



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
*Olympia, Washington 98504*

**Washington State  
Veterinary Board of Governors  
June 7, 2021 Business Meeting Minutes**

Aja Senestraro, DVM, Chair, called the meeting of the Washington State Veterinary Board of Governors to order at 9:20 a.m. on Monday, June 7, 2021. The meeting was held via teleconference with all participants attending remotely.

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Department of Health (DOH) Staff Present:**

Brad Burnham, Executive Director, Health Professions  
Loralei Walker, Program Manager  
Lisa Kelley, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)  
Sara Kirschenman, Staff Attorney  
Shelley Buchanan, Staff Attorney  
Bob Nicoloff, Executive Director, Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission  
Miceal Carnahan, Finance Officer, DOH  
Jeff Wise, Policy Analyst  
Dan Frank, Management Analyst, DOH  
Amy Robertson, Program Support

**Guests:**

Susan Adams, NCWDC/SkillSource  
Ashley Byrne, LVT - President Elect WSAVT  
Marie Carp, AGO  
Stuart Earley, Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County  
Joseph Hauth, NCWDC/SkillSource  
Julie Helligso, Cascade Veterinary Clinics  
Candace Joy  
Lori Lee Lutskas, LVT, CCRP- WSAVT Finance Chairperson  
Jamie Petersen, Veterinary Technician Clinical Director for PMI Renton  
Teresa Stefan, LVT- WSAVT GAL  
Susan Wedam  
Ellie ???

**Call to Order and Introductions** – Aja Senestraro, DVM, Chair

**1. Approval of Agenda**

MOTION: Kirk Breuninger moved to approve the agenda for June 7, 2021; Kim Morgan, second; motion carries 6:0.

**2. Approval of meeting minutes**

March 8, 2020

Edits suggested by Sue Moriyasu:

- Aja Senestraro should be removed as cochair for the chiropractic board.
- Strike the last sentence on Animal Manipulation task force.
- Tech meeting notes – add Lori Lee Lutskas

MOTION: Kirk Breuninger moved to approve meeting minutes as edited; Dordor Vang, second; motion carries, 6:0.

### Reports (Information)

#### 3. Aja Senestraro, DVM, Chair

- Pharmacy commission liaison – no update;
- Expert recruitments are still on hold;
- Chiropractic commission joint subcommittee will draft a document with Lisa Kelley that will answer the legal questions of what is and is not allowed;
- Suicide prevention program development – details of a contract and available funding has been delayed.
- Additional information will be discussed in their respective agenda items:
  - Humane Society Rules
  - Vet Tech Apprenticeship
  - Onboarding mentorship
  - Telemedicine

#### 4. Brad Burnham, Executive Director and Lorelei Walker, Program Manager; Department of Health

**Suicide Prevention Training / WSU** – Everything seems to be in alignment to begin developing this curriculum. UW has internal funds to accomplish the work as well as there is a potential for hiring an expert. Time is of the essence.

**Rulemaking for Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5004** – Humane Society Veterinary Services  
The CR 102 was not filed in time for a June hearing. The hearing will be held at the September meeting.

**DOH Boards and Commissions compensation proposal** (from Class 3 [\$50] to Class 5 [\$250] compensation; no travel changes) did not pass at this time due to COVID and communication breakdown on both sides, but still working on it. Kirk Breuninger commented on increasing expense and decreasing income. If/when the compensation proposal passes this may bring incentive for individuals to serve on VBOG.

**Budget** – according to Miceal Carnahan, there has been increased disciplinary activity as well as HELMS activity adding to the increase in the budget. A fee study (6 years prior; 6 years forward) in in place. Once study is complete, we will apprise VBOG of any recommendations.

The new presentation of the format is clear and easily understood.

Lorelei asked if the Board had any questions regarding the updates supplied in earlier correspondence:

- **ESSB 5229 Continuing Education Health Equity.**
- **SHB 1445 Definition of compounding.**
- **State v. Blake decision Washington State Supreme Court ruling.**

**5. Lisa Kelley, Assistant Attorney General**

Reciprocity is possible, but must be an agreement between two states recognizing this reciprocity and needing no additional requirement of out of state applicants (i.e. Washington: Oregon). More information is needed. Brad will draft a letter to Dr. Dubess for later discussion.

**Board Business**

**6. Open Forum**

Candace Joy, WSVMA is concerned about whether practices will return to veterinary-client-patient relationship (VCPR) rules once the policy expires that relaxes enforcement on establishment of a VCPR without a physical exam and yearly exam required in order to continue treatment. Telemedicine in veterinary medicine is a very hot topic right now, and there are organizations that are applying pressure for laws that are focused on bottom line profits and not necessarily protective or to the benefit of the patient/animal.

**7. Veterinary Technician Apprenticeship Programs**

Program proponents provided an update that they are in the process of realigning the OJT and RSI to align with CVTEA standards. The program is still 9-12 months from being in final draft form. Stakeholders reiterated some of their concerns, such as missing educational resources to support the program, and the ability to fund and sustain the program. Stakeholders would like to see the program go through AVMA's CVTEA accreditation process. The board approved a motion to schedule a special meeting in October, and to involve L&I and the AVMA in the discussion.

VBOG acknowledges there is a veterinary technician shortage. VBOG staff will work on finding time to have a special meeting after the next VBOG business meeting. This special meeting will possibly involve L&I and AVMA discussing their procedures.

**MOTION:** Sue Moriyasu moved, (pending new information) to plan a special meeting regarding the apprentice program. Kim Morgan, second. Motion carries 6:0.

**ACTION:** a special meeting will be scheduled sometime in October or November; VBOG staff will work with program proponents to gather materials.

**8. Humane Society Veterinary Services Rulemaking Updates**

**Auditing Process.** Dan Frank, management analyst, can tailor any survey VBOG may need. A valid email address is needed. Licensees are not required to share email address, however, with outreach VBOG we can collect enough emails to poll for the data without being intrusive.

MOTION: Kirk Breuninger motioned to approve the audit outlined in the packet; Becky Knoke, second; motion carries.

**9. Rulemaking for Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 2411 – Suicide Prevention Training and ESHB 1551 – HIV Education and training**

The board reviewed draft documents in preparation for a rules hearing to add a requirement for veterinarians and veterinary technicians to take a 3-hour suicide prevention training course and to remove the requirement for all credentialed veterinary professionals to take HIV education and training. The board will also discuss the suicide prevention training program development to date and decisions to make before moving forward.

MOTION: Kirk Breuninger motioned to file for a CR102 as outlined in the packet; Sue Moriyasu, second. Motion carries.

**10. Policy on Emergency Care for Life-threatening Wounds to K-9 Officers**

MOTION: Kirk Breuninger motioned approve the policy statement; also giving Brad Burnham to minimally edit as needed; if substantive changes needed, the policy must return to VBOG for discussion; Becky Knoke, second. Motion carries.

**11. American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) Packet Review**

Board members attending the AAVSB Convention (Denver, CO; 09/30-10/02):

- Kim Morgan, LVT, Vice Chair - Delegate
- Aja Senestraro, DVM, Chair – Committee member
- Dordor Vang, DVM, MPH – Delegate, alternative
- Brad Burnham, Executive Director, Health Professions – Presenter

**12. Issues Related to COVID-19 Outbreak**

MOTION: Sue Moriyasu motioned to create a document providing guidance for reopening clinics, etc.; to include telehealth/medicine, masks, etc.; Kirk Breuninger, second. Motion carries.

**13. Strategic Planning**

The board reviewed its updated plan from the March 8, 2021 strategic planning meeting, discuss and clarify the eight 2021 goals, and discuss workplans for priority items.

1. **Telemedicine** – Subcommittee: Kirk, Dordor, Aja – begin crafting language to develop a CR101 by the end of 2021 (or possibly early 2022)
2. **Suicide Prevention** – Subcommittee: Kirk, Aja, Sue – on target for developing the training. Brad Burnham will contact contractor and begin planning.
3. **Shelter Services** – Subcommittee: Kim, Aja, Sue – next step: develop online survey form. Lorelei Walker will work with Dan Frank.

4. **Chiropractic Task Force** – Subcommittee: Aja, Kirk, Sue – still need to develop solid goals and investigate options. If needed, this can be pushed past 2021, but not preferred.
  5. **Vet-Tech Apprenticeship** – Subcommittee: Dordor, Kim, Lisa – schedule two special meetings before the end of 2021
  6. **Animal healthcare tasks** – currently there may be legislature changes in process; postpone discussions until VBOG knows more.
  7. **WSVMA Conference** – Panel: Sara, Lorelei, Sue.
  8. **Board Recruitment** – consider platforms other than GovDelivery. I.e., YouTube, Twitter, and other social platforms to reach the public. Dan Frank will present options at the September meeting.
14. **Agenda Development** – Items for the September 13, 2021 business meeting:
- Continue rules development for future hearings
  - Schedule meeting dates for 2022
  - Vet-tech apprenticeship
  - Telemedicine meeting based on subcomm mtg.
  - Strategic plan – waiting on updated document.
- MOTION: Kirk Breuninger motioned to adjourn the meeting; Kim Morgan, second. Motion carries.

**Adjournment of Open Session – 1:25 p.m.**