

**BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
PUBLIC MINUTES OF JUNE 24, 2020**

Suzan Watkins, DVM, President of the NH Board of Veterinary Medicine (“Board”), convened a public meeting of the Board on June 24, 2020 at 9:10 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/95715930384?pwd=Z3ZBV01tNWxSUnBGWi8zSjdjbnBNQT09>

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)
- Administrator: Christine Senko (CS)

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

May 27, 2020 – members reviewed the minutes and made the following correction: #4.e remove the word “not”. Upon motion made by SW and second by JL, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the minutes of May 27, 2020 as corrected.

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** – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)- members reviewed the document and agreed that #5 does not pertain to BVM and a statement should be included indicate that credits cannot be rolled over into the next renewal cycle. CS will request the FAQs to be posted on the website and indicate that the credits will not roll over.
4. **Licensure Question – Austin Luskin, DVM** - Members discussed Dr. Luskins request to have his licensed granted under the reciprocity rule, RSA 332-B:11. It was noted that his application meets those requirements. Upon motion by SW and second by WK, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to inform Dr. Luskin that he meets reciprocity and does not need to take the Jurisprudence exam.
5. **Other Requests** –Members reviewed the following inquiries:
 - A. **Specialty Advertising**- Dr. Dutton reported that he came across a veterinarian who was advertising as an implied specialist instead of advertising as services offered. Members agreed that this was not appropriate advertising. KS will send a template to CS. CS will send the letter to Upstream Animal Healing and an acknowledgement to Dr. Dutton.
 - B. **28 Day Rule on Injectable Drugs** – A representative from VetCore queried the board regard the 28 day rule. Members indicated that they are aware that the current Board of Pharmacy Rule presents challenges to providers. Injectable multi does vials must be discarded 28 days after opened. This would imply euthanasia drugs as well. CS will respond to VetCore.
 - C. **Telemedicine and Holistic Consultation** – Dr. Fortier submitted a request for information on telemedicine holistic consultation. Members discussed and agreed that it is that an established VCPR needs to be established. CS will respond to Dr. Fortier and indicate that a VCPR needs to be established and guidelines are on the website.
 - D. **Certificates of Inspection** – certificates of inspection on imported pets that have been quarantined were presented. Members agreed to table discussion until Dr. Crawford is present.
 - E. **Waivers** – Victoria Jardon of Mountain Brook Home Veterinary Care submitted waivers of adoption for pets. Members agreed to table discussion until Dr. Crawford is present.
6. **Information Items**
 - A. **AAVSB Update**- information was circulated regarding the upcoming American Association of Veterinarian State Boards (AAVSB). The annual delegate assembly portion of this meeting has been cancelled.

- B. AVMA Update – the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) provided an update which included an opportunity for public comment on the revision of Standard 9 by adding more specialties.
7. **Tabled Item – Criminal Offender Records Information (CORI)** – SW agreed to contact other boards to determine what they do for criminal records,
8. **AAVSB Presentation** – Jim Penrod and Mark Logan presented information on services and support offered from the AAVSB including CEU RACE program, Practice Act Model, centralized licensure database and the VAULT Program. Members thanked the presenters and expressed interest in pursuing some the services.
9. **New Business**
- a. Letters of Concern (LOC) – it has been noted for some time, the difficulty in determining whether or not the provider has had previous LOCs issued. Although, they are filed with the individual, it was thought easier access could be obtained. It was reported that files are being scanned so that staff can easily find information.
 - b. Older Cases and Standing Order – It was noted that there are a couple of spreadsheets to track the older cases and complaint system. Dr. Dennis had maintained a system and kept it updated. This sheet still exists, in addition to one that was developed by current OPLC staff. A primary concern is tracking whether or not providers have responded to a statement of charges and how to manage those who do not respond. A second request may be submitted to the provider. Additionally, repeated violation of the rules could result in disciplinary procedures against the provider. It was also reported that a subpoena may be issued for continued violation. A process could be defined as first request letter, reminder letter and then potentially issue a subpoena. Members also reviewed Vet Rules 201.05 and 201.06. Members discussed creating a standing order that would allow a Second Request Letter to be submitted to those respondents who have not replied to the first statement of charges letter.

At 10:28 am, pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, and upon motion by JL and second by JP, 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 12:59 am, the Board voted by roll call to go out of non-public meeting and into public session.

Dr. Watkins adjourned the meeting at 12:59 am.