

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

Minutes of the June 25, 2020 Joint Meeting

The meeting was conducted by teleconference and Google Meets due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Board Members Present: Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, President; Dr. Heather Hendler, Vice President; Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Karena Joung, Ms. Patricia Quimby, Dr. Peter Radue. **Board members absent:** Dr. Christine Calvert. **Staff Members Participating:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Licensing Administrator Tonya Kendrick, Inspectors Pegeen Morgan, Ellen James and Sarah Hultz, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Callahan called the meeting to order at 11 a.m.

Ms. Orlando announced that Governor Hogan has appointed Dr. James Reed of Annapolis to replace Dr. Hendler, whose second five-year term has ended. This will be Dr. Hendler's last meeting. All Board members expressed good wishes and deep thanks for Dr. Hendler's service and contributions.

Approval of the Minutes. In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2020 Joint Board Meeting.

Veterinary License Applications. In a motion by Dr. Hendler, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to approve applications from Drs. Anne Hale, Claire Summers, and Lauren Luedke.

In a motion by Dr. Joung, seconded by Dr. Callahan, the Board voted to approve the application from Dr. Dondi Dahlggaard after proper verification is provided by the Washington, D.C. Board. Dr. Hendler abstained.

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Hendler, the Board voted to approve applications from Dr. Ryan Barfield and Dr. Lauren Tanner.

Sanitation Report – Inspector Peggy Morgan reported on an initial virtual inspection she conducted since the May 2020 meeting. In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Ms. Chaput, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Sanitation Report.

Executive Order – Extending Licenses. Ms. Spirt reported that the Board could draft an order for the Secretary's signature, opting out of the Governor's Executive Order requiring all license expiration dates be extended until 30 days after the State of Emergency is lifted. In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to have Ms. Spirt draft an Order to set an expiration date and submit for approval.

Updated Inspection Guidelines. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, inspections have been suspended but will be resuming shortly. The staff drafted new inspection guidelines which were approved by the Department of Agriculture. The guidelines were shared and discussed with the Board.

Corporate Name Approval. Dr. Kemper submitted a request for a new hospital to be named Brunswick Veterinary Hospital. The Board approved the name change.

CE Approval Requests – The Board reviewed several recent CE requests. In a motion by Dr. Joung, seconded by Ms. Chaput, the Board voted to approve the requests and stipulate that #346 obtain an official certificate of completion, not a screenshot. Dr. Radue abstained from voting.

Online requirements for FY22. The Board discussed the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic would likely have on CE offerings into the next year and noted that many conferences are already cancelling or moving online.

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Ms. Quimby, the Board voted unanimously to allow veterinarians and RVTs whose license expires in June 2021 to complete all their CE requirements online; however, no extensions will be allowed.

Managing for Results. Ms. Orlando reported that the updated MFRs had been approved.

Dry Cow Regulations. Ms. Spirt briefed the Board on language being developed for regulations pertaining to the use of medically important antimicrobial drugs to address dry cows and ensuring that the language did not inadvertently permit the unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine by non-veterinarians.

Possible Legislation for 2021. Ms. Orlando informed the Board that any legislation the Board might want to propose next year needs to be submitted to the department in August. After discussing a few ideas, the Board opted not to request any bills for the 2021 Session at this time.

Permanent Limited Use Facilities (Question). Ms. Orlando reported that she received a question from a practice owner who asked if a facility could conduct euthanasia procedures and keep CDS at a Limited Use facility. After some discussion, the Board asked the staff to research the issue further and obtain more information about the request.