



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Olympia, Washington 98504

**Washington State
Veterinary Board of Governors
April 24, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes**

A meeting of the Washington State Veterinary Board of Governors was called to order at 8:02 a.m. on Friday, April 24, 2020, by Kirk Breuninger, Chair. The meeting was held via conference call.

Board Members

Present: Kirk Breuninger, VMD, MPH, DACVPM, Chair
Aja Senestraro, DVM, Vice Chair
Kim Morgan, LVT
Dordor Vang, DVM, MPH
Sue Moriyasu, DVM
Liz Davies, DVM
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
Sara Kirschenman, Staff Attorney
Tanya Mills, Credentialing Supervisor
Jeff Wise, Policy Analyst

Guests Present:

Candace Joy, Washington State Veterinary Medical Association (WSVMA)
Karen Norton, Washington State Association of Veterinary Technicians (WSAVT)
Teresa Stefan, WSAVT
Benita Altier, WSAVT
Lori Lutskas, WSAVT
Paul Carkeek
Mark Schrag, DVM
Katy Kuhl

Open Session

Call to Order and Introductions – Kirk Breuninger, VMD MPH DACVPM, Chair

Kirk Breuninger, Chair, called the meeting to order and took roll call. Everyone who attended this meeting may not be included above.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Discussion on the June 1 regular board meeting - whether it will be in person or by phone - needs to be added to the agenda. Dr. Davies made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Dr. Vang seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Board Business

2. **Open Forum (limited to 10 minutes)**

The board accepted comments from the audience on issues of significance to the profession. During this time of emergency, the Board will consider only those matters which are routine and essential.

3. **Issues Related to COVID-19 Outbreak (Discussion/Action)**

The board discussed policy issues regarding COVID-19 and possibly adopt policies, conduct rulemaking, or otherwise act in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

- Review of continuing work from past meetings

Brad Burnham gave an update on the veterinary-client-patient relationship and continuing education policy statements. They have been reviewed and approved and moving forward to Jeff Wise, policy analyst.

Graduating WSU students – May 9th is WSU graduation day. Brad Burnham has not been able to get in contact with WSU registrar's office via email or phone. Tanya Mills said credentialing office has applications from veterinary students and is waiting for transcripts from WSU. In the past, WSU sends transcripts to DOH in a timely fashion after graduation and she sees no reason why that won't happen this year. Brad will continue trying to contact WSU staff. Lisa Kelley, AAG, mentioned a possible solution would be for the student to write an attestation they have graduated much like licensees do for CE when they renew their licenses. Another option is for WSU registrar's office to send letter stating student has graduated.

- Supervision of veterinarian technicians and staff

The board discussed supervision of staff and remote supervision. The board took no action on this topic.

- Dispensation of prescriptions

Discussion of relaxing rules and veterinary medication clerk (VMC) certification requirement to dispense medicine. Discussion of doing personal inspections for prescriptions remotely. Brad Burnham, Jeff Wise, Lisa Kelley and Loralei Walker will meet to discuss options for medication dispensing. The board will hold on making decisions for more research to be done on subject.

- COVID-19 transmission between people and companion animals

Due to time constraints, this topic will be discussed at the next special meeting

4. **Agenda Development (Discussion/Action)**

The board identified possible agenda items for the next meeting.

- June 1 regular board meeting – in person or by phone

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- COVID-19 transmission between humans and animals
- Dispensing prescriptions
- Update on supervision of vet techs
- Options for graduation students

Adjournment of open session

Dr. Moriyasu made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Vang seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.