



Veterinary Board of Governors Regular Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2025

**Location: Department of Health, TC2, Room 153
111 Isreal Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501 and Microsoft Teams**

Board Members Present:

Andrea Sanchez-Chambers, DVM, Chair
Katherine Bibi, DVM, Vice-Chair
Debra Clabough Sellon, DVM
Aja Senestraro, DVM
Kathryn Haigh, DVM
Maci Paden, DVM
Kim Morgan, LVT
Rebecca Knoke, General Member
None

Board Members Absent:

Staff Members' Present:

Amber Freeberg, Executive Director
Poppy Budrow, Program Manager
Katie Graue, Administrative Assistant
Tara Mackemull, Program Support
Megan Maxey, Policy Analyst
Laura Riordan, Credentialing Supervisor
Prina Patel, AAG
Lydia Koroma, Staff Attorney
Joel Coleman, Credentialing Staff
Lilia Lopez, AAG

Other Attendees Present:

Ken Gordon, WSVMA	Ashley Byrne, LVT, WSAVT
Karen Kilpatrick	Brittany Benesi, ASPCA
Summer Kleinhans	Stacy Dow, LVT
Tim Rybka	Sherri Barrett, MD
Nancy Grittmann, AAVSB	Michael Clark, DVM
Lori Grassi	Jacob O'Connor
Chris Bundy	Robert Nicoloff
Ryan Frazier, LVT, WSAVT	Paige Doyle
Beth Venit, DVM	Melisa Roselvt
Keri Mell	Vanessa Bloy
Eddie Haugh, DVM	

Notice of this meeting was published on the [Veterinarian | Washington State Department of Health](#) profession website and was sent out through the GovDelivery listserv.

Opening of Public Meeting, Call to Order, Mission, and Board Roll Call – Andrea Sanchez-Chambers, Chair

Call to Order at 9:02 am

1. Consent Agenda – Andrea Sanchez-Chambers, Chair

- 1.1. Approval of amended September 15, 2025, draft meeting agenda, motion made to approve draft agenda with amendments, seconded and approved unanimously.

Amendments are as follows: December meeting date was listed incorrectly on posted agenda, correct meeting date is December 8, 2025.

- 1.2. Approval of June 2, 2025, draft meeting minutes, motion made to approve draft minutes, seconded and approved unanimously.

2. Open Forum (Limit to 10 minutes)

Karen Killpatrik, as a private citizen spoke about concerns in the veterinary industry, specifically rising prices of vet costs and quality of care.

Tim Rybka, representing Fountain Veterinary Hospital, spoke regarding veterinary internships, which internships are and aren't recognized by the Veterinary Board, and his belief that once a person graduates from veterinary school they cannot just be an unregistered assistant.

The board discussed that veterinary internships is a larger issue than what can be addressed at this time and will be discussed further during agenda point 15 – Correspondence.

Sherri Barrett, MD stated concern “that veterinarians are refusing to prescribe generics nor to issue written prescriptions. On my most recent visit for a simple condition, 4 meds were prescribed, each costing more than \$100 and could only be bought through the veterinarian. 10 years ago, I was given a written prescription that I took to a human pharmacy.” Dr. Sanchez-Chambers advised Dr. Barrett how to make a formal complaint regarding medications.

3. Reports

- 3.1. Dr. Andrea Sanchez-Chambers, DVM, Chair – Dr. Sanchez-Chambers requested that pharmacy item(s) to be put on the December agenda.
- 3.2. Amber Freeberg, Executive Director – Ms. Freeberg gave an update on HELMS and informed the board that we are not able to pull any credentialing reports at this time but will get them credentialing stats as soon as they are available in HELMS. Ms. Freeberg let the board know that HELMS 3.0 will be implemented soon. Ms. Freeberg also gave an update on DOH getting a “rover” staff member to help with credentialing and application data entry.
- 3.3. Poppy Budrow, Program Manager – Ms. Budrow informed the board that Dr. Vang resigned. Ms. Budrow informed the board about recruitment and congressional districts and the need for a board member to represent the east side of the state. Ms. Budrow told the board that the WPHP fee increased when HB 1972 was passed during the 2024 legislative session but initial fees were not updated and gave an update on a future fee increase. Ms. Budrow presented the current budget and reviewed the fund balance; Ms. Budrow and Ms. Freeberg answered questions from the board regarding the current budget and fees.
- 3.4. Prina Patel, AAG – Ms. Patel did not have anything to report.

4. AAVSB VTNE Retake Policy – Nancy Grittmann

- 4.1. Nancy Grittmann from AAVSB gave a presentation and gave information about the reasons behind the AAVSB's re-take policy.
- 4.2. The board reviewed and approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with effective dates of March 1, 2025, through February 29, 2028.

Motion to approve the new MOU from AAVSB with effective dates March 1, 2025, through February 29, 2028, motion made to approve, seconded and approved unanimously.

- 4.3. The board reviewed the updated AAVSB re-take policy (Exhibit A of MOU) and decided how to process requests for exception to the policy.

Motion made to instruct Program Manager to deny any request to take the VTNE after 5 attempts unless the person has applied for licensure in Washington State. If a person has applied for Veterinary Technician licensure in Washington state and needs to take the VTNE a 5th time, the Program Manager will bring the application to the disciplinary call for board review and decision. , motion made to approve, seconded and approved unanimously

The Board took questions and comments from the public.

5. WPHP Annual Report – Dr. Chris Bundy

- 5.1. Dr. Bundy presented a WPHP 2024 Report Slideshow.
- 5.2. Dr. Bundy presented a WPHP Fact Sheet.
- 5.3. Dr. Bundy presented a 2024 WPHP Annual Report.

6. Animal Chiropractic Endorsement Legislation Update – Lori Grassi – WA Chiropractic Association

- 6.1. CQAC Animal Manipulation States Analysis
- 6.2. CQAC Animal Manipulation Project – Key Recommendation Topics
- 6.3. WSCA Survey of Members Regarding Animal Manipulation
- 6.4. Chiro Assn's Survey – States Where Chiropractors Can Practice Animal Manipulation
- 6.5. WSCA Draft Legislation 2025
- 6.6. WSCA Draft Legislation Compared to Committee Report Items
- 6.7. David Folweiler thoughts on animal manipulation bill – 26 Jan 25
- 6.8. AG Memo on Animal Chiropractic

Ms. Grassi spoke to the board about the proposed legislation the Washington State Chiropractic Association is drafting and requested feedback from the Veterinary board. The Board requested a full joint task force meeting be scheduled for additional discussion with Ms. Grassi. Ms. Budrow will send out meeting invites via email.

Ken Gordon gave comments on behalf of WSVMA and their opposition to this bill and the lack of veterinarian oversight, reportable disease reporting not being required, and misleading nature of the Animal Manipulation States Analysis map. Mr. Gordon urged the VBOG to oppose the bill also.

7. Rules Update – Veterinary Telemedicine (VCPR)

The CR-103 to update and clarify VCPR rules was filed on July 8, 2025, under WSR 25-15-034 and is now in force. WAC 246-933-200 and 246-933-010 have been updated.

Subcommittee Members: Drs. Debra Sellon, Andrea Sanchez-Chambers, Dordor Vang

- 7.1. The board discussed further updates to VCPR rules and updated the members to the subcommittee.

Motion to reopen WAC sections WAC 246-933-200 and 246-933-010 to address when VCPR can be established and ensure patient safety. Motion seconded and approved unanimously.

New Subcommittee Members: Drs. Aja Senestraro, Katherine Bibi, and Andrea Sanchez-Chambers

Subcommittee meeting will be scheduled after the CR101 is filed.

7.2. VCPR CR 103 document reviewed.

7.3. VCPR Concise Explanatory Statement document reviewed.

8. Rules Update – Exam and Licensure Requirements and JP Exam Change

The CR-103 to update exam and licensure rules was filed on June 27, 2025, under WSR 25-14-065 and is now in force. WAC 246-933 and WAC 246-935 have been updated.

Subcommittee Members: Drs. Katherine Bibi, Kathryn Haigh, Aja Senestraro

8.1. Motion to dissolve the Exam and Licensure requirement/JP exam subcommittee, seconded and approved unanimously.

8.2. Exam and Licensure CR-103 document reviewed.

8.3. Exam and Licensure Concise Explanatory Statement reviewed.

9. Rulemaking - Animal Healthcare Tasks

The purpose of this rulemaking is to consider updates to Animal Healthcare Tasks WAC 246-935-040, 050, 010, and WAC 246-937-010.

Subcommittee Members: Drs Katherine Bibi, Andrea Sanchez-Chambers, Ms. Kim Morgan, LVT

9.1. Dr. Sanchez-Chambers opened the floor for public comment – No comments were given.

9.2. Dr. Sanchez-Chambers reviewed an email from Ashley Byrne, LVT, CVL, WSAVT President.

9.3. Dr. Sanchez-Chambers gave an update from The Animal Healthcare Tasks Subcommittee. Dr. Senestraro and Dr. Haigh gave input.

9.4. The Board discussed and updated the draft rule language.

There was a poll to check if the board is ready for a motion to accept the proposed language. The poll was unanimous to entertain a motion.

Motion made to file the CR102 with the current language as updated today. Seconded and passed unanimously.

9.5. The Animal Healthcare Tasks Subcommittee scheduled a subcommittee meeting to work on the FAQ for September 24, 2025, at 7:00 am.

10. FAQ Update – Humane Society FAQ

The purpose of this committee is to write a FAQ regarding Humane Societies, procedures, and guidelines.

Subcommittee Members: Dr. Aja Senestraro, Dr. Maci Paden, Ms. Kim Morgan, LVT

10.1. Dr. Sanchez-Chambers opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. Rybka made comment regarding ownership of animals in custody of the humane societies.

Dr. Sellon made comment regarding the FAQ on dispensing returned medications. This topic will require an AAG review for further discussion.

10.2. Kim Morgan from The Humane Society Subcommittee gave a progress update.

10.3. The Board discussed draft FAQs.

10.4. The Humane Society Subcommittee scheduled the next meeting for October 29, 2025, at 7:00 am. Dr. Senestraro will be replacing Dr. Vang.

11. 1705 Large Animal Veterinarian Recruitment Workgroup

WSU is convening a workgroup to research how to train, retain, and attract large animal veterinarians. Dr. Maci Paden is the representative for VBOG with Drs. Sellon and Haigh as alternates.

Meeting Date: September 8, 2025, at 1:00 pm.

Ms. Budrow gave a report on meeting.

12. Rules Petition - Eligibility for Examination as Veterinary Technician WAC 246-935-060(4)

WSVMA and WSVTA have petitioned the VBOG to update WAC 246-935-060(4) to close the “Wisconsin Loophole”. The board discussed these letters and voted to open the rule and create a subcommittee to update the WAC.

Motion was made to open a CR-101 to update WAC 246-935-060 part 4 to ensure the 36 months experience is as a Licensed Veterinary Technician, seconded, passed unanimously.

12.1. WSVMA Letter reviewed.

12.2. WSVTA Letter reviewed.

Draft language will be presented at the next board meeting.

13. Nominations for Board Chair and Vice Chair

The board held nominations for the Chair and Vice Chair, voting for new Chair and Vice Chair will be held at the December Board Meeting.

Current Nominations are as follows: Dr. Katherin Bibi was nominated to be Board Chair. Dr. Maci Paden was nominated as Vice Chair.

14. Bylaws Review

The board reviewed the current bylaws and proposed updates.

14.1. Bylaws

The amendments are as follows: Amendments to bylaws in Article III, Section 3, Amendments to Article IV, Section1, and Section 1-B.

The amended bylaws have been circulated to all Board members and were presented.

There was a motion to accept the bylaws as presented, motion seconded and approved unanimously.

15. Correspondence

Any letters the board has received and have not been addressed above will be reviewed.

- 15.1. The Board reviewed an email from Mr. Rybka, Attorney at Law dated May 30, 2025.
- 15.2. The Board reviewed a letter that was attached to the email referenced above in 15.1. from Mr. Rybka dated May 30, 2025.
- 15.3. The Board reviewed an inquiry regarding Post DVM internship recognition request from Mr. Rybka dated July 2, 2025
- 15.4. The Board reviewed an inquiry regarding Post DVM internship recognition request from Fountain Vet Hosp received on July 15, 2025.

There was public comment given by Mr. Rybka, representing Fountain Veterinary Hospital, regarding internships. There was a board discussion after the public comment was received. The Board determined they needed more information before a decision could be made. The Board voted to form a subcommittee to discuss and research internships.

There was a motion made, motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Subcommittee Members: Drs. Katherine Bibi, Katheryn Hauge, and Maci Paden.

The Internship Workgroup Subcommittee scheduled their first subcommittee meeting for November 13, 2025, at 7:00 am.

16. Conferences and Presentations

The board reviewed who will be attending the following conferences and updates were given on past conferences:

- 16.1. PNW Veterinary Conference, Tacoma. Disciplinary Presentation. Date: September 26, 2025.
Presenters: Ms. Morgan, Dr. Haigh, Dr. Bibi.
- 16.2. PNW Veterinary Conference, Tacoma. Panel Discussion. Date: September 26, 2025.
Panel: Dr. Bibi, Dr. Sanchez, Ms. Morgan.
- 16.3. AAVSB Annual Meeting: Dates: September 18 to 21, 2025, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Attending: Dr. Bibi and Dr. Paden (virtually)
- 16.4. AAVSB ED Summit: April 22 to 23, 2026
Attending: TBD
- 16.5. AAVSB Board Basics and Beyond: April 24 to 25, 2026
Attending: TBD

17. Reminders: Meeting Dates for 2025 & 2026

- 17.1. December 8, 2025
 - 17.2. 2026 meetings: February 27, June 5, September 11, December 18.
- These dates have been filed with the code reviser and are posted on the Veterinary Website.

18. Agenda Development

The board will review and identify agenda items for the December 8, 2025, business meeting.

- 18.1. Subcommittee: FAQ Animal Health Care Tasks
- 18.2. Subcommittee Update on VCPR
- 18.3. Prescription label regulations
- 18.4. Rules hearing for animal health care tasks
- 18.5. Large Animal Workgroup
- 18.6. Chiropractic Task force
- 18.7. Wisconsin loophole rulemaking
- 18.8. Final human society



- 18.9. Electing chair and Vice-Chair
- 18.10. Disciplinary efficiency standardization matrix development
- 18.11. SC on internships

19. Executive Session

Executive session is commonly understood to mean that part of a regular or special meeting of the governing body that is closed to the public. A governing body may hold an executive session only for specified purposes, which are identified in RCW 42.30.110(1)(a-q), and only during a regular or special meeting.

The purpose of today’s executive session is to discuss with legal counsel representing the Board litigation brought against the Board regarding the unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine, under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

Return to Open Session

Open Session Meeting Adjournment at 3:07 pm.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Submitted by:

Poppy Budrow, Program Manager
Veterinary Board of Governors

Approved by:

Andrea Sanchez-Chambers, Chair
Veterinary Board of Governors

On file

SIGNATURE

DATE

On file

SIGNATURE

DATE