



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Olympia, Washington 98504

**Washington State
Veterinary Board of Governors
March 2, 2020 Business Meeting Minutes**

A meeting of the Washington State Veterinary Board of Governors was called to order at 9:04 a.m. on Monday, March 2, 2020, by Kirk Breuninger, Chair. The meeting was held at the Department of Health (DOH), 20425 72nd Ave S, Room 307, Kent, Washington, 98032.

Board Members

Present: Kirk Breuninger, VMD, MPH, DACVPM, Chair
Aja Senestraro, DVM, Vice Chair
Sue Moriyasu, DVM
Elizabeth Davies, DVM
Kim Morgan, LVT
Dordor Vang, DVM, MPH
Becky Knoke, Public Member

DOH Staff Present: Brad Burnham, Executive Director
Lisa Kelley, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)
Loralei Walker, Program Manager
Sarah Beckham, Program Support
Heather Cantrell, Policy Analyst
Sara Kirschenman, Staff Attorney
Michelle Singer, Adjudicative Clerk's Office

Guests Present: Candace Joy, WSVMA
Karen Norton, WSAVT
Teresa Stefan, WSAVT
Natalie Pedraja, LVT, WSAVT
Susan Adams, Skillsource North Central Workforce
Benita Altier, WSAVT
Lisa Feder, Humane Society of SW Washington
Justin Ripka, veterinarian, Deschutes Animal Clinic
Ty Johnson, veterinarian, Cascade Veterinary Clinic
Julie Helligso, Cascade Vet Clinic
Chris Bundy, Washington Physicians Health Program (WPHP)
Paul Carkeek

9:00 a.m. **Open Session**

Call to Order and Introductions

The open public meeting was called to order by Kirk Breuninger, Chair, at 9:04 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Davies made a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Kim Morgan, LVT, seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. Approval of meeting minutes

Dr. Davies made a motion to approve the December 9, 2019, business meeting minutes. Kim Morgan, LVT, seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Reports (Information)

3. Kirk Breuninger, Chair

Dr. Breuninger had no report.

4. Brad Burnham, Executive Director and Lorelei Walker, Program Manager

Brad Burnham gave an update on the current 60-day legislative session which ends on March 12, 2020. HB2411 has to do with training in suicide prevention and has a component specifically for veterinarians. The DOH is working with the University of Washington to create a training curriculum in relation to this bill. Brad also spoke about the HELMS project next step to request information from vendors.

Brad gave a budget report which still has a healthy balance. The current budget report format is being redone.

Lorelei Walker, Program Manager, presented current credentialing statistics with current active licenses and number of applications received through January 2020.

5. Lisa Kelley, Assistant Attorneys General

Ms. Kelley reminded the board about separating business from board work per the Executive Ethics Act.

Board Business

6. Open Forum (limited to 10 minutes)

Candace Joy, Washington State Veterinary Medical Association, said that the Pharmacy Commission is ready to codify USP 795.798.500 which will affect veterinarians' work. Board member Aja Senestraro met with the Pharmacy Commission in July of 2018 to discuss this topic and has been monitoring the Commission's activities.

7. American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) Requests (Discussion/Action)

The AAVSB has their annual Board Basics & Beyond training April 17-18, 2020. Dr. Vang expressed interest in attending this training.

The AAVSB annual meeting September 24-26, 2020, will be in Portland, Oregon. Kim Morgan, LVT, will attend as the voting member and Dr. Vang will attend as the alternate member. Dr. Senestraro will be attending as a committee member. Dr. Moriyasu and Dr. Breuninger also expressed interest in attending.

The AAVSB has nominations open for leadership positions within AAVSB. Dr. Senestraro is interested in applying for one of these positions. Dr. Davies made a motion for the board to support Dr. Senestraro's application. Kim Morgan, LVT, seconded the motion. The motion carried.

8. Rulemaking Workshop: Substitute Senate Bill 5004 (Discussion/Action)

The board held a rulemaking workshop for SSB 5004, which expands veterinary services that humane societies can provide to income-qualified families. The subcommittee members – Dr. Moriyasu, Dr. Senestraro and Kim Morgan, LVT – will have another meeting to draft language on how the department will verify humane societies are serving only low income households.

9. Continuing Education Audits (Information)

The board reviewed data for continuing education audits conducted since 2018, including failure rates and average hours accrued for veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

10. Rules Hearing WACs 246-933-310 and -345 Client Communication

Dr. Breuninger, Chair, opened a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. to consider public comment and the adoption of amendments to WACs 246-933-310 and -345 to establish the type of communication veterinarians should provide to clients who are seeking veterinary care of their animal patients. There were no comments from the public and written testimony from seven stakeholder was included in the board's packet for review.

Dr. Senestraro made a motion to adopt the proposed rule with proposed changes. Kim Morgan, LVT, seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 yays and 1 nay. Hearing concluded at 10:11 a.m.

11. Veterinary Technician Training Programs (Discussion/Action)

The board considered questions from stakeholders regarding veterinary technician training regulations and the shortage of veterinary technicians. Lisa Kelley, AAG, will research apprenticeship programs and have information at next board meeting.

12. Veterinary Medication Clerk (VMC) Training Program (Discussion/Action)

The board reviewed and discussed questions about the VMC Model Training Program and Competency Evaluation Tool (CET). Lorelei Walker will respond clarifying that only veterinarians may perform extemporaneous compounding of a medication order and clarifying the answer to a question in the CET.

13. Washington Physician's Health Program (WPHP) Annual Report (Information)

Dr. Chris Bundy, Medical Director of WPHP, provided a presentation on the WPHP Annual Report.

14. Washington State Board of Health's Rabies Rules (Discussion)

Brad Burnham gave an overview on the Washington State Board of Health's (SBOH) previous work on a petition to allow veterinarians to provide medical exemptions for rabies vaccination of dogs when contraindicated based on the animal's health. The SBOH would like work with the board to explore approaches to clarify policy and to educate veterinarians on rabies vaccination practices in cases where it endangers the animal's life. The board will partner with SBOH on raising awareness and discussing options for education.

15. WAC 246-933-350 Prescription Release Rule (Discussion)

The board discussed questions submitted regarding a veterinarian's obligations regarding the release of a prescription to the client or a pharmacy. Lorelei Walker will respond clarifying that a veterinarian does not have to research whether the pharmacy is licensed in Washington; that a veterinarian must work with pharmacy staff if they have questions or need more information; that the veterinarian must release the prescription to pharmacy if requested by the client, but does not have to provide the prescription to both the pharmacy and client; that if the veterinarian is aware that a pharmacy is not licensed in Washington, the veterinarian can report this to the client and ask them to choose a pharmacy licensed in Washington.

16. WAC 246-933-320(9) Release of Client Records (Discussion/Action)

The board discussed questions submitted from Washington Horse Racing Commission regarding whether clients can withhold their animal's records to an attending veterinarian. The board determined that the veterinary rules do not conflict with the Commission's rule and the Commission's rules would apply in these cases. Lorelei Walker will respond accordingly.

17. The Disciplinary Hearing Process (Information/Discussion)

Michelle Singer from the department's Adjudicative Clerk's Office discussed the hearing process, including establishing a panel for the hearing.

18. Expert Witness Recruitment (Discussion)

Sara Kirschenman and Lorelei Walker reported on efforts to find a qualified pool of candidates to provide expertise when needed for cases the board is investigating. An advertisement was sent out asking for any licensees that would be interested in being an expert witness. The initial advertisement resulted in 46 interested candidates. Ms. Kirschenman will review the candidates' licenses for any disciplinary action. Dr. Moriyasu and Dr. Breuninger will review the current list of interested candidates.

19. Lists and Labels Request from the Florida Veterinary Medical Association (Action)

The board reviewed a request for a contact list of licensed veterinarians from the Florida Veterinary Medical Association. Dr. Davies made a motion to approve the request. Kim Morgan, LVT, seconded the motion. The motion carried.

20. Five-year Formal Review of Rules as required by SSB 5679 (2013) (Discussion/Action)

Lorelei Walker explained the five year review of rules for this board is due December 2021. She will be sending specific sections of the WAC for board members to review and a specific due date they are to be completed. This process will happen through 2020 and 2021 reviewing specific sections at each board meeting.

21. JP Exam review

The board reviewed and discussed changes to the current jurisprudence exam. Dr. Davies made a motion to accept the changes and Dr. Vang seconded the motion. The motion carried.

22. Agenda Development (Discussion/Action)

The board identified agenda items for the June 1, 2020 business meeting:

- Humane Society rule making SSB 5004
- ESSB 2411 requiring rulemaking and program development on suicide prevention
- New veterinary technician education program development
- Veterinary medication clerk model training
- Rabies rule discussion on how to raise awareness about the rule requirements
- OPMA presentation from Lisa Kelley
- 5-year rule review – discussion of comments received and new sections distributed
- C4PA representative to discuss research project re CE failure rates
- Info on presenting to vet tech schools – Kim Morgan, LVT

Adjournment of Open Session

Dr. Davies made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Becky Knoke, public member, seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.