

**UNAPPROVED DRAFT
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
PUBLIC MINUTES OF MAY 27, 2020**

Suzan Watkins, DVM, President of the NH Board of Veterinary Medicine (“Board”), convened a public meeting of the Board on May 27, 2020 at 9:04 am. Due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor’s Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically. There is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor’s Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, it was confirmed that public access to the meeting by telephone or other electronic means was possible. Zoom teleconferencing technology was in use for this electronic meeting.

All members of the Board have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # 646 558 8656, or by clicking on the following website address: <https://zoom.us/j/98663677541>.

Public notice with the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom or telephonic instructions have also been provided on the website of the Board at: <https://www.oplc.nh.gov/veterinary-medicine/index.htm>. Additionally, the public notice indicated to contact Christine Senko at 271-7618 or Christine.Senko@oplc.nh.gov if there were problems with access.

It was noted that no one from the public expressed issues in accessing the meeting platform. In the event the public was unable to access the meeting, the meeting would have been adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that **all votes** taken during this meeting were done by **roll call vote**. The following members announced their presence and confirmed no one else was in the room with them.

President, Suzan Watkins,DVM (SW)
Vice President, Judith Leclerc, DVM (JL)
Kirk Smith, DVM (KS)
Winifred Krogman, DVM (WK)
Public Member, Elaine Forst (EF)
Jill Patronagio, DVM (JP)
Ex Officio Member, Steve Crawford, DVM (SC)
Administrator: Christine Senko (CS)
Interim Executive Director: Lindsey Courtney (LC)

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. **Review of Public Minutes**

April 15, 2020 – members reviewed the minutes and made the following corrections: correct spelling of name (*Suzan*), others as noted. It was also noted that past minutes have not been posted on the website.

Upon motion made by WK and seconded by JP, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the minutes as corrected. SC recused. CS indicated she will assure minutes get posted.

2. **Rules Revision Process** – Members agreed to defer review and discussion until next month when Attorney Broderick is available.

3. **Executive Order #29, Exhibit H** – Members reviewed the Executive Order and noted that the CEU waiver is until December 31, 2020 and the implication is that CEUs should be obtained in the traditional manner for 2021 renewals. Credits obtained remotely in 2020 will count as live credits for the 2021 renewal. Additionally, for those providers required to obtain CEUs as part of a Settlement Agreement; the requirement is not waived and providers will need to comply with their agreement. Members also agreed to encourage colleagues to continue to obtain credits, even if completed on line rather than in person conferences.

Lindsey reported that a FAQ document will be developed. Members agreed that the FAQ is a good idea and will post it on the website once completed.

Emails will be answered by referencing the Executive Order and FAQs.

4. **Correspondence and New Business**

- A. Waiver for November NHVMA meeting – members reviewed the request from the NHVMA to obtain credit for the November on-line meeting. Members agreed that this request meets the intent of Executive Order #29, Exhibit H. CS will respond.
- B. VTVMA meeting – members reviewed the request from the VTVMA to obtain credit for the June 19 live-streaming meeting. Members agreed that this request meets the intent of Executive Order #29, Exhibit H. CS will respond.
- C. Kristin Maclauchlan DVM -Dr. Mclauchlan indicated that she does not have the required amount of live CEUs and is requesting to complete them via remote conferences. Members agreed that this request meets the intent of Executive Order #29, Exhibit H and also agreed to encourage her to continue to complete the required amount of CEUs. CS will respond.
- D. Brushwood Vet Clinic (conference has passed) – Although this request has passed, it was noted that the Board does not automatically accept out of state credits. Providers requesting credit will be directed to the policy on the website.
- E. Debra Pasho, DVM – Dr. Pasho has requested credit for USDA accreditation modules. These are acceptable credits. Dr. Pasho will be directed to the policy on the website.

5. **Other Requests** –Members reviewed the following inquiries:
 - A. **Liability Question** – an inquiry was received from a provider asking what the liability is when a client presents with two dogs for breeding, but only owns one of the animals. Members discussed the concerns and agreed that the expectation, as with any procedure, would be to obtain informed consent from all parties involved. SC will respond.
 - B. **Telemedicine and Merchant Question** – Dr. Long submitted comments to remind practices that there are two authorities to answer to in the performance of telemedicine: the Board and any merchant service agreements (PCI compliance agreements) Massachusetts has clarified these requirements. Members agreed that it is up to the individual practices to contact their merchant services. Upon motion made by JL and seconded by WS, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to file this information and respond back to Dr. Long.
 - C. **PDMP Software** –Dr. Crawford indicated that the PDMP is requesting whether or not there are any formularies used in veterinary medicine that should be included in the PDMP database. Members agreed that there was nothing to be included in the software. SC will respond that the Board is not aware of anything to be included.
 - D. **Jurisprudence Exam Question** – Q#45 – An applicant for licensure has questioned the exam packet and the answer to Q #45 (how long to quarantine an unvaccinated dog who has been bit by a known rabid animal). It was indicated that the application packets may have the 2017 version of the statute which indicates 6 months. The correct answer is 4 months. CS will follow up and assure the correct information is in the application packet.
 - E. **Telemedicine during COVID and Liability** – an email was received from Jeff Vogel, DVM, who expressed questions regarding coverage during this period, especially if an elective procedure is performed. It was agreed that providers should reach out to their individual carriers. SC will respond to Dr. Vogel.
6. **Updates on Settlement Agreements** – No information to report
7. **Information Items**
 - A. **Information from American Association of Veterinary State Board (AAVSB)**- is asking for nominations to the AAVSB and also provided information about the service they provide regarding verifications. It was noted that the rules revisions include language to accommodate these verifications.
8. **Tabled Item – Criminal Offender Records Information (CORI)** – it was agreed to continue to table this topic and seek input from legal counsel as a process is implemented.
9. **Hearings** –

Members discussed potential dates for the Sandra Brown, DVM Hearing. It was agreed to check the availability for July 22, 2020. Also discussed was whether or not the hearings should be held via Zoom and whether it was legal. LC noted that it is legal but would recommend assuring video capabilities to observe demeanor of respondent and witnesses. Also needing to be scheduled are hearings for Bartol and Jones; Jacques.

At 10:09 am, 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. JD will be invited to the next meeting.

At 11:46 am, the Board voted by roll call to go out of non-public meeting and into public session.

Dr. Watkins adjourned the meeting at 11:46 am.