)
Ex Officio Member, Steve Crawford, DVM (SC)
Administrative Secretary: Christine Senko (CS)
Executive Director: Lindsey Courtney (LC)
Tom Broderick, Esquire (TB)
Public present: Becky Gallant, NHVTA (BG)

The Board of Veterinary Medicine Mission Statement 332-B:1-a Purpose. The purpose of the board of veterinary medicine is to promote public health, safety, and welfare by safeguarding the people of New Hampshire against incompetent, unscrupulous, and unauthorized persons and from unprofessional or illegal practices by persons licensed to practice veterinary medicine. The right to practice veterinary medicine is a privilege granted by legislative authority to persons possessing personal and professional qualifications specified in this chapter.

1. PreHearing scheduled for March 11, 2020 at 9:00 A.M.in the matter of *BVM@Bartol #4-2/18 and BVM@Jones #4-8/18*. *Dr. Watkins is the Presiding Officer*

2. **Public Comments – Administrative Rules**

Members of the Board reviewed and discussed all submitted public comments at length. Based on this discussion, some rules were further modified and clarified. Also reviewed were the comments from JLCAR (Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules). Becky Gallant, President, New Hampshire Veterinary Technician Association (NHVTA) was also present to address any questions from the comments submitted by the NHVTA. Attorney Broderick will compile the recommended changes and proceed with the review and approval process. He will also request a waiver to extend the JLCAR deadline to May.

3. **Review of Public Minutes** – February 5, 2020

Upon motion made by SD and seconded by JL, the Board unanimously approved the minutes as submitted with with minor corrections. SC abstained.

4. **Correspondence:**

- A. **Steven T. Greiner, DVM, Department of the Army**- requested approval of a course entitled “Military Veterinary Medical Course – Veterinary Support to DSCA (Defense Support of Civil Authorities) Operations for 20 hours of CE. RACE approval was not obtained for this course due to fiscal constraints.

Upon motion made by SD and seconded by JL, the Board voted unanimously to allow this exception for non RACE continuing education credits for those licensees that may be taking the course

A letter will be sent to Dr. Greiner as requested.

5. New Business

- A. **Genevieve Carmichael, DVM**– request for an extension of CE requirements for license renewal due by December 31, 2019.

Upon motion made by SD and seconded by JL, the Board voted unanimously to allow exception for non RACE approved CE on wildlife and to include in the correspondence to Dr. Carmichael that this exception is only for this CE cycle and a reminder to review the rules on CE credits.

- B. **January 25, 2020 letter from Erin Spencer, M.Ed., CVT, VTS (ECC), NAVTA President**, supporting the proposed changes to the Veterinary Practice Act pertaining to veterinary technicians and assistants. – This topic was reviewed during the discussion of the Administrative Rules. No action needed.

- C. **Antimicrobial Resistance information** - January 16, 2020 email from Carly Zimmermann, MPH, Antimicrobial Resistance Specialist, Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program, NH Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services, regarding the “2018 State Antibigram & Implications for Antibiotic Prescribing.”

This item was submitted as an information item and it is requested to post or circulate as needed. Dr. Crawford indicated he suggested to Carly to send the information to the NH Veterinary Medicine Association (NHVMA).

- D. **Accreditation actions form the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)** - January 13, 2020 email from Karen Martens Brandt, DVM, Director, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), regarding the accreditation actions taken by the AVMA Council on Education (COE) during its December 2019 meeting.

Upon motion made by SD and seconded by JL, the Board voted unanimously to maintain the information on file.

- E. **Continuing Education credits for Eleanor Warner, DVM** for renewal due December 31, 2019.

Upon motion made by SC and seconded by SD, the Board voted to unanimously approve this request.

- F. **Continuing Education credits for Stephen Strassner, III, DVM** for renewal due December 31, 2019.

Members discussed Dr. Strassner's credits and noted some were not approved by RACE and there was no answer to the question regarding PDMP.

Upon motion made by SC and seconded by SD, the Board voted unanimously to move this item to the non public portion of the meeting.

- G. **Continuing Education credits for Robert John Arnott, DVM** for renewal due December 31, 2019.

Members discussed Dr. Arnott's credits and noted that information was supplied by PathwayVets indicating the Tufts sponsored CE meetings do not list a RACE approval number but are RACE approved. It was suggested to query the AAVSB. It was also indicated that Dr. Arnott did not complete registration with the PDMP.

Upon motion made by SC and seconded by SD, the Board voted unanimously to move this item to the non public portion of the meeting.

- H. **Continuing Education credits of Jennifer Keaten, DVM** for renewal due December 31, 2019.

Upon motion made by SC and seconded by SD, the Board voted unanimously to move this item to the non public portion of the meeting.

- I. **February 22, 2020 email from Ginny Prince, DVM** requesting approval of a lecture entitled "Reasoning with Unreasonable People: Focus on Disorders of Emotion Regulation" for 6 hours.

Members agreed the content looks great the Board is addressing these topics in future rules, however this course will not account for the current 24 hours CE.

Upon motion made by SD and seconded by JL, the Board voted unanimously to inform Dr. Prince of this action. CS will include these points in the correspondence.

6. **Old Business/Tabled Issues**

A. **Cold Laser Therapy**

Members discussed the risks of different categories of lasers, the level of supervision required, availability and access of lasers for owners, & implications for the BOVM rules.

Members agreed this is within the practice of veterinary medicine, but can be administered by a trained assistant under indirect supervision. Upon motion made by SD and seconded by JL, the Board approved to send a letter to Dr. Roemer explaining this recommendation. CS will complete the letter.

B. Middle name/maiden name licensing issue. (no document)

Members discussed this concern at length and agreed that licensees should practice under their legal name as indicated on their license. This will allow the public to easily identify and find the provider. Additionally, the license name is the name in the OPLC database which may be used to complete inquiries, renewals and other important communication functions. Questions may continue to arise as the use of Real ID increases. These will be addressed as more information is available. It was noted that some boards require a providers license to be posted in the office.

Upon motion made by SD and seconded by SC, the Board voted unanimously to send out a letter to remind practices that the practice name should be under their legal name. SC will send out the minutes that include this information to the NHVMA.

C. Criminal Offender Records Information (CORI) (no document)

Discussion of this topic remains tabled until spring.

7. American Association of Vet Boards (AAVSB) State and Provincial Assessments (SPA) (on line exam informational document)

LC reported that a call is being planned with the AAVSB and some of the Administrators who are helping the Board will be included. The purpose of the call will be to gain information and ask questions about the online exam.

8. **New Hampshire Veterinary Medicine Association Meeting** – April – members discussed what the Board should include as an update at this meeting. The incoming president should attend the meeting; VMA should have liaison to attend meeting. SD and SW will mention at spring meeting.
9. **JAVMA press inquiry** - An email was sent from a reporter with the Journal of American Veterinary Medicine inquiring about rules relative to veterinary nurses, technicians and assistants. Upon motion made by SD and seconded by WK, the Board voted unanimously to respond that the rules are in progress. SC will respond.
10. **Corona virus concerns from NHVMA and spring meeting** – a request was received to allow the spring meeting to be streamed or otherwise held electronically in light of the public health concerns. Members agreed that moving this meeting to an electronic format was reasonable given the unusual circumstances.

Upon motion made by SD and seconded by SC, the Board voted unanimously to exempt the spring NHVMA meeting from the current CE.limit of online credits and allow participants to count it as in person CE. This exemption is for this one time only.

At 3:20 p.m., pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, the Board voted by roll call to go out of public session and into non-public session because public disclosure may render a proposed action ineffective or adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a Board member.

At 5:45 p.m.and upon the motion of SC and the second of SD, the Board, by roll call vote, resolved to withhold the minutes, with the following exceptions, of preceding non-public session

from public disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, III, on the grounds that public disclosure would be likely to affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a board member and to render the proposed action ineffective. Each member recorded his or her own vote on the motion, which passed by the unanimous vote of all members present.
There is nothing to disclose to the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm by Dr. Dennis.